AGREEMENT between BOVA UNIVERSITIES:

ESTONIAN AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY LATVIA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE LITHUANIAN VETERINARY ACADEMY

In 1996 the BOVA Universities — the Estonian Agricultural University, Latvia University of Agriculture, Lithuanian University of Agriculture and Lithuanian Veterinary Academy formed an organisation joining the above-mentioned universities — BOVA (the Baltic Forestry, Veterinary and Agricultural University).

Based on the agreement signed by the Rectors of the Nordic and Baltic agricultural universities in Kaunas in 1999 the BOVA Universities hereby enter into an agreement of co-operation in teaching, research and development in general questions related to higher education.

- 1. The four institutions enter into the agreement with the aim of making a specific contribution in developing the relations between the Baltic Agricultural Universities, as well as integrating the Baltic States into the European Union. The academic co-operation between the four institutions will make it possible to strengthen the partnership between the countries, and facilitate a deeper understanding of their working conditions.
- 2. The four institutions agree to co-operate over the full spectrum of their interest with specific agreements governing individual subject areas. The co-operation will chiefly be concerned with:
 - the creation of BOVA office at one of the participating universities, which is responsible for collecting and disseminating information about BOVA, as well as opportunity exploration
 - the exchange of students (SOCRATES; ERASMUS; LEONARDO, etc)
 - the exchange of teachers/lecturers/experts (ERASMUS; LEONARDO, etc)
 - the development of joint courses and study programmes (TEMPUS JEP 12069-97, ERASMUS, EU 5th framework, etc)
 - the introduction of joint research and development projects (EU 5th framework, etc)
 - the publication of articles and research work in scientific publications of all the participating countries
 - the exchange and dissemination of information on international conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.
 - the development of further co-operation with universities and research institutes in the Baltic Sea region.

- 3. In order to promote student mobility, the institutions guarantee full academic recognition for the academic work of their students at the international or joint courses and study programmes of the partner University.
- 4. The host Institution will assist with finding accommodation for the staff and students who participate in exchange programmes.
- 5. As far as possible, the institutions agree to provide resources to support cooperation. They will seek support for joint projects from the European Union and other funding agencies.
- 6. The agreement comes into force on the date of signature by the four Parties and terminates the previous contract. Any amendments to this Agreement are subject to the approval of the four Parties. Termination of agreement, with or without a statement of reasons for termination, shall be in writing and at six months' notice.
- 7. This agreement has been made in four copies of equal contents.

Jelgava, February 25, 2000

Estonian Agricultural University

Henn Elmet, Rector, Professor

Latvia University of Agriculture

Voldemars Strikis, Rector, Professor

Lithuanian University of Agriculture

Romualdas Deltuvas, Vice-Rector, Professor

Lithuanian Veterinary Academy

Vidmantas Bizokas, Rector, Professor