

AMENDMENT NO. 2  
TO THE  
MEMORANDUM ON COOPERATION IN  
ENHANCING COMMODITY SITUATION AND OUTLOOK REPORTING  
UNDER THE  
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN THE AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
BETWEEN THE  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN  
AND THE  
COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Effective on the date of the signing of this Amendment, the above Memorandum of Cooperation dated February 7, 1991, which was first amended on June 29, 1992, is hereby amended again as follows:

1. Section 1

**Background**

Replace "the Taiwan area" with "the Taiwan region."

2. Section 3

**Project Duration Period**

This cooperative project begins on February 7, 1991, and ends on December 31, 1996.

3. Section 4

**Implementation and Coordination**

(Add new paragraph)

Beginning in 1994, COA will send two separate study teams to visit ERS annually for training. ERS will coordinate training activities with other USDA agencies as appropriate. The team members will range from 2 to 5 persons and the duration of training will not exceed 2 months for each team. ERS project coordinator and/or analysts will undertake necessary travel to Taiwan annually for general consultation with COA management about the progress and status of the project.

#### 4. Section 5

(Delete entire section and replace it with the following statement.)

##### **Areas of Cooperation**

The details of the work plan under the following areas of cooperation will be worked out by the principal parties as project proceeds.

##### **A. Studies on alternatives to alleviate possible losses to producers due to imports**

To enhance COA staff's analytical skills in determining the economic relationship and relative importance between supply-demand factors, including imports, production, and consumption on prices.

##### **B. Agricultural policy planning**

- (1) Procedures, execution, management and evaluation methods of policy planning, including performance, program cost, use of computer, and model applications.
- (2) Evolution of U.S. agricultural policy and its design, legislative procedures and process of implementation, as well as evaluation methods of determining the effect of public policy on farmers' income.

##### **C. Agricultural statistics**

Study the USDA's statistical system and implementation of surveys, including organizational structure, sampling design, survey methods, and practices of making inference for the population and compare differences between USDA and Taiwan authorities.

##### **D. Commodity situation & outlook activities**

Conduct in-depth analyses of the situation and outlook for Taiwan's major farm commodities, including the implementation of such a program and a better understanding of the price discovery process and forecasting techniques.

##### **E. Computer information system**

- (1) Study the ERS AIMS (Agency Information Management System) and evaluate its usefulness for COA researchers as a database for fruits, vegetables, tobacco, agricultural trade, beef cattle, hogs, and poultry through the client/server mechanism.

- (2) Study the principles, operational policy, and objectives of USDA's database management, to understand how standards, guidelines, and regulations are established, and to evaluate on-line computer systems and their operations.
- (3) Study the structure and scope of applications of the ERS PS&D View software and its associated database, including functions of the system, the establishment of hardware and software, and the system service and extension requirements.

F. Others:

Include subjects not aforementioned, but will become necessary due to changes in circumstance.

5. Section 6

**Funding and Responsibilities Assumed**

A. AIT, through its designated representative, ERS, agrees to:

- (3) Provide necessary office space, instructors, office equipment including computers, and lecture notes to share with visiting COA employees;
- (6) (add new paragraph)  
Submit accounting reports to CCNAA every 6 months.

B. CCNAA, through its designated representative, EPD/COA, agrees to:

- (5) Assist in defraying the costs of training by reimbursing AIT for 60 percent of the incurred expenses. Beginning in 1994, COA funding for this project shall not exceed \$300,000 in total for a duration of 3 years or \$100,000 each year. CCNAA agrees to make two separate payments for 1994 calendar year, the first in January and the second in July, with each payment being \$50,000. Payments for 1995 and 1996 will be made in January each year, with the amount being \$100,000 less any funds left-over from the prior year. Any left-over funds at the end of this three year period shall be returned to CCNAA.

*John Wei*  
Coordination Council for  
North American Affairs  
Date: Nov. 22, 1993

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Date: November 22, 1993