

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Sister State relations**

**Between**

**the Government of the State of Maryland**

**and**

**the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the  
Galilee**

**on**

**the Development of the Negev**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is adopted between the Government of the State of Maryland of the United States of America and the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants").

Whereas, the Participants wish to amplify the positive experiences already existing between the State of Israel, especially the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee, and the State of Maryland;

Whereas the Participants intend to cooperate further in the development of the Negev;

Whereas, the Participants intend for this MOU to be of mutual benefit to both the State of Maryland and the Ministry for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee, which benefits the State of Israel generally; and

Now, therefore, the Participants have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1

The Participants intend that cooperation may take place in the following areas:

- Tourism;
- Science, technology, engineering and math;
- Healthcare, biotechnology and medical science;
- Environmental protection and water sustainability;
- Youth and education;
- Culture and arts;

By mutual written consent of both Participants, the Participants may adopt other areas of exchange.

#### Article 2

Neither Participant, without the prior written consent of the other Participant, should use any information it receives from the other Participant under this MOU for purposes not directly related to the exercise of the MOU.

#### Article 3

The Participants shall act in good faith in implementing the items described in this MOU, however the Participants shall not assume any legal or financial obligations or liabilities in this regard whatsoever.

#### Article 4

Any cooperation under this MOU shall be within the scope of the authority and powers of both Participants and to ability of funds.

#### Article 5

This MOU shall not preclude either Participant from entering into similar arrangements with any other entity.

#### Article 6

This MOU shall be subject to the laws, rules and regulations applying to both Participants.

#### Article 7

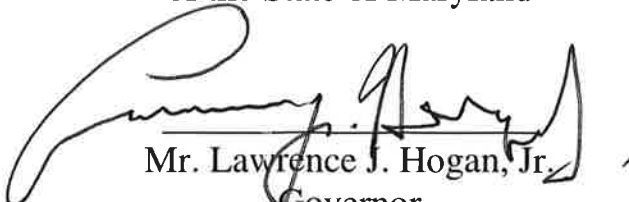
This MOU is not intended to create legally binding rights and obligations.

#### Article 8

This MOU is for a period of three (3) years starting on the date of signature, and may be renewed by an exchange of letters between the Participants. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this MOU may be terminated at any time by mutual consent or unilaterally by either Participant; provided however, Articles 3 and 4 shall survive the termination of the MOU.

Signed in the city of Jerusalem, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016 which corresponds to the 23 of Elul 5776 in the Hebrew calendar. In duplicate, each in the English language, with both versions being equally valid.

For and on behalf  
of the Government  
of the State of Maryland

  
Mr. Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor

For and on behalf  
of the Ministry for the Development  
of the Periphery, the Negev and the  
Galilee

  
Mr. Meshulam Nahari  
Deputy Minister