

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

The Government of Republic of India represented by Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs and the Government of Arab Republic of Egypt represented by Ministry of Environment and Forests, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Parties’;

Recognizing that many environmental problems are of cross-border nature and require international cooperation, through both bilateral and multilateral conventions and that cooperation between national environmental authorities can be of mutual benefit at national, regional and global level;

Recognizing the significance of sustainable development approach for the protection and enhancement of the environment as well as for the health and well-being of the present and future generations and sharing the commitment to implement the principles set out in “Agenda 21”;

Wishing to strengthen the cooperation in the framework of specific international conventions to which the Parties or their states are parties and in conformity with the final documents of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002).

Bearing in mind the need for closer scientific and technical co-operation for the protection of environment and conservation of natural resources;

Have reached the following understanding:

Article 1

In order to reduce the environmental pollution and to protect the nature, on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit, the Parties shall develop and promote co-operation in the field of environmental protection, including the transfer of know-how and technology, as well as exchange of expertise.

Article 2

The main areas of co-operation shall be the following:

- a) Waste Management including agricultural waste & electronic waste;
- b) Tackling the impact of climate change;
- c) The use of bio fuels;
- d) Marine environment protection and integrated coastal zone management;
- e) Air quality & water quality;
- f) The protection of wetlands & water conservation;
- g) Biological diversity and nature conservation;
- h) Environmental information systems;
- i) Waste water management & reuse of treated effluents;
- j) Afforestation in arid areas.

Article 3

The co-operation under this MoU will include;

- a) The development and further improvement of framework conditions to facilitate the implementation of project activities in all sectoral scopes of protection of the environment and sustainable development;
- b) Organizing of meetings, workshops, symposia, exhibitions;
- c) Training and exchange of specialists and experience in the field of environmental management;
- d) Exchange of scientific and technical information and documentation & results of research and information of the state of environment;
- e) Joint scientific- technical programs and elaboration of common projects;
- f) Any other form of co-operation mutually agreed by the Parties.

Article 4

1. The Parties proceeding from the objectives of this MoU shall promote and facilitate the establishment and development of direct contact and cooperation between them and between public and private institutions and organizations of both countries.
2. The Parties shall encourage contacts between Government agencies, academic institutions and private economic enterprises of both countries interested in cooperation, including the signing of contracts and working agreements.

Article 5

The scientific and technical information, not protected by the intellectual property rights, that may be accumulated as a result of cooperation under the present MoU excluding information which may not be disclosed in view of national security of commercial and industrial consideration, may be provided to the international scientific community & institutes unless otherwise agreed to by both Parties, through the usual channels and in accordance with the normal procedures of the participating institutions and organizations. In exchanging and disseminating it to third parties, both parties shall take into account existing legal provisions, the rights of third parties and international obligations.

Article 6

1. For coordination and implementation of this MOU, an Indo-Egyptian Joint Working Group on Environment shall be set up (hereinafter referred to as "the Working Group").
2. The Working Group will meet, at intervals agreed upon by the parties, alternately in Egypt and India. It will examine concrete activities and programmes of cooperation, coordinate with the participating organizations responsible for the implementation of these programmes, and shall make recommendations to Parties through an accepted procedure. The composition, place of the meeting and procedure to be followed in the Working Group shall be mutually determined by the parties.
3. The Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs in the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the Republic of India shall be

nodal agencies responsible for coordination and organizations of cooperation under the present MoU.

4. The activities under the MoU will be conducted on the basis of a plan of action formulated for period of five years, in accordance with the programs of cooperation.

Article 7

1. The external travelling costs and daily allowances of experts participating for the implementation of the working programme or other actions agreed upon within the framework of this MoU shall be covered by the sending Party, unless otherwise agreed.
2. The cost of accommodation and local transport in the host state shall be covered by the host Party.

Article 8

This MoU shall not be interpreted so as to prejudice the rights and obligations of the Parties which result from other agreements in force concluded by each of the two Parties or their State under international law.

Article 9

Any divergence that may arise from the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall be settled by consultation & negotiation between the Parties.

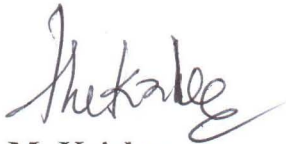
Article 10

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force from the date of signature and shall remain in force for a period of five years, and shall be automatically renewed for similar period unless one of the Parties notifies the other in writing about its intention to terminate it, six months before the date of termination through diplomatic channels.

The termination of this Memorandum shall not affect the implementation of the commitments and projects agreed upon during its validity period; as well any modification of its articles by mutual consent of the Parties.

Signed in Cairo on 04 March 2012, in two originals each in the English, Arabic and Hindi languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence the English text shall prevail.

**On behalf of the Government
of Republic of India**



S. M. Krishna

**On behalf of the Government
of Arab Republic of Egypt**



Mohamed Kamel Amr