

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SCIENTIFIC
COLLABORATION IN THE FIELD OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND
HEALTH FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL HEALTH**

Between

The International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health (IAAMRH) located at Saku Central Hospital, Saku, Nagano Pref. Japan, represented by the President Dr. Ashok Patil

and

The International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) located in Monteporzio Catone (Rome), Via Fontana Candida, 1, Italy, represented by the President Dr. Kazutaka Kogi

1. The International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health (IAAMRH) and the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) have agreed on this Memorandum of Understanding on scientific collaboration in the field of occupational safety and health for agriculture and rural health.
2. The International Association of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health (IAAMRH) is an international non-profit oriented NGO, working in official relations with World Health Organisation (WHO), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and other related United Nations (UN) agencies. The Association has been actively engaged in research, advocacy and comprehensive promotional activities in the field of Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health since its inception in 1961 in Tours, France. The Association has a global presence with Five Regional Chapters - Asia, North America, Europe, South Africa, and eleven Country Chapters. The Association focuses its research through special commissions on Five selected priority areas - primary health care, ergonomics and safety, living and working conditions, toxicology and nursing.
3. The International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) is an international non-governmental scientific organization whose aims are to foster the scientific progress, knowledge and development of occupational health and safety in all its aspects. The ICOH being the world's leading international scientific organization in the field of occupational health recognised by the United Nations as a non-governmental organisation (NGO) has close working relationships with ILO, WHO, UNEP and ISSA. Cooperation with WHO and ILO and other NGO partners is among the priorities of the current ICOH strategy. The main interest of ICOH in rural settings is to investigate problems and priorities on rural workforce, especially women and children, in order to develop an international collaboration between different professionals dealing with rural and occupational health, to collect and exchange relevant information for rural health policy making, and to carry out proper strategies and initiatives for a sustainable rural health development.

4. IAAMRH and ICOH (hereafter Partners) have ascertained that the common interests in creating an international network of experts dealing with rural health and occupational health issues of rural people are:
 - to promote inter-disciplinary formal academic, training and research activities in the field of rural health, agricultural medicine and occupational health;
 - to strengthen advocacy and networking efforts;
 - to organize prevention programmes to assist rural communities;
 - to conduct exchange programmes and educational visits.
5. The Partners agree to establish collaboration without costs focused on the following aspects:
 - IAAMRH and ICOH will cooperate and organize joint research and training programmes on occupational health and rural health
 - IAAMRH and ICOH will mutually provide technical support to their activities, especially concerning those of the committees and working groups related to agriculture and rural health.
 - IAAMRH and ICOH will organize joint conferences, congresses to highlight the issues of occupational health problems to rural people in general and agricultural workers, people involved in agro-based and other rural based industries.
 - IAAMRH and ICOH will reciprocally link their websites.
6. This Memorandum of Understanding will come into force upon signature of the Signatories of the Partners and will last for five years. Each Partner may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by providing a written notice to the other Partner ninety days prior to the effective date of such termination.

1 December 2009

Read, agreed upon and signed by

Dr. Ashok Patil
President
IAAMRH
International Association of
Agricultural Medicine and Rural Health

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi
President
ICOH
International Commission
on Occupational Health