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## **Memorandum of Understanding between *Sociedad Rural Argentina*, the National Milk Producers Federation and the U.S. Dairy Export Council**

*Sociedad Rural Argentina* (SRA), the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), and the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) (hereinafter, the "parties") hereby agree to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that sets forth the basis of the Working Agreement between the parties, as follows:

### **General objective**

- Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and collaboration on relevant issues of mutual interest between the parties.
- Proactively promote alignment of the region in support of common policy priorities in international forums (CODEX, FAO, OIE, WHO, UN FCCC, UNEP, etc.).
- Participate regularly in discussions and knowledge sharing on sustainability, sustainable food systems, and other environmental/production issues facing livestock producers.
- Hold meetings at least once a year in person or virtually in order to review major topics of interest
- Facilitate global trade, removing barriers in third party countries to dairy products from Argentina and the United States

### **Specific objectives**

- Reciprocally support effective and aligned participation of the parties within international organizations, including all those that establish policies that impact the agricultural sector.
- Promote the development of science-based international standards and guidelines that support the pre-competitive operation of world markets and the international trade of agricultural products based on standards.
- Monitor international policies and regulatory issues in relation to the protection of the livestock sector, especially those related to trade issues in world markets
- Facilitate, as often as decided upon by the parties, events, seminars, conferences, virtual exchanges, etc. that promote the transfer of knowledge and improve mutual understanding on relevant issues such as sustainability, food systems and participation in the United Nations multilateral system.
- Promote the recognition and support of influential actors in relation to the fundamental role of livestock, animal protein and dairy products, specifically in advancing sustainable development and more sustainable food systems.

- Defend common terms for foods and wine against any action in the context of a trade negotiation.

### **Actions of cooperation**

- 1) Receive, distribute and discuss information related to international regulatory standards discussed in international forums, as well as measures implemented by private parties or countries outside the hemisphere that may represent potential barriers to the production and marketing of milk, milk products, livestock and other agricultural products in the hemisphere.
- 2) Establish a process to communicate and encourage action by the parties about specific concerns that could damage the image of the agriculture sector, particularly dairy and livestock producers, or the ability of the parties, their members, or their sectors to produce, promote and market products.
- 3) Work to promote and develop stronger alliances with other similar organizations throughout the hemisphere in order to protect the common interests of the agriculture sector.
- 4) Establish a line of communication in order to coordinate efforts when common interests or market access in third party countries are affected and have an impact on our industries.
- 5) Coordinate efforts to defend the names of foods through the Consortium for Common Food Names, with the SRA as an honorary member.

### **Conditions of cooperation**

This cooperation is entered into by the parties voluntarily and without financial commitment.

### **Effective period and renewal**

The agreement will be effective from the date of its signing until 31 December 2026 and may be renewed by agreement of the parties.

### **Coordination**

On behalf of SRA, Mr. Raul Roccatagliata will oversee the coordination of the work program. The counterpart for NMPF will be Mr. Jaime Castaneda. The counterpart for USDEC will be Mr. Nicholas Gardner.

Signed in the city of Buenos Aires on 2 August 2024

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Jaime Castaneda  
Executive Vice President for Policy Development and Strategy  
National Milk Producers Federation

Alex Peterson  
Chairman  
U.S. Dairy Export Council

Nicolás Pino  
President Sociedad Rural Argentina

