

# Memorandum of Understanding

between

**Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao e.V.**  
**German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa / Initiative Allemande sur le Cacao**  
**Durable (GISCO)**  
Berlin Office  
c/o Representation of the Deutsche  
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Reichpietschufer 20  
10785 Berlin  
Germany

and

**Schweizer Plattform für Nachhaltigen Kakao**  
**Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa**  
Münzgraben 6  
3011 Bern  
Switzerland

- herein after referred to as 'the Parties' –

relating to the collaboration as

**Associate Partnership**

- hereinafter referred to as 'the Partnership' -

## **1. OBJECT AND FIELD OF APPLICATION**

This agreement aims to define objectives, purposes and specific activities of the Parties involved with respect to the partnership.

The objective of this agreement is to cooperate closely on a voluntary basis with a view to achieving common goals.

This agreement does not constitute a binding agreement or entail legal obligations for the Parties, jointly or severally.

## **2. OBJECTIVE OF PARTNERSHIP**

The objective of the partnership is

- *To enhance the social, environmental and economic sustainability of the cocoa value chain. Particular improvements are sought in the following areas:*
  - *To conserve and protect natural resources and biodiversity in cocoa producing countries;*
  - *To increase cultivation, commercialization and consumption of sustainably produced cocoa.*
- *To promote multistakeholder partnerships with the aim to reach a sustainable cocoa sector*
- *To coordinate activities with each other and with other national and international initiatives*

## **3. DEFINITION OF THE PARTIES**

### **3.1 GISCO**

The German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO) is a joint initiative of the Federal Government, represented by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), the German sweets and confectionary industry, the German retail grocery trade, and civil society. Jointly, the multi-stakeholder initiative aims to improve the livelihood of cocoa farmers and their families as well as to increase the proportion of sustainably produced cocoa. To achieve these objectives, the members of GISCO closely liaise with the governments of cocoa producing countries.

The German Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa was founded in June 2012 and has been a registered association since April 2014. Currently, GISCO has about 70 members.

### **3.2 Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa**

The Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa is a multi-stakeholder initiative launched by the Swiss chocolate industry, the federal government and civil society to promote sustainability in the cocoa sector. In addition to the federal government and Swiss chocolate producers, the platform participants include private stakeholders in the cocoa value chain who can help fulfil a shared responsibility. Specifically, these are the Swiss retail sector, importers, other processors and suppliers of products containing cocoa, cocoa suppliers based in Switzerland, other important suppliers and service providers, label organizations, and stakeholders from civil society such as NGOs, foundations, universities and other research institutions.

The Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa was launched in June 2017 with 47 organizations and companies signing a common declaration of intent and is constituted as an association as of January 2018.

#### 4. ACTIVITIES

Activities to be implemented in the framework of this partnership and in relation to the objectives of this MOU will be among others:

- exchange of information and knowledge regarding focus topics
- organization of joint events and activities
- collaboration in exchange and collaboration with producing countries
- collaboration in support of multistakeholder platforms

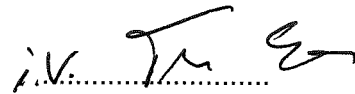
Additional activities will be developed in the course of the implementation of this MOU.

#### 5. ANNEXES

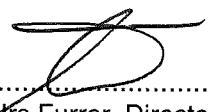
1. Objectives of GISCO
2. Declaration of Intent Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa

Thus, in the interests of implementing the Project to the mutual benefit of the Parties and their beneficiaries, the authorized representatives of the Parties, hereby sign two originals of this agreement, on the day, month and year stated below:

Berlin, 19.01.2018  
Verein Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao e.V. / German  
Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO)

  
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Wolf Kropp-Büttner, President

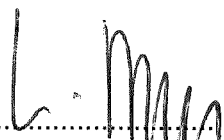
Berlin, 19.01.2018  
Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa

  
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Urs Furrer, Director of CHOCOSUISSE

Zurich, 23.1.2018  
Verein Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao e.V. / German  
Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (GISCO)

  
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Beate Weiskopf, Executive Secretary

Zurich, 23.1.2018  
Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa

  
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Ernst A. Brugger, President