Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT),
Patancheru 502 324, Andhra Pradesh, India

and

Auburn University, College of Agriculture
Auburn, Alabama 36849 USA

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid-Tropics (ICRISAT) is a non-profit, non-political organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa with a wide array of partners throughout the world. Covering 6.5 million square kilometers of land in 55 countries, the semi-arid tropics have over 2 billion people, and 644 million of these are the poorest of the poor. ICRISAT and its partners help empower these poor people to overcome poverty, hunger and a degraded environment through better agriculture.

ICRISAT is headquartered in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, with two regional hubs and four country offices in sub-Saharan Africa. It belongs to the Consortium of Centers supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

Auburn University was established in 1856. In 1872, under the Morrill Act, the school became the first land-grant college in the South and was renamed the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama. In 1899 the name again was changed, to the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Finally, in 1960 the name of the school was changed to Auburn University, a title more in keeping with its location, and expressing the varied academic programs and larger curriculum of a major university.

Auburn University has developed into one of the largest universities in the South, remaining in the educational forefront with its traditional blend of arts and applied science, and changing with the needs of today while living with a respect for the traditions and spirit.

1. The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the Auburn University (AU) (the Institutions) desire and intend to develop co-operation and collaboration in research for development, training, and other agreed activities that further the aims and objectives of the Institutions as follows:

1.1. To encourage, and use their reasonable endeavours to effect, within the limitations of the Institutions' resources, policies and procedures, visits from one Institution to the other by members of the academic, research and other staff for the purpose of participating in teaching, training, research for development programs and other agreed activities.

1.2. To develop within the limitations of the Institution's resources, policies and procedures, collaborative work plans that specify the activities to be undertaken, objectives and targets, implementation mechanisms, roles and responsibilities, and resource contributions.

1.3. To jointly explore external funding opportunities through project proposal development, thus enabling both Parties to expand and extend their collaborative activities.

1.4. To provide, within the limitations of the Institutions' resources, policies and procedures, qualified students hosted by one institution access to research opportunities and/or degree programs at the other institution.
1.5. To encourage the exchange of scientific materials, publications and information. The actual exchange of materials will be done on a purely voluntary basis and subject to required institutional Material Transfer Agreements.

2. The Institutions acknowledge that all visits of staff and the admission of students will be subject to compliance with the entry and visa regulations of host country and the Institutions' requirements in respect of admission and staff appointments.

3. The Institutions acknowledge that in the absence of any specific agreement to the contrary, all expenses of salary, travel, living and allied costs will be determined at the discretion, and be the responsibility of the visitor's home Institution.

4. This document is not intended to create legal or binding obligations on either party. It serves only as a record of the parties' current intentions. Before any of the activities set out in this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are implemented, to ensure the activities can be accomplished in conformity with the law and so as to enable the principles set out in this MoU to be implemented, the Institutions shall enter into a formal and binding separate agreement or agreements with each other which will detail the specific form and content of the activities and cover the responsibilities and rights of each Institution. Such agreements will be negotiated in good faith.

5. This MOU commences from the date of last signing and shall be in force for 3 years. The MOU may be terminated at any time by mutual consent or by 6 months' notice by either party. It may be amended, modified, extended, or renewed only by the written consent of both Parties. The Institutions agree to review this MOU six months prior to end of the 3-year term.

6. The specific terms of this MOU do not preclude the development of future collaborative ventures or projects not mentioned in this document.

On behalf of the
International Crops Research Institute
for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

Dr William D Dar
Director General

Dated: 12 March 2012

On behalf of the
Auburn University (AU)
College of Agriculture

Dr. William Batchelor
Dean

Dated: March 12, 2012