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This **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** is entered into and executed on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 between School of Biosciences, Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies, Tiruvalla, Kerala -689101, hereafter referred to as 'MACFAST' (which term shall mean and include, unless repugnant to the context and meaning thereof, its successors, legal representatives and assigns of the FIRST PART) represented by

> Rev. Fr. Pradeep Vazhatharamalayil, The Principal, MACFAST (Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies Tiruvalla), Tiruvalla, Kerala - 689101

The Centre for Phytotechnology and Research, a research cum extension initiative of Tiruvalla Agri-Horticulture Society, Tiruvalla - 689101, Kerala hereinafter referred to as 'CPR' (which term shall mean and include, unless repugnant to the context and meaning thereof, its successors, legal representatives and assigns of the SECOND PART) represented by

> Mr. Shaji Kumar The Secretary, Tiruvalla Agri-Horticulture Society, Tiruvalla, Kerala - 689101





Whereas both parties viz., Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies, Tiruvalla and Tiruvalla Agri-Horticulture Society, Tiruvalla, realize that in the present context, working together on well meaning projects is utmost important for the benefit of the bio-industrial development, employment generation and benefit sharing with the farming community of the region as a whole. The Parties have expertise in Orchid Seed Culture, Orchid Breeding and multiplication of Orchid propagules and selection and release of patentable hybrids.

Both the parties realize that in the current context, working together is desirable to promote expertise in plant biotechnology using facilities at MACFAST, and expert farmer friendly approaches, fund mobilization and marketing capability of the officers at CPR. Therefore, both the parties are agreeable to enter into a MoU for working and cooperating with each other using their respective expertise, knowledge and resources.

## Article I: Principle of Cooperation:

- To work jointly for the common research interest at national and international levels. This includes preparation and submission of novel and innovative proposals and their successful implementation.
- 2. To develop together green technologies and field test them for their sustenance, development and inclusion of innovative practices.
- 3. To encourage any other activities that both organization agree for mutual benefits.

### Article II: Field of Cooperation:

- Cooperation between the two parties may be established with MACFAST developing appropriate cultivation and micropropagation technologies of Orchids, Banana and medicinal plants and CPR handling the incubation, training, sale and marketing of the products.
- To offer training in human resource development by way of engaging in skill development activities especially in floriculture, breeding and improvement of Orchids, economic activities through sale of Orchids and flowers, Banana and Medicinal Plant trade.
- 3. To support such activities by interacting with Governmental and Non Governmental Agencies and submission of valid proposals to their satisfaction.

## Article III: Link Management and Administration:

 Negotiation, implementation and Cooperation of the MoU falls under the responsibilities of

Rev. Fr. Pradeep Vazhatharamalayil, The Principal,

MACFAST, (Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies Tiruvalla),

Tiruvalla, Kerala - 689101

Email: principal@macfast.org, Phone: 0469 2730300

&

Mr. Shaji Kumar, The Secretary,

Tiruvalla Agri-Horticulture Society, Regd' Office, Polachirackal Building MACFAST Road, Tiruvalla - 689101, Kerala.

Email: shajithiruvalla61@gmail.com

Phone: 9388896600

- 2. Issues about specific activities including rights and obligations of each party shall be notified or communicated to the offices mentioned in above,
- 3. The contact persons mentioned above can nominate a member of the staff from within their institutions to co-ordinate the activities.
- 4. This MoU shall have duration of five years and renewable for another five years or more, unless either party gives notice of termination not later than one month prior to the expiration of the existing MoU. However, either party can also terminate by giving notice of termination not less than one month.
- 5. The MoU will take effect upon ratification by the Competent Boards of both the establishments.

#### Article IV: General Provisions:

- The two institutions will carry out research activities, as a follow up to this MoU. The activities must be carried out in accordance with appropriate laws and regulation existing in each institution.
- 2. The two institutions shall initiate and exchange research publication lists and other publications relevant to the project.
- 3. All publications resulting from the collaboration between the two organizations will be mentioned in the annual/scientific reports of the institutions. Likewise, this MoU must also be mentioned in all formal presentations which result from the collaboration under the terms of this MoU.
- 4. Special staff taken for the projects will be compensated by CPR.

