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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, KINGDOM OF NORWAY  
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Republic of India and the Ministry of Education and Research, Kingdom of Norway (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties");

Desiring to strengthen bilateral relations in the field of education;

Recalling the profound impact of education on human resource, economic and social development;

Recognizing that greater linkages between the countries in the field of education would be mutually beneficial;

Recalling the Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Culture between the Republic of India and the kingdom of Norway signed on 19.4.1987;

Have reached the following understanding:

**Article I**

The Parties shall encourage, as appropriate, the development of contacts and cooperation between the educational institutions of the Parties, based on their respective academic and educational needs. These may include all or some of the following activities:

- i) exchange of research materials, publications, educational literature, teaching aids, demonstration material and information;
- ii) organization of joint conferences, exhibitions and seminars;
- iii) organization of joint research programmes and publications;
- iv) organization of training programmes for educational administrators and teachers;
- v) exchange of academic and other administrative staff;
- vi) exchange of scholars, teachers, experts and students;
- vii) twinning arrangements between institutions of higher learning;
- viii) to develop bilateral programmes between institutions of educational excellence in technical, vocational and higher education;

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- ix) examine the possibility of mutual recognition of educational qualifications;
  - x) setting up of chairs on contemporary studies;
  - xi) providing mutual assistance in the fields of Information Technology, Computer Science, mathematics & science;
  - xii) any other activity as agreed by both Parties.

#### **Article II**

Both Parties will make available to the other the necessary information concerning their education system, quality assurance, recognition and licensing requirements and assist in developing mutual understanding and appropriate procedures for facilitating evaluation and recognition of academic credentials.

#### **Article III**

The substance, scope and implementation of activities or cooperation within the terms of this MOU may be the subject of more specific arrangements to be concluded in the future between selected institutions in the two countries. The Parties may consider the development of a bilateral agreement in the field of education to replace this MoU in the future.

#### **Article IV**

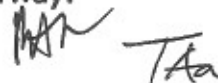
Nothing shall diminish the full autonomy of either Party, nor will any constraints or financial obligations be imposed by either Party upon the other, in carrying out the MoU.

#### **Article V**

The costs of the co-operative activities under this MoU shall be funded on terms to be mutually determined and shall be subject to the availability of funds.

#### **Article VI**

The Parties shall establish a Joint Working Group to concretise this MoU, and possibly to develop a bilateral agreement in the field of education if the Parties find it mutually beneficial. The Joint Working Group will be chaired, on behalf of the Kingdom of Norway by a representative of the Ministry of Education and Research, and on behalf of the Republic of India, by a representative of the, Ministry of Human Resource Development, along with the participation of representatives of the other agencies of the parties, as appropriate. The Joint Working Group shall meet alternately in India and Norway.



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### Article VII

The Joint Working Group shall review and discuss the development of mutual relations in education and activities under this MoU, but also exchange views on international education policies, multilateral initiatives in this field and principles or sustainable education exchange.

Such topics may include, but are not limited to :

- International initiatives for quality control in cross-border provision of higher education;
- Education in the context of GATS;
- UNESCO initiatives in higher education, such as regional conventions on qualifications;
- Implications of the European Bologna Process and its global context, as discussed in the ministerial communiqué at the London meeting in 2007;
- The identification of mutually beneficial education and training schemes in higher education institutions or in industry which will increase the potential for exchange of services and manpower between the two countries;
- The identification and implementation of measures and activities envisaged in this MoU.

### Article VIII

The Parties shall establish mutual points of contact for regular consultations on matters related to the bilateral education relations between the Parties, and establish contact procedures to facilitate communication.

### Article IX

The MoU shall be in force on the date of signing by both the Parties and shall remain in force for a period of five years or until it is replaced by a bilateral agreement in the field of education.

Done at Oslo on 18-06-2008 in two original copies in Hindi and English languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of any doubt, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Human Resource  
Development

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For the Ministry of Education and  
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