MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL
AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ON
COOPERATION IN THE
FIELDS OF HEALTH, MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

Building upon the successful implementation of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Health of the State of Israel and the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States of America originally signed in May 1985;

Realizing the importance of working together to address common health problems and of cooperating on public health, medical, and scientific issues of mutual concern;

Desiring to encourage greater understanding and to strengthen further relationships between the public health, medical, and scientific communities in both countries, and where appropriate, with other countries; and

Recognizing the existence of broad mutual interests in the control and prevention of diseases and the promotion of health;

The Ministry of Health of the State of Israel and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) of the United States of America have reached the following understandings:

SECTION I

General Principles

HHS and the Ministry of Health of the State of Israel (hereinafter referred to as the Participants) aspire to enhance and strengthen cooperative efforts in the fields of health, medicine, and science in accordance with the following general principles:

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding is intended to be supportive of relations currently established in the fields of health, medicine, and science between institutions or individuals of the United States and Israel, and is not intended to limit such relationships. Rather, the Participants intend to identify areas for joint activities that avoid unnecessary duplication.

Where possible, the Participants intend to coordinate their efforts with, and be supportive of, the activities and goals of international health bodies, including the World Health Organization and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

SECTION II

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants intend to strengthen cooperation across a broad range of mutual interests and intend to direct their efforts to developing joint activities that address common problems in the following areas:

1. Working cooperatively to help ensure Israel is included in international bodies concerning epidemiological and laboratory matters as well as monitoring infectious disease globally;
2. Human resource needs in the areas of health delivery and public health;
3. Health-care research, including the evaluation of health-care technologies and health delivery systems and the financing of health care;
4. Safety of food, drugs, and medical devices, including regulatory frameworks and import safety;
5. Public health, including epidemiology, environmental health, behavioral health (including mental and substance use disorders), occupational health, nutrition, and health promotion/disease prevention;

6. Biomedical and behavioral research;
7. Advanced use of health information and digital health based on innovation, including big data analysis, data driven policy, and information-based research for both day to day and crisis management.
8. Genomic and molecular medicine, including new approaches to precision medicine; and
9. Other areas as identified by the Participants.

SECTION III

Methods of Cooperation

The methods of cooperation provided in this Memorandum of Understanding may include the following:

1. Exchange of information;
2. Exchange of scientific, academic, and administrative personnel;
3. Education and capacity-building;
4. Conferences and symposia; and
5. Collaborative projects, as mutually identified.

The Participants intend to encourage the formation of direct relationships and linkages between institutions and individuals in the two countries, as appropriate, in fostering cooperation in the fields of public health, medicine, and science.

SECTION IV

Organization of Cooperation

The Participants intend for the International Relations Department of the Ministry of Health of the State of Israel and the HHS Office of Global Affairs to serve as overall coordinators for cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding. The Participants intend to establish a regular high-level working group to meet to discuss collaboration in the field of health between MOH and HHS;

As appropriate for the areas of cooperation identified pursuant to Section II, each Coordinator intends to identify an administrative focal point to oversee the practical implementation of activities. These focal points may, among other things, organize groups of experts and meet periodically with their counterparts to further the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

SECTION V

Financing

Each participant intends to conduct activities carried out pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with its respective applicable laws and regulations. The activities carried out pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and other resources. Each Participant expects to bear the costs of its own participation, except that the Participants may make alternate funding arrangements for specific activities, as appropriate.

SECTION VI

Commencement, Discontinuation, and Modification

Activities under this Memorandum of Understanding may commence upon signature by both Participants. This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to remain in operation for five (5) years. The Participants may extend or modify this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual written decision. Either Participant may cease cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding at any time but is expected to give six months' prior written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in New York on the 21 day of Sep. 2023, in the English language.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Moshe Arbel
Minister

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Xavier Becerra
Secretary