

LETTER OF INTENT Nº 03/2026

LETTER OF INTENT Nº 03/2026, CELEBRATED BETWEEN THE CENTRO DE TECNOLOGIAS ESTRATÉGICAS DO NORDESTE - CETENE AND THE LEIBNIZ INSTITUTE DSMZ-GERMAN COLLECTION OF MICROORGANISMS AND CELL CULTURES GMBH (DSMZ).

The **CENTRO DE TECNOLOGIAS ESTRATÉGICAS DO NORDESTE - CETENE**, a research unit of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Inovação), located at Avenida Professor Luiz Freire, nº 01, in the city of Recife PE, CEP 50740-545, qualified as a Scientific, Technological and Innovation Institution (ICT of the Union), under the terms of Law nº 10.973/04, hereinafter referred to as CETENE, represented in this act by its Director, Mr. Marcelo Brito Carneiro Leão, appointed under the terms of Civil House Ordinance nº 1.019, of 17/09/2024, published in the D.O.U on 18/09/2024, and **Leibniz Institute DSMZ-German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures GmbH**, research institute located at Science Campus Braunschweig-Süd, Inhoffenstraße 7B, 38124 Braunschweig, GERMANY, hereinafter referred to as **DSMZ**, represented for these purposes and as accredited, by Prof. Dr. Yvonne Mast, all hereinafter referred to as "the parties", considering:

1. Whereas CETENE is competent to carry out research and development activities, programs, and projects; provide specialized technical services; develop studies and propose guidelines for policy formulation or the execution of programs in the field of technology; establish and maintain the exchange of information, as well as technology transfer with research and teaching institutions, and other public and private entities, national or international; train human resources; issue certificates, reports, and technical opinions, as well as create standards in accordance with recognized national and international technical norms; transfer to society unique services and products resulting from its research and development activities, in compliance with applicable legal provisions; maintain and operate, directly or indirectly, offices, laboratories, and regional units; and create mechanisms to raise financial resources for research and increase its own revenues, in accordance with its Internal Bylaws approved by Ordinance No. 7,052, dated 05/24/2023;
2. Whereas Leibniz Institute DSMZ GmbH is a biological resource center and a leading research infrastructure in microbial and cellular biodiversity, fundamental for the advancement of science, public health, and bioeconomy. In addition to its collection, DSMZ conducts cross-disciplinary research into microbial diversity, evolutionary mechanisms, functional adaptations, and the molecular basis of biotic interactions. With its comprehensive collections and expertise in the areas of cultivation, identification, taxonomy/phylogeny and conservation, the DSMZ also plays a key role for the translation from basic research into applications;
3. Whereas both parties aim to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goals No. 2 (Zero Hunger and Sustainable Agriculture), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals);
4. Whereas both Institutions have an interest in carrying out, in a coordinated manner and by mutual agreement, scientific and technological development projects in the areas of research, development, and innovation focused on biological resources and biodiversity, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and computational sciences, with an emphasis on the health of sustainable agrosystems;
5. Whereas the common and/or concurrent activities are aligned with the objectives and guidelines of CETENE's innovation policy;
6. Whereas they recognize the necessity and importance of consolidating this preliminary joint act, with the objective of uniting institutional knowledge and competencies to improve the execution of each other's institutional activities;

They agree to celebrate this **LETTER OF INTENT**, under the following conditions:

1. The parties commit to joining efforts with the objective of complementing their experiences in institutional areas of common or concurrent interest, without prejudice to their individual and independent actions;
2. During the term of this Protocol of Intentions, the parties may hold meetings and exchange information as preliminary acts to define the scope of eventual joint institutional action;
3. Interactions, when necessary, shall preferably be conducted via videoconference, with the aim of reducing the resulting costs;
4. For the future execution of activities related to this Protocol of Intentions, the participants shall prepare joint planning to define each project to be executed; both parties must submit such planning for prior regular institutional approval, with the initiation of the respective process and registration according to internal formal procedures, defining the legal instrument to be implemented between the signatories to precisely define the object of the project, execution period, rights, obligations, and other conditions;
5. By the present instrument, the Parties commit to complying with all applicable laws and regulations relevant to their activities under this Letter of Intent, including but not limited to anti-corruption and anti-money laundering legislation. Each Party shall comply with the internal policies and compliance requirements applicable to it. To the extent necessary for such compliance, the Parties agree to inform each other of any legal or regulatory requirements relevant to the cooperation.
6. The Parties further acknowledge that activities involving biological resources may be subject to regulations on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including the Nagoya Protocol and applicable national legislation, such as the Brazilian biodiversity legislation. Each Party shall ensure that any access to or use of genetic resources is carried out in accordance with the applicable ABS requirements and that the necessary authorisations or registrations are obtained where required.

This Protocol of Intentions does not, in itself, create any legal binding between the signatories; thus, it represents only a formal intention to join efforts for the improvement of their institutional activities, with a projected term of 12 (twelve) months from this date, after which it may be formally renewed for an equal period.

Marcelo Brito Carneiro Leão

On behalf of ICT/CETENE

i. V. Björn Krenz
(Vertretung für Yvonne Mast)

On behalf of DSMZ



Documento assinado eletronicamente por **Marcelo Brito Carneiro Leão, Diretor do Centro de Tecnologias Estratégicas do Nordeste**, em 16/03/2026, às 14:45 (horário oficial de Brasília), com fundamento no § 3º do art. 4º do [Decreto nº 10.543, de 13 de novembro de 2020](#).



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