

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**IN THE FIELD OF**  
**FORESTRY**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**AND**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

The Government of the Hellenic Republic and the Government of the Republic of Turkey hereinafter called as "the Parties";

Expressing the desire to strengthen the friendly relations between Greek and Turkish People and to develop cooperation to protect forests,

Recalling that the two countries have signed a Memorandum of Understanding concerning cooperation on environmental protection in Ankara on January the 20th of 2000.

Aiming to increase, enhance and develop the cooperation in the field of forest and forestry researches between two countries,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

In order to protect and rehabilitate forests, the Parties shall cooperate through the sharing of information, experience and technology on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

**Article 2**

The Parties shall cooperate in the following subjects:

- a) Web based forest fire information system,
- b) Rehabilitation of burned area and establishment of fire resistant forest,
- c) Rehabilitation of degraded forest areas,
- d) Combating forest pests and insects,

- e) Geographical Information Systems (GIS) application in the forestry activities,
- f) Sustainable forest management,
- g) Forest and water,
- h) Monitoring of forests,
- i) Protection of bio-diversity,
- j) Impact of climate change on forestry or vice versa,
- k) Combating desertification, techniques of afforestation and erosion control,
- l) Watershed management and rehabilitation,
- m) Range rehabilitation,
- n) Soil conservation,
- o) Seedling production techniques,
- p) Establishment of memorial forest in Athens and Ankara.

### **Article 3**

The Parties shall cooperate on the subjects enlisted in Article 2 through:

- a) Organization of training programme, meeting, conference and symposium,
- b) Organization of scientific and technical research / programme,
- c) Exchange of scientific and technical information and document on research and development activities and forest management practices,
- d) Exchange of researchers, advisors, experts and non-governmental organization members,
- e) Exchange of forest technologies,
- f) Elaboration of cooperation projects,
- g) Any other forms of cooperation deemed necessary by the Parties.

### **Article 4**

The Parties shall cooperate within the framework of the relevant legislation applicable in each Party and of the appropriated funds allocated for this target.

In order to achieve cooperation, the Parties shall exchange experts and trainees in the agreed fields in a way that the travel expenses shall be covered by the sending Country and the cost of living allowance shall be the responsibility of the Host Country.

#### **Article 5**

The Parties may invite government institutions, academic institutions, private enterprises and non-governmental organizations to participate in the cooperative activities within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### **Article 6**

Any dispute that may arise from interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be resolved by negotiation between the Parties.

#### **Article 7**

To ensure the effective implementation of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding, Parties shall establish a Joint Committee as follows:

- a)** Within 3 (three) months following the entry into force of this Memorandum of Understanding, each Party shall designate a National Coordinator to be responsible for the management of cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding. National Coordinator shall be at the level of Head of Department.
- b)** Each Party shall notify each other regarding the name of the National Coordinator they designated. Each Party may designate a deputy of the National Coordinator at any time upon written notice to the other Party.
- c)** National Coordinators shall cooperate to prepare the Joint Working Programme containing the cooperation activities enlisted in Article 2.
- d)** National Coordinators shall co-chair the Meeting of the Joint Committee done at any time in order to discuss the activities enlisted in Article 2.

## **Article 8**

Upon mutual Agreement, the Parties may share the results of their cooperation with the third Parties in conformity with their national legislation.

## **Article 9**

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed to affect the existing rights and obligations of the Parties under other International Agreements to which they are parties.

## **Article 10**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended upon mutual written consent of the Parties at any time. These amendments shall enter into force according to the procedure established in Article 11 of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **Article 11**

The present Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last written notification by which the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their internal legal procedures required for the entry into force of the concerned document.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for a period of 5 (five) years. Its validity shall be extended for further period of 5 (five) years unless either of the Parties gives to the other written notice of 6 (six) months in advance, through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate it before the date of expiry.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the validity and duration of the projects and activities agreed upon pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding and initiated prior to such termination.

Signed in Athens, on 14 May 2010 in 2 (two) original copies in Greek, Turkish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
HELLENIC REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

**Tina Birbili**

**Veysel Eroğlu**

**The Minister for Environment, Energy  
and Climate Change**

**The Minister of Environment  
and Forestry**