Memorandum between The "Marin Dracea" National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry (INCDS), Romania and

The Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration named after G.M. Vysotskyi (URIFFM), Ukraine

ART. 1

The "Marin Dracea" National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry and the Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration, Kharkiv, Ukraine (hereafter Parties), agree on a partnership, with the shared objective of fostering scientific collaboration and promoting mutual interests in forest and forestry research and innovation.

ART. 2

The Parties shall develop and expand long-term mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of forestry, in accordance with the legislation of their respective states.

ART. 3

Recognizing the value of a partnership in addressing complex scientific challenges, the parties agree on the following:

- Understanding the importance of forests in the ecological, social, and economic development of states, as well as in the conservation of natural resources;
- The protection of forest ecosystems status, the conservation and enrichment of biodiversity, and the increase of forest resources are priorities of forest policy, in line with the concept of sustainable and balanced development;
- Considering the ongoing degradation of forests due to local, regional, and global threats;
- Recognizing the need to improve the quality of scientific research, to serve as a foundation for practices in the forestry field;
- Understanding the necessity of integrating research activities with practical procedures, as well as creating a solid theoretical foundation for applying scientific and technological progress in forestry;
- Recognizing the necessity of strengthening international cooperation in the research field of forestry, both regional and European levels;
- Considering the friendship and good-neighborly relations between the two countries;
- Desiring to improve the situation in the forestry sector, scientific research, professional development of early stage researchers and experienced personnel.

ART. 4

Subject to mutual consent, the areas of cooperation will include any program offered at either institution as thought desirable and feasible on both sides and that both sides think will contribute to the fostering and development of the cooperative relationship between the two institutions.

The specific fields for the cooperation are as follows:

- Sustainable Forest Management in the context of Climate Change impact on forest ecosystems;
- Forest Biodiversity conservation;
- Genetic and Forest Tree Breeding;
- Forest Protection and Integrated Pest Management;
- Long-term Research/Monitoring on forests and valuation of Ecosystem services provided by them;
- Inventory of national forest resources (NFI) and National inventory of the greenhouse gases emissions (NIGHG);
- Water management Innovation, Integrated approaches to water and climate change and torrential watershed management;
- Ecological reconstruction of degraded lands through afforestation;
- Applying of Geomatics technics in forestry;
- Sustainable forestry: Foundation for Wood Energy, bioproducts and biomaterials research and development.

ART. 5

The Parties shall give priority to the following forms of cooperation:

- exchange of experience and research results in areas of priority interest to both countries;
- development of joint projects;
- organization of courses, internships, seminars, and conferences;
- joint publication and dissemination activities;
- exchange of educational, methodological, and scientific-technical materials.

ART. 6

The term of cooperation for each specific activities implemented under this Memorandum shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing by both Parties prior to the initiation of those activities. Any such agreements entered, as outlined above, will form appendixes to the Memorandum.

ART. 7

Each Parties shall designate a liaison officer to develop and coordinate the specific activities agreed upon.

The designated liaison officers for this Memorandum are:

"Marin Drăcea" National Institute for Research and Management in Forestry

Dr. Şerban Chivulescu, Senior Scientist,

Deputy Head of the Forest Management Department of the "Marin Drăcea" INCDS, Eroilor, 128 Voluntari , Ilfov – Romania. Tel: +40213503238; Mobile: +40763519516 <u>serban.chivulesc@icas.ro;</u> serban.chivulescu@gmail.com Ukrainian Research Institute of Forestry and Forest Melioration named after G.M.Vysotskyi Dr. Sergij Musienko, First Deputy Direcrtor of URIFFM Grygoriya Skovorody str. 86 Kharkiv 61024 Ukraine, Tel: +38-057-7078001 Mobile: +38-098-9147322 E-mail: musienkosergij_les@ukr.net

Notification of any change in liaison officers may be made by letter without amending this Memorandum.

ART. 8

This Memorandum shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years from the date of the signature, with the understanding that it may be terminated by the appropriate authorities of either party giving six months of prior notice to the other party in writing, unless an earlier termination date is mutually agreed upon. The Memorandum may be amended or extended by mutual written consent of the two parties.

This Memorandum is made in duplicate in English.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have offered their signature on

