

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
THE ENVIRONMENT**

The Government of Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Republic of India (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”);

Taking into consideration their deep concern for the global environment and their shared interest in its conservation for the well being of present and future generations;

Considering the documents adopted during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 and at the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002 and;

Desirous of promoting the establishment and development of closer and long term cooperation between both countries in the field of protection and improvement of the environment;

Have reached the following understanding:

SECTION I - Objective

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to promote bilateral cooperation between the Participants in the field of environment protection and sustainable development, on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions in each country.

The cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding will be complementary to the ongoing cooperation between the two countries.

SECTION II - Areas of cooperation

The following areas have been identified by the Participants as high priority areas of cooperation:

- a) Dialogue and interaction between the two countries on global environmental issues, including Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) for their effective implementation.
- b) Exchange of knowledge, institutional cooperation including capacity building and commercial relations, regarding, inter alia :
 - environmental governance in the areas of environmental legislation, regulation, monitoring, enforcement and planning
 - sustainable urban development
 - integrated solid waste management
 - air and water quality management
 - cooperation in new and renewable energy
 - clean production and technology
 - environmental health
 - other areas mutually agreed upon
- c) Climate change, including CDM, research and development

SECTION III - Forms of cooperation

The cooperation between the Participants may be carried out in the following form:

- a) Collaboration between governments, governmental agencies, regional and local governments, knowledge and private sector institutions and civil society institutions
- b) Collaboration between academic and research institutions, exchange of information, documentation and results of research, and information on the state of the environment;
- c) Arrangement of bi-lateral meetings, symposia and other meetings; participation of experts, advisors and other concerned partners from the Parties in such meetings
- d) Any other form of cooperation, as mutually decided upon.

SECTION IV - The principle of cost sharing

The financial terms of cooperation shall be based on the principle of cost sharing.

Upon mutual agreement specific cooperation activities or projects may be undertaken under special agreements.

Administration and internal control regarding programmes, projects and other activities, as well as obligations in order for experts participating in programme, projects and other activities, should be undertaken in accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement on Technical Cooperation between the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Republic of India.

SECTION V - Coordination

For coordination and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, an Indo-Swedish Working Group on Cooperation in the field of Environmental Protection shall be set up (hereinafter referred to as "the Joint Working Group")

- a) The Joint Working Group will meet, at intervals agreed upon by the Participants, alternately in Sweden and India, and shall examine concrete activities and programmes of cooperation, coordinate with the participating organizations responsible for the implementation of these programmes, and shall make recommendations to the Participants, through an accepted procedure. The composition, place of the meetings and procedure to be followed in the Working Group shall be determined by mutual consent of the "Participants".

- b) In India, the Ministry of the Environment and Forests of the Republic of India and in Sweden, the Ministry of the Environment of the Kingdom of Sweden shall be the nodal bodies responsible for coordination and organization of cooperation under the present Memorandum of Understanding.

SECTION VI - Other Treaties and Agreements

The present Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the rights and obligations of the Participants under other bilateral or multilateral Treaties and Agreements to which they are a Party.

SECTION VII – Disputes

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled by negotiations and mutual consultation.

SECTION VIII - Effective date and termination


- a) The present Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect from the date of its signing and shall remain effective for an indefinite period. Either Participant may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by means of a written notice to the other Participant. The termination shall take effect six months following the date of notification.

- b) The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the completion of activities under agreements and contracts concluded on the basis of the present Memorandum of Understanding, which may have not been completed by the date of its termination.

Done in duplicate in Delhi on the 5th of November, 2009, in two originals each in the Swedish, Hindi and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of
the Kingdom of Sweden

For the Government of
the Republic of India



Ewa Björling
Minister for Trade



Vijai Sharma
Secretary,
Ministry of Environment & Forests