

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION
IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL**

The Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the State of Israel (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Following the existing cooperation in the fields of water management, waste management and circular economy, and following intentions expressed in the conclusions of the Czech-Israeli Intergovernmental Consultations that took place in May 2016 in Jerusalem.

Willing to develop the cooperation based on the Joint Declaration of Intent on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection signed in September 2017 in Jerusalem, and desiring to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental protection,

Convinced that close cooperation in the above mentioned field can provide an important contribution to the friendly relations between their two states,

Recognizing that many environmental issues require cooperation at bilateral and multilateral level and that such cooperation can contribute not only to the protection of the environment at local and national level but also at global level,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1 - Objective

The Parties shall develop bilateral cooperation in the fields of water management and environmental protection.

Article 2 – Areas of Cooperation

The Parties shall cooperate mainly in the areas of:

- a. Prevention and tackling of water pollution, stream restoration and river basin management;
- b. Water resources management; exploration, protection and usage of surface water and groundwater; technologies relating to water production and use; water recycling; wastewater treatment and wastewater quality requirements;
- c. Nature and biodiversity protection, including migratory species monitoring;
- d. Adaptation of landscape and cities to climate change;
- e. Waste management and technologies (including recycling, waste to energy and waste prevention) and implementation of the circular economy;
- f. Use of remote sensing for environmental management;
- g. Air quality management, including pollution abatement, control and monitoring;
- h. Promotion of environmental and agricultural technologies;
- i. Precision/smart farming, including irrigation and reduction of pesticide and fertilizer use; and
- j. Any other area mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 3 – Forms of cooperation

The cooperation may be conducted in the following forms:

- a. Exchange of relevant environmental information and materials;

- b. Exchange visits of experts;
- c. Organization of joint expert seminars and workshops as well as B2B seminars; The seminars shall be organized in the Czech Republic and in Israel alternately;
- d. Identifying sources of European and international project funding and opportunities of private investments; and
- e. Other forms of cooperation as mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 4 - Implementation

1. The competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of this Agreement are:
 - a. For the Government of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of the Environment. In relation to Articles 2 a., 2 b. and 2 h., the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment, each according to its respective authority under Czech law. In relation to Article 2 i., the Ministry of Agriculture;
 - b. For the Government of the State of Israel, the Ministry of the Environmental Protection. In relation to Article 2 b., the Ministry of Energy. In relation to Article 2 h. (agricultural technologies) and 2 i., the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.
2. The Parties, within their competence and in accordance with their national legislation, shall support the creation and development of contact and cooperation between bodies of the state administration, local and regional authorities and also organisations active in environmental protection.
3. The Parties shall support cooperation in the area of applied research and development, especially between the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic and the Israel Innovation Authority.
4. The Parties shall cooperate in providing private companies with relevant information about application for environmentally focused projects financed from the EU funds and H2020 in form of announcements and other international finance sources.
5. The Parties shall cooperate in fulfilling substantive commitments arising from international agreements in the area of environmental protection binding the Parties.

Article 5 - Funding

Cooperation activities carried out in accordance with this Agreement shall be subject to availability of appropriate funds and other resources of each Party. Unless otherwise agreed, each Party shall bear the costs of its own participation to the activities carried out under this Agreement.

Article 6 – Intellectual Property

1. The protection of intellectual property rights of materials obtained in the framework of this Agreement shall be governed in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the Parties.
2. No Party shall transmit any confidential information that has been marked as such and was obtained in pursuance of this Agreement, to any third party without written consent of the Party from which such information was received.

Article 7 - Framework

1. The provisions of this Agreement do not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties under other treaties or international law.
2. Any activity carried out pursuant to this Agreement shall be done in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of each Party.

Article 8 – Settlement of disputes

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultation between the Parties.

Article 9 - Amendments

This Agreement may be amended at any time through mutual written consent by the Parties. Such amendment shall enter into force in accordance with the procedure stated in Article 10, para. 1.

Article 10 – Final Provisions

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the third month after receipt of the latter written notification by which the Parties inform each other through diplomatic channels of the completion of their internal legal procedures necessary for entry into force of this Agreement.
2. This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time.
3. This Agreement may be terminated upon written notification by one of the Parties to the other, the termination being effective six months after the receipt of the relevant written note.
4. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect ongoing activities, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Parties.

Done inJerusalem..... on the .27.. day of November 2018 which corresponds to the19... day ofkislev..... 5779 of the Hebrew Calendar, in two originals each in the Czech, Hebrew and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

For the Government
of the Czech Republic

Richard Brabec
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of the Environment

For the Government
of the State of Israel

Ze'ev Elkin
Minister of Environmental Protection