

JOINT STATEMENT OF INTENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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PREAMBLE  
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The Government of India and the Government of the United States of America, hereinafter the parties, desirous of pursuing a Common Agenda for the Environment (hereinafter referred to as the "Agenda"), wish to record the following:

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ITEM I - INTRODUCTION  
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It is the intention of the parties to establish the Agenda as a cooperative process for collaboration on environmental issues. Both countries recognise that environmental protection, economic development, and social development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development. They acknowledge that human resource development, eradication of absolute poverty and hunger remain challenges everywhere. While managing resources sustainably, an environmental policy that focusses mainly on conservation and protection must take due account of those who depend on the resources for their livelihood.

The Agenda is intended to outline key areas of common concern and to reflect the intention of the parties to engage in dialogue and cooperation on approaches to meeting both global and domestic environmental challenges. Within a framework of common interest and mutual benefit, the Parties intend to establish working groups to discuss key environmental issues of importance to both countries and to identify and carry out activities which implement the Agenda, such as workshops, conferences, and studies. The Groups should consist of participants from Government, Non-Government, and Private Institutions.

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ITEM II - OBJECTIVES  
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The objectives of the Agenda seek to achieve U.S. and Indian environmental policy goals. The objectives are:-

- a) to share perspectives and positions on key global environmental issues such as global warming, ozone depletion, desertification, biodiversity conservation and hazardous waste;
- b) to facilitate scientific and technological research and exchanges and other joint efforts to address environmental problems of mutual concern;
- c) to exchange information on environmentally sound technologies, including sustainable energy generation and use, pollution abatement and prevention, waste management, and water treatment;
- d) to seek increased efficiency in the use of available funds and to mobilize additional funds from existing and new sources, including the public and private sectors to meet environmental challenges;
- e) to support implementation of India's Environmental Action Programme.

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ITEM III - GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES  
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The parties share deep concerns about global environmental issues such as global climate change, ozone layer depletion and biodiversity loss as evidenced by their approval of, and active participation in, International Agreements and fora on these issues.

The parties are both key contributors to the Global Environment Facility and participants in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, The Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer, The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, The Convention on Biological Diversity, The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, The Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries experiencing serious drought and/or Desertification particularly in Africa, The U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development and other fora. The Framework of the Agenda is intended to provide an opportunity to discuss informally their mutual views and positions on Global Environmental issues that may be taken up for consideration in international settings.

The Agenda is intended to provide for the periodic exchange of information between the Parties, offer a forum for expanded discussions with non-governmental organizations and the private sector, and permit exchanges of senior technical personnel.

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ITEM IV - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES  
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Both parties have benefitted from active programmes involving collaboration on scientific and technical issues for more than 35 years, and there are growing opportunities for promoting cooperation between the parties on environmental research and related programs. The Agenda would help establish priorities for joint work on research, technology, and scientific exchanges related to environmental issues.

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ITEM V - ENVIRONMENT TECHNOLOGY ISSUES  
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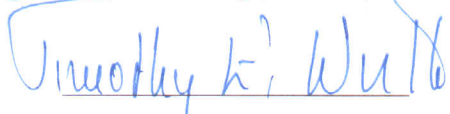
The parties face many similar environmental challenges domestically from increased urbanization, industrialization, and

loss of natural resources. The development and use of environmentally sound technologies and environmental management practices is important for the realization of both countries' environmental objectives. The Parties intend to look for ways to promote the wider transfer and utilization of these technologies through : a) cooperative programs on pollution abatement and prevention, waste management, waste treatment, clean transport, renewable energy sources, and energy efficiency; b) utilization of information databases and exchanges, and c) support for private sector initiatives. An example of a program for consideration is the Common Sense Initiative of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency which addresses the pollution problems of industry on a sector by sector basis.

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ITEM VI - INDIA ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROGRAMME  
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The Government of India's Environmental Action Programme lays out a strategy for integrating environmental considerations into a national programme for sustainable development and an ambitious plan of action. The Government of the United States of America intends to support that programme through the Agenda and mutually agreed additional initiatives.

Signed this day, the 18th of April, 1995 at New Delhi.



(Timothy E. Wirth)

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On behalf of the Government of  
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(Vinay Shankar)

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On behalf of the  
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