

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR, AND WELFARE OF
JAPAN
AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (MHLW) and the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), hereinafter referred to as the “Participants”:

Guided by the willingness to foster research and innovation and to develop cooperation between their respective countries in the field of healthcare delivery and biomedical and clinical sciences;

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation on health;

Considering the cooperation sustained previously by Japan and the United States;

Recognizing the Participants’ desire to sign this Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in order to strengthen cooperation in these areas for the benefit of the populations of both countries,

Have reached the following common recognition:

ITEM I

The objective of this MOC is to establish a strategy for cooperation in the field of health and its development, through the implementation of scientific, academic, technical and research-based projects and exchanges, the exchange of technical information and other activities of interest to both Participants, in accordance with applicable laws of both countries.

The Participants intend to enhance and expand cooperative efforts in health and biomedical sciences in a manner consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and all activities are expected to be conducted on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

Joint activities, where practical and appropriate, are expected to be coordinated with and be supportive of the activities and goals of international health bodies, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization, the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific and other components of the United Nations system.

ITEM II

Initial efforts are intended to be directed at developing a health cooperation strategy addressing shared priorities, including:

- Strengthening the global health system;

- Public health emergencies and emerging public health threats such as but not limited to antimicrobial resistance;
- Research & Development on advanced medical technology, pharmaceuticals and medical devices;
- Regulation of medical products including pharmaceuticals and medical devices;
- Food safety concerns;
- Human resource development;
- Healthcare services and financing;
- Global health policy making;
- Prevention and response to the growing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD), including cancer, with the goal of reducing premature mortality;
- Prevention and control of infectious diseases; and
- Aging, including the exchange of experiences and information, and the development of policy on support for caregivers, including workers who care for children and elderly family member;

Other priorities for cooperation also may be identified by mutual consent of the Participants.

ITEM III

The methods of cooperation provided for in this MOC are intended to include, but are not limited to:

- Cooperative scientific programs and research projects;
- Exchange of information and best practices;
- Exchanges of scientists and health officials; and
- Consultations, meetings, and scientific conferences, as authorized.

The Participants also intend to encourage and facilitate the establishment of direct cooperative relationships between appropriate institutions and individuals in the two countries.

Activities carried out under this MOC are expected to be implemented through specific arrangements that outline the scope, responsibilities and other relevant aspects of implementation that may be of particular interest to each Participant.

ITEM IV

For each area of mutual cooperation identified, the Participants intend to identify an appropriate entity to lead the practical implementation of activities. All activities under this MOC are

expected to be conducted by the Participants in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and to be subject to the availability of personnel, resources, and appropriated funds. The appropriate entities of the two Participants are expected to be responsible for coordinating communications and activities and for fulfilling mutually decided actions. Activities under this MOC are expected to be developed through joint consultations based on shared priorities following signature of this MOC. Nothing in this MOC creates legally binding obligations under international law or the laws of the Participants.

Unless required by relevant laws and regulations or mutually consented to otherwise by the Participants, the Participants do not intend to disclose, disseminate, or make public any information received from the other Participant or that is otherwise made available by the other Participant during the implementation of this MOC, provided that such information is not in the public domain.

Any dispute arising from the implementation or interpretation of this MOC is expected to be resolved between the Participants, and, when deemed necessary, through diplomatic channels.

ITEM V

Activities under this MOC may commence upon signature by both Participants. This MOC may be modified by mutual consent of the Participants, and may be discontinued, in whole or in part, by a Participant upon written notification of discontinuation to the other Participant with three (3) months' advance notice. Discontinuation of this MOC is not intended to affect the duration of projects implemented under this MOC before discontinuation.

Signed in (location) on this ___ day of (month) of 2017, in duplicate in the English language.

**For the Ministry of Health, Labour and
Welfare of Japan**

**For the Department of Health and Human
Services of the United States of America**
