



## LETTER OF AGREEMENT

### ON AGRODEP MEMBERS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

AGRODEP members play a vital role in the consortium's future. As a result, in order for AGRODEP to be able to meet its objectives, the full and active participation by its members is critical. This Letter of Agreement seeks to guide member participation by laying out the basic rights and responsibilities of AGRODEP members.

#### **Member Rights:**

- **Freedom of Expression**  
AGRODEP members have the right to use the consortium as a free and open forum for the expression of ideas and scientific exchange.
- **Participation**  
AGRODEP members have the right to participate in the decision-making process by providing inputs and feedback on future AGRODEP activities to the network and project coordinators and by having representation in the Steering Committee.
- **Access to Models and Data**  
AGRODEP members have the right to use models and data through the online portal, for purposes of learning, teaching, and academic and scientific research.
- **Scientific Support/Community of Experts**  
AGRODEP members have the right to ask for scientific support and advice on the use of models and data for their research from the community of experts, part of the consortium.
- **Grant Program**  
AGRODEP members are eligible to apply for AGRODEP grants for their research projects.

- **Capacity Enhancing Activities**

AGRODEP members can attend workshops, training, and international conferences with financial support by AGRODEP. Financial support will be subject to approval depending on whether such activities are relevant in achieving AGRODEP's objectives.

## **Member Responsibilities:**

- **Access to AGRODEP Resources**

Only members have access to AGRODEP resources. Access rights to data and models cannot be transferred to non-members. In addition, member IDs and passwords are non-transferable and members are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of their logon information to AGRODEP's online data and modeling portal.

- **Contributions**

AGRODEP members commit themselves to active participation in the consortium. Member's contributions can take several forms including publishing AGRODEP peer-reviewed discussion papers, publications that acknowledge the help and support of AGRODEP, a documented database or model provided to the network, etc. In addition, members need to ensure that their contributions to AGRODEP do not violate the rights of any third party.

- **Participating in Networking Activities**

AGRODEP members commit themselves to regularly participating in AGRODEP network activities. These activities are the following:

- Training
- Workshops
- Interaction with fellow AGRODEP members through various mechanisms designed to stimulate exchange among members.

- **Code of Conduct**

AGRODEP members are expected to act in a professional and ethical manner at all times. They are responsible to communicate with fellow members with integrity and respect in a timely and accurate manner.

- **Intellectual Property Rights**

Members are responsible to ensure the proper use and attribution of others' work in order to avoid plagiarism and intellectual property rights violations. For example, when using a model that is available on AGRODEP's website, it is a member's responsibility to appropriately attribute its source.

- **Moving out of AFRICA**

Being based in Africa is one of the key eligibility criteria for AGRODEP membership. As a result, members are responsible to notify AGRODEP when they are no longer living and working in Africa.

- **Membership Review**


Under certain conditions, AGRODEP membership can be withdrawn. Every two years, the project coordinator, the deputy project coordinator and the network coordinator will undertake a review process of AGRODEP member activities and their adherence to the AGRODEP's goals and submit this report to the Steering Committee (SC). This report will include recommendations for membership withdrawal accompanied by detailed justification of such withdrawal. The final decision will rest with the SC.

If you agree to the above rights and responsibilities, please sign and return the letter to the following address:

**Attn: AGRODEP**  
**IFPRI-Dakar**  
**Titre 3396 Lot #2**  
**Dakar Almadies – BP 24063 Senegal**

You can also fax the letter to the same office at: +221 33 869-3954, or email a scanned copy to: [info-agrodep@agrodep.org](mailto:info-agrodep@agrodep.org).

Full Name: John Ele-Ojo Ataguba

Signature: 

Date: 28th April, 2011