5. Special fund required for the purchase of chemicals, instrument and utensils further for the projects will be beard by CPR.

Signature

Rev. Fr. Pradeep Yazhatharamalayil,

The Principal, MACFAST

(Mar Athanasios College for Advanced

Studies Tiruvalla)

Tiruvalla, Kerala – 689101. Rev. Fr. Pradeep Vaznatharamalayii Signature

Mr. Shaji Kumar

The Secretary,

Tiruvalla Agri-Horticulture Society,

Tiruvalla - 689101, Kerala



Notes added in support of the Institutions:

# 1. MACFAST - Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies Tiruvalla, Kerala.

Mar Athanasios College for Advanced Studies Tiruvalla, Kerala is a post graduate research institute, affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam and approved by the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi. It was established in 2001 with the objective of offering specially designed academic programmes in Information Technology, Biosciences and Management. The college is located at Tiruvalla in the Central Travancore Region of Kerala and is owned and managed by the Corporate Educational Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Tiruvalla. It is a Non-Governmental Agency registered (No. P 14/96) under the Societies Registration Act 1955, with His Grace Dr. Thomas Mar Koorilos, Arch Bishop of the Diocese of Tiruvalla as the President and Patron. The Founder Principal of the College is Rev. Dr. Abraham Mulamoottil, a visionary who has created an overall environment conductive for intellectual, spiritual and social welfare of the students.

MACFAST provides quality education suitable to satisfy the aspiring students with employability, competitiveness and resourcefulness in the emerging knowledge society. The students use and support open source software and learn from E-Sources, in addition to textual studies. The curriculum is framed by the university affiliated and implemented by the college through methodological application of the teaching-learning process. The college publishes

academic calendar of each semester, prepares lesson plan, conducts orientation programmes, bridge courses, industry interface activities etc. The college also provides additional training programmes for developing aptitude communication skills, managerial skills, etc., that are relevant to regional and global employment market and also organizes enrichment programmes for the holistic development of the students. The college has just now completed a project on environmental education for upper primary school students in Pathanamthitta District, highlighting the value of biodiversity and economically valuable components of biodiversity. Students are taught the value and connection of biodiversity with human life as part of their non-curriculum activities.

# 2. CPR (Centre for Phytotechnology and Research):

CPR founded on the principles of Agri-Horticulture Society of India in 1994 fulfills the objectives of development and promotion of agricultural and Horticulture activities of Central Travancore Region. Membership of the society is open to all those interested in plants irrespective of their background in profession proposed and seconded by two members of the society. Persons of official capacity in scientific societies, institutions and clubs are accepted as corporate members. Some of the notable contributions of the society are Clean and Green Tiruvalla, War against drugs, Organisation of Tiruvalla Pushpamela conducted every year, organic farming to each family for sustainable development, Ban Plastics and organisation of people friendly activities like vegetable carving, flower and fruit arrangements, home gardens, medicinal and aromatic plants, ornamental high value plants like roses, lilies, orchids, anthuriums.

The vision of the society is to bring people to nature. Biodiversity of plants and ecological factors are continuously eroded in this age of scarcity and pollution. Display of rare and endangered species, their cultivation and sustainable utilization are given importance in the society.

#### MISSION:

- 1. Champion the cause for protection of environment through direct afforestation activities and indirect environmental education programmes in the schools.
- 2. To act as a leader for similar societies and nurseries
- 3. To support people's desire for greenery through the supply of plants and environment friendly materials.
- 4. To enlarge the intellectual capital of the society with due participation in seminars, symposia, etc., on nature and living landscapes.

- 5. To collect and propagate rare species of flora, breed plants of importance and supply to people liberally.
- 6. To promote biotechnology and commercial horticulture.
- 7. To be socially responsible and to fulfill the needs of average people in multiplication and to production of commercially valuable orchids, lilies and anthuriums.

In the context of horticulture developments and hi-tech agribusiness strategy of the country, the society has geared up its activities and offer short term courses on commercial farming and micro-propagation.