

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM
OF NORWAY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
INDIA REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT
COMMISSION OF COOPERATION

The Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the Republic of India (hereinafter jointly referred to as the 'Parties' and in the singular as 'Party'),

Guided by a common desire to further strengthen the relations between their two countries;

Determined to explore the possibilities of mutually advantageous co-operation between Norway and India in areas of common interest; and

Recognizing the need for a new and creative phase in Norwegian-Indian partnership,

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1
(Establishment of a Joint Commission)

A Norwegian-Indian Joint Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Joint Commission") shall be established to identify and review areas for closer co-operation between Norway and India in the political, economic, commercial, energy, environmental, scientific, technological, educational and cultural fields, and in such other fields as the parties may consider appropriate. The Joint Commission will also make recommendations for the implementation of decisions agreed upon by the parties in the above-mentioned fields. Within its areas of competence the Commission may submit mutually agreed recommendations or proposals to the respective Governments.

Sud. Samy
Auth.
4.5.05

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Article 2
(Composition of the Joint Commission)

The Joint Commission will be co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway and the Minister of External Affairs of India, or their nominees, with the assistance of experts from the public or private sector as appropriate.

Article 3
(Objectives and Functions)

The tasks of the Commission may include, more specifically :

- (a) in the economic and commercial field, reviewing the status of bilateral economic and commercial relations with a view to strengthening them, and this could include recommending measures and activities to further stimulate trade and investments between the two countries consistent with their international obligations;
 - (b) in the scientific and technological field, exploring possibilities of enhanced scientific and technological cooperation, in sectors such as information technology, biotechnology, energy including oil, gas and hydro power, non-conventional energy including hydrogen and fuel-cells; space and polar research; environment management including cooperation on relevant technologies, natural resources management including water management and forestry;
 - (c) in the educational and cultural field, reviewing and recommending programmes, plans and priorities for cooperative efforts to facilitate interchange in the broad fields of education and scholarship, and such areas of cultural endeavour as performing arts, fine arts, libraries and museums, sports and mass communications;
 - (d) the Joint Commission may appoint sub-commissions, committees or ad-hoc working groups to consider specific issues in a targeted way. The Joint Commission will determine the tasks and terms of reference of the working groups.
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(e) the Joint Commission will meet annually on agreed dates, or, if agreed, at the request of either party at a place and time to be decided through diplomatic channels. An agenda is to be agreed upon prior to each meeting at least 30 days before the meeting date. Meetings of the Joint Commission are to be held alternately in the respective countries. Ad-hoc meetings of the Joint Commission are also to be held alternately in the respective countries.

Article 4 (Decisions and Procedures)

(a) The decisions, directions and guidelines issued by the Joint Commission will be included as a permanent item, for operational follow-up, as necessary, on the agenda of the regular foreign office consultations that take place separately between Norway and India;

(b) the Joint Commission will determine its working procedures, with due regard to the provisions of this Agreement;

(c) the results and decisions of meetings of the Joint Commission are to be reflected in the minutes, which are to be signed by the Chairmen.

Article 5 (Expenses)

Any administrative expenses related to meetings of the Joint Commission and its ad-hoc working groups will be borne by the country in which the meeting is held. Each Government will bear the expenses of its own participation in meetings of the Joint Commission and its ad-hoc working groups, including travel expenses, boarding and lodging and any other personal expenses of its participants. All procedural and administrative matters that are not provided for herein will be determined by the Joint Commission upon mutual consent of the Parties.

Article 6 (Final Clauses)

(a) The Agreement shall enter into force upon signature. It shall continue to be in force, unless either Party terminates the Agreement by giving six

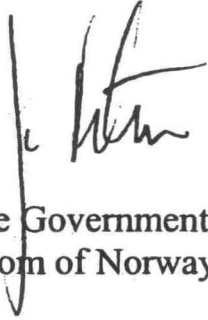
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months prior notice in writing. The termination of the Agreement shall not affect the completion of any project undertaken in terms of this Agreement prior to its termination unless the Parties agree otherwise;

(b) the Agreement may be amended by mutual consent and any difference between the Parties shall be settled through consultation and negotiation;

(c) the Agreement shall not be interpreted to the detriment of other cooperation agreements between the Parties nor any other international obligations of the Parties.

Done at New Delhi on this 6 day of July 2004, in two originals each in the Norwegian, English, and Hindi languages, all three texts being equally authentic. In the event of a difference of interpretation between the texts, the English text shall prevail.



For the Government of the
Kingdom of Norway



For the Government of the
Republic of India