



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

Research Center for Plant Sciences, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad (IRAN)

and

the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Science (RUSSIA)

Research Center for Plant Sciences (Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran) and the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Science (Russian Federation), hereinafter referred to individually as **RCPS** and **KBI**, respectively, and collectively as **Parties**, have shown their interest and positive vision to promote cooperation in academic programs and research projects.

Article I. Purpose of Agreement

The general purpose of the cooperation program is to foster advancement in research, teaching and holding the collections of botanical specimens through:

1. Collaboration in research projects;
2. Collaboration in management of botanical collections, especially exchange of knowledge and specimens, and collaboration in database management;
3. Participation in joint workshops, seminars, and similar events;
4. Mutual visits of scientific and management staff members;
5. Sharing of academic data, publications and information; and,
6. Other areas of mutual interest.

Article II. Scope of Cooperation

1. Collaboration in Research Projects

- i. Both the Parties shall endeavor to explore the possibilities of conducting research projects on a collaborative basis, with a view to promoting the image of both parties as disseminators of the state-of-the-art knowledge in the relevant research fields of basic and applied botany.
- ii. Both the Parties shall settle the details of such collaboration on a case-to-case basis.

2. Collaboration in Management of Collections

- i. The Parties shall promote cooperation and exchange of knowledge in collection management.
- ii. KBI holds important historical botanical collections from the area of Iranian plateau and guarantees free access for scientific research for all staff members or students of RCPS.
- iii. RCPS explores the possibilities of additional material exchange.
- iv. The web-based database of the collections is open for use by members of the both Parties.

3. Participation in Joint Workshops, Seminars and Similar Events

- i. Parties shall arrange mutually agreed joint workshops, seminars, and similar events remotely and through faculty exchange.

4. Mutual Visits of Staff Members

- i. Parties shall promote cooperation and exchange between their academic and technical staff members.
- ii. It is to be emphasized that the mutual visits shall be based on, but not limited to, joint training programs, visits of collections, formulation of joint research programs and joint field works.
- iii. Both the Parties agree not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, gender, or national origin in the decision for the exchange program.
- iv. The details of the exchange program shall be worked out by the focal person(s)/representative(s) as appointed by the parties.
- v. Details of the student exchange program between RCPS and KBI shall be agreed upon in a separate detailed protocol with mutual consent. The details of student exchange

program shall be worked out by the focal person(s)/representative(s) as appointed by the Parties.

5. Sharing of Academic Data, Publications and Information

- i. Under this MoU, both the parties shall endeavor to share materials such as lecture notes and case studies, research reports, working papers, audio-visual materials, software, among others, in a mutually beneficial manner.
- ii. Such exchange and use of the material shall not violate intellectual property guidelines and laws.
- iii. Both the Parties shall settle details of such collaboration on a case-to-case basis.

6. Other Areas of Mutual Interest

- i. Both the Parties shall explore the feasibility of working together on other projects deemed to be mutually beneficial and viable for both the Parties.

Article III. Special Provisions

Nothing herein shall affect the autonomy of either Party nor shall any constraints be imposed by either Party upon the other in carrying out this Understanding.

Except where specified and agreed upon, this MoU will impose no financial obligation on either institution. Any financial obligation has to be agreed separately.

Article IV. Competent Authorities

The competent authorities in the fulfillment of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be the Dean of Research Center for Plant Sciences and the Director of the Komarov Botanical Institute.

Article V. Duration, Modification and Termination

This agreement shall be in force from the date on which it is signed and will be effective for the duration of 5 (five) years from the date of signature thereof.

Any modifications concerning the MoU in force may only be made through mutual consent in writing by both the Parties.

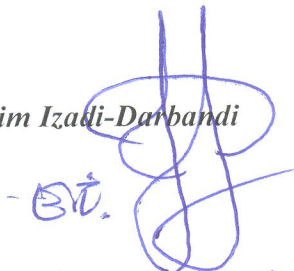
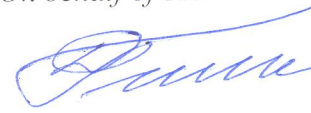
Either Party may terminate this MoU at any time by giving 1 (one) year advance notice in writing to the other Party although such action shall only be taken after mutual consultation to avoid any possible inconvenience to all concerned. Regardless of termination, the Parties shall continue to fulfill their obligations hereunder until all participants who have commenced the program may complete the term in session at the time of the termination, or work that is in progress at the time of termination.

This agreement shall be renewed automatically unless either or both the Parties express in writing their intention to withdraw from cooperation, subject to 6 (six) month advance notice.

The agreement is written and signed in two copies in English having equal force, each Party receiving one copy.

Legal Addresses of the Parties

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<p><i>On behalf of RCPS</i></p> <p>Acc. Prof. Ebrahim Izadi-Darbandi Dean</p> <p><i>- Et.</i> </p> <p>Date <i>9 October 2019</i></p>	<p><i>On behalf of KBI</i></p> <p></p> <p>Dr. Dmitry V. Geltman Director</p> <p><i>9 October 2019</i></p> <p>Date</p>
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