AGREEMENT

between
the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and
the A.G. Lorkh Institute for Potato Cultivation, Russian Federation, on technical cooperation in promoting the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes

The United Nations, an international intergovernmental organization with its headquarters in New York 10017, United States of America, represented by its Economic Commission for Europe (hereafter referred to as UNECE),

and

the A.G. Lorkh Institute for Potato Cultivation (hereafter referred to as "Lorkh Institute"), with its seat in Kraskovo 1, 140051 Moscow, Russian Federation (hereafter referred to as "the Parties"),

for the purpose of enhancing their mutual cooperation in the area of seed potatoes have concluded the present Agreement, as follows:

Article 1. Purpose of the Agreement

To promote technical cooperation between UNECE and the Lorkh Institute in promoting the UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes in the Russian Federation and other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as well as in setting up the necessary legal and technical infrastructure for the practical application of the Standard.

This cooperation is undertaken in the context of the UNECE work on the international standardization of certification requirements for seed potatoes.

Article 2. Cooperation activities

The Parties agree that this cooperation will include types of activities such as the following:

• UNECE experts will provide professional advice on scientific and technical aspects of cultivation and certification of seed potatoes;

• UNECE experts will provide technical assistance in setting up reference biotechnological and diagnostics laboratories at the Lorkh Institute in Kraskovo, Moscow region;

• The Parties will jointly promote modern seed-potato production and quality-control technologies in potato-producing regions of the Russian Federation and other CIS countries;

• The Parties will organize training of seed-potato producers, quality inspectors and the technical staff of laboratories;
• The Parties will organize potato varietal and demonstration trials;
• The Parties will share scientific and practical experiences;
• The Parties will organize joint workshops and conferences;
• The Parties will carry out, in the case of mutual interest, joint research programmes and projects;
• The Parties will organize the exchange of technical visits, on the basis of individual invitations, that the Parties will extend to each other.

Article 3. Adherence to project activities

Upon mutual agreement by the Parties, the project activities will be open to other private and governmental partners interested in the development of the seed potato sector in the Russian Federation and other CIS countries.

Article 4. Annual work plans

The Parties agree that their cooperation will be carried out through annual work programmes for the respective year signed by representatives of the Parties. The Parties will support project activities by financial contributions and contributions in kind specified in the annual work programmes.

Article 5. Ownership of project results

The results of joint activities belong to the Parties, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Article 6. Amendments to the Agreement

The Parties have the right to make changes and additions to the present Agreement. These would enter into force after written approval of the amendment by both Parties.

Article 7. Settlement of disputes

The Parties will use their best efforts to promptly settle, in good faith through direct negotiations, any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in connection with the present Agreement or any breach thereof.

If disputes cannot be resolved in an amicable way or by negotiation between the Parties, they will be settled by the applicable Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.

Article 8. Privileges and immunities

Nothing in the present Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, explicit or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the UNECE under the Convention of 13 February 1946 on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.
Article 9. Entry into force and termination of the Agreement

The Agreement will enter into force on the date of signature by the Parties and will be initially valid for a period of two calendar years (2013-2014). Either Party may terminate the Agreement by issuing a notice in writing to the other Party. Such termination becomes effective three months after the date on which the notice was issued.

Article 10. Prolongation of the Agreement

If the results of the project so warrant, the Parties may tacitly agree to extend the validity of the present Agreement on an annual basis.

The present Agreement is signed in two copies by each of the Parties, with one original copy deposited with each Party.

For UNECE

Sven Alkalaj
Executive Secretary, UNECE

Date: 05/12/2012

For Lorkh Institute

Evguenii Simakov
Director

Date: ____________________