MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

* Hereinafter referred to as MFA,

and

U.S. Agency for International Development

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington DC 20523

* Hereinafter referred to as USAID,

the MFA and USAID, are hereinafter referred as “the Participants”.

Preamble

The MFA is the central institution in Latvia for development cooperation policy planning and coordination, which constitutes an integral part of Latvia’s foreign policy. Moldova is one of Latvia’s priority countries in development cooperation; the areas of support are justice and rule of law, good governance, economic and institutional reforms, the civil society and its participation in political processes, strengthening of local governments, human development, and environmental issues. Latvia is ready to share its transition experience according to Moldova’s defined needs, and with the goal to facilitate Moldova’s European integration efforts. Latvia considers cooperation with other donors in Moldova to be important in order to increase the effectiveness and impact of development cooperation.

USAID is the relief and development assistance agency of the U.S. Government. Its work supports long-term and equitable economic growth and advances U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting economic growth, agriculture, and trade; global health; and democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance. USAID assists Moldova in realizing its potential as a peaceful, democratic, forward-looking, and prosperous country. USAID's programs help strengthen the rule of law and a market-oriented economy serving the interests of Moldova’s citizens. USAID strives to help advance Moldova’s progress toward European integration.

Section 1

Purpose of Memorandum

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to promote cooperation between the Participants in Moldova in the field of Justice Sector reform. The overall aim is to support Moldova’s European integration.

Section 2

Memorandum Objectives

The objectives of this MOU are, in each case where appropriate and possible, to:

1. Strengthen cooperation and knowledge transfer in Moldova in the Justice Sector;
2. Harmonize the work of the Participants with regard to present and future beneficiaries of Justice Sector projects in Moldova;
3. Integrate the work of the Participants with the Justice Sector Reform Strategy of the Republic of Moldova;
4. Exchange information about ongoing and future Justice Sector reform – related projects.

Section 3

Duration

This MOU is intended to be effective until June, 2014, and thereafter is expected to be automatically renewed annually as long as the Participants are engaged in Justice Sector reform projects in Moldova and wish to continue cooperating under its terms.

Section 4

Arrangements with organizations participating in this MOU

Any specific plans for cooperation and coordination should be detailed in individual, separate written arrangements.

Section 5

Miscellaneous

This MOU is intended to come into operation on the date of its signing by the Participants.

This MOU may be modified at any time only with the mutual written consent of both Participants.

The Participants understand that nothing in this MOU should be construed as creating legally binding obligations between the Participants. This MOU is not an obligation of funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment by either Participant. Any financial obligations related to the activities mentioned here, if any, should be set forth in separate written arrangements, and subject to the availability of funds for such purposes.

With the intent to establish successful cooperation in relation to Justice Sector reform in Moldova, we, the representatives of the MFA and USAID, are signing this MOU, in Riga, June xx, 2012, in two original copies.

Signatures of the partICIPANTS

Iesniedzējs: Ārlietu ministrs E.Rinkēvičs

Vīza: Valsts sekretārs A.Teikmanis

15.06.2012; 10:20

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