THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Republic of Ecuador (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 both the countries in the field of education would be mutually beneficial;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

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

- 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;
- 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) setting up of educational/training institutions and to further develop bilateral programmes between institutions of educational excellence in technical, vocational and higher education;
- ix) examine the possibility of mutual recognition of educational qualifications;
- x) setting up of chairs on contemporary studies;
- providing scholarships for further education in recognized institutions of higher learning;
- xii) providing mutual assistance in the fields of Information Technology, Computer Science, mathematics & science;
- xiii) any other activity as agreed by both Parties.

Article II

The substance, scope and implementation of activities or cooperation within the terms of this Educational Exchange Programme (EEP) may be the subject of more specific arrangements concluded between selected institutions in the two countries on the basis of and within the provisions of the present Educational Exchange Programme.

Article III

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 Educational Exchange Programme.

Article IV

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

Article V

The Parties shall establish a Joint Working Group to implement this Programme. The Joint Working Group shall be chaired, on behalf of the Government of Ecuador by a representative of the Ministry of Education/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of India, by a representative of the Department of Secondary & Higher

Education, 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 Ecuador as the Parties may mutually decide, to review the implementation of this Programme. The meeting can be replaced – if needed – by consultations through diplomatic channel.

Article VI

Either Party may request in writing for a revision of or amendment of this Programme. Any revision or amendment agreed to by both Parties shall be received in writing and shall form part of this programme. Such revision or amendment shall come into effect on such date as may be determined by both Parties.

Article VII

The Educational Exchange Programme shall become operational on the date of signing by both the Parties and shall remain in force for a period of five years. Each party reserves the right, for reasons of security, public order or health, to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this EEP. It shall be automatically renewed for a further period of five years at a time, unless one of the parties declares its intention to terminate the Programme by a written declaration before six months of the expiry of the Programme.

Done at New Delhi on 18th July 2006 in two original copies each in Spanish, English and Hindi languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the text in English shall prevail.

For the Government of The Republic of India

(K.M. Acharya) Additional Secretary For the Government of The Republic of Ecuador

(Carlos Abad) Ambassador