

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA  
AND THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF THE NETHERLANDS  
ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands (hereinafter referred to as the 'Signatories');

Noting that there has been active co-operation and information exchange in a number of scientific and technological areas between the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of the Republic of India;

Recognizing the common priority of fostering economic development of both countries through science, technology, and innovation also involving scientific and technological cooperation in research and development activities undertaken by business entities and research institutions;

Considering that both governments support cooperation between knowledge institutes, small and large companies and consumers;

Desiring to further strengthen co-operation in promising areas in the fields of science, technology and innovation on the basis of mutual benefit;

Have decided as follows:

*Article 1.*

The Signatories will encourage and support cooperation in the fields of science and technology on the basis of equality and mutual benefit according to the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding and the laws and regulations of each Signatory.

The two Signatories can define, by mutual consent, various areas of cooperation, on the basis of suggestions of the scientific and industrial community.

*Article 2.*

Cooperation between the two Signatories in the fields of science and technology may be effectuated by means of:

- Realization of joint research and technological development projects, including the exchange of their results;
- Exchange of scientists, researchers and technical experts;
- Exchange of scientific and technological information and documentation as well as equipment and consumable materials;
- Organization of and participation in meetings, conferences, symposia workshops, courses and exhibitions on fields of interest to both countries;
- Joint use of research and development facilities and scientific equipment;
- Other forms of cooperation mutually agreed upon.

*Article 3.*

The Signatories will have programs in place, providing possible support to the companies and institutes participating in innovative co-operation projects. These programs are subject to the laws and regulations of each country and to the availability of necessary funding in each country.

*Article 4.*

The Signatories will establish a Joint Committee (hereafter the Committee) for the purpose of implementing this Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee will be

composed of representatives of the Signatories including an official from each side designated as single point of contact for the purpose of implementing this Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee will meet at mutually agreed regular intervals in order to:

- Monitor the process of implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding;
- Discuss specific measures to enhance the range and quality of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding;
- Propose areas of cooperation as foreseen;
- Report, when requested or necessary, to the Signatories.

The single points of contact from each side may meet whenever required to discuss the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding or the matters related to the meeting of the Committee.

#### *Article 5.*

Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will be announced, published or commercially exploited with the consent of the two signatories.

#### *Article 6.*

Scientists, researchers, technical experts and institutions of third countries or international organizations may be invited, upon consent of the two Signatories to participate in projects and programs carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding. The cost of such participation will normally be borne by those third parties.

#### *Article 7.*

Each Signatory will encourage other government agencies, industries, scientific institutions, and universities to take part in the activities undertaken under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Any project or activity undertaken in cooperation between the Signatories, their respective government agencies or their respective national public or private entities will be subject to its own financial resources and mutually agreed conditions.

The cost of the exchange visits under the approved activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will be shared on mutually agreed terms.

The Signatories may also consider possibilities of funding or financing of cooperative projects or activities, through the participation of third parties or through the constitution of joint ventures or private public partnerships.

*Article 8.*

Any differences relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably between the Signatories through diplomatic channels.

*Article 9.*

With respect to the cooperation activities established under this Memorandum of Understanding, each Signatory will provide, in accordance with its laws and regulations, the best possible conditions for their implementation.

*Article 10.*

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature. It will remain effective for two years and will continue to have effect thereafter unless terminated by either Signatory at the end of the initial two-year period or at any time thereafter by giving to the other Signatory at least a month's written advance notice of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. The termination of the Memorandum of Understanding would not affect the activities already initiated before such notice of termination.

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any rights or obligations under international law.

Signed in duplicate on the 28th of March 2008, in the English language.

THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC  
AFFAIRS OF THE  
NETHERLANDS



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MARIA VAN DER HOEVEN

THE MINISTER FOR SCIENCE &  
TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



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KAPIL SIBAL