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# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

## AND

## THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

ON COOPERATION IN CONTROLLING NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, THEIR PRECURSORS AND CHEMICALS, AND DRUG ABUSE

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Recognizing that trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs in all its forms pose a serious threat to the health, security and welfare of human beings, and adversely affect the economic, social, cultural and political foundations of the society,

Sharing a deep concern over the illicit cultivation, production and trafficking in illicit narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their precursors and chemicals (hereinafter called "the drugs") and drug abuse,

Guided by the principles enshrined in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic

Substances of 1971, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Considering the mutual advantages and the importance of coordination and cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their precursors and chemicals, and drug abuse,

**Recognizing** the importance of the principles of sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity of the Parties;

**Pursuant** to the prevailing laws and regulations of the respective countries; Have reached the following understanding:

## ARTICLE I

## **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to enhance cooperation between the Parties in combating illicit cultivation, production, manufacture and traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their precursors and chemicals, and drug abuse.

## **ARTICLE II**

## RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY

The Parties shall comply with their commitments under this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with the principles of sovereign equality, non-intervention in internal affairs and respect for the State territorial integrity.

None of the Parties shall exercise in the other Party's territory any competence or functions that exclusively correspond to the other Party's authorities, pursuant to their respective domestic laws and national sovereignty.

## **ARTICLE III**

## SCOPE OF COOPERATION

The Parties, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, shall cooperate in the following areas:

- Drug supply and demand reduction measures in countering illicit drugs, psychotropic substances, and their precursors and chemicals, New Psychotropic Substances (NPS), synthetic drugs, their derivatives and analogues;
- 2. Exchange of experiences and information relating to drug trafficking and drug networks based in Thailand and India, the effective law enforcement including methods of search and seizure of concealed drugs, modus operandi used by drug traffickers, drug networks and persons involved in or suspected to be

involved in or arrested for drug-related offences, illicit production of drugs precursors, chemicals, New Psychotropic Substances, web sites selling drugs in pseudonymous names, their modus operandi, transactions carried out and exchange of information related to these sites, drug trafficking routes and the diversion of precursors and chemicals;

- 3. Controlled delivery operation on case to case basis with a view to identify persons involved in the illicit trafficking of drugs;
- Exchange of experiences, information, good practices and modalities in drug abuse prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and training in the field of drug demand reduction;
- 5. Exchange of experiences and information relating to the legislation and judicial practices for drug and precursor chemical control, drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation;
- 6. Exchange of best practices on Alternative Development including narcotic crop replacement and regulated cultivation of legal opium;
- 7. Exchange of relevant fields of experience and knowledge of modern technologies in detecting illicit drugs, drug profiling and scientific analysis including test results, new types of drugs, exchange of information on emergency scheduling of new drugs, New Psychotropic Substances, as well as, drug samples;
- 8 Capacity-building, training, as well as, exchange of visits of experts of the Parties in pursuance of the terms of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding;

 Other areas of common concern in pursuance of the terms of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding on a case by case basis as agreed upon by the Parties;

The cooperation under this MOU does not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties under international instruments. The cooperation may be refused if it affects national sovereignty, endangers security or violates domestic laws of the Parties.

## **ARTICLE IV**

## **MEETINGS**

The Parties shall hold consultations or ad-hoc meetings, when deemed necessary and by mutual consent or on a case by case basis, to coordinate and enhance the effectiveness of cooperation envisaged by this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **ARTICLE V**

## **EXECUTING AGENCIES**

The cooperation defined by this Memorandum of Understanding shall be developed through the competent bodies of the Parties.

The competent bodies under this Memorandum of Understanding will be:

• For the Kingdom of Thailand:

Secretary-General, Narcotics Control Board

Office of the Narcotics Control Board, Ministry of Justice

No.5, Din Daeng Road, Phyathai District, Bangkok-10400

For the Republic of India

Director-General

Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, West Block No.1, Wing No.5, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066

The Parties will immediately inform each other, in writing, about any changes made to the list of competent bodies.

## **ARTICLE VI**

# FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

Each Party shall bear its own cost and expenditure in pursuance of the terms of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties on a case by case basis.

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## **ARTICLE VII**

## CONFIDENTIALITY

The information and documents obtained within the framework on the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be kept confidential and be used in compliance with the purposes, determined by the providing Party. Notwithstanding the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding, this provision shall remain binding between the Parties.

The information and documents shall not be transmitted to a third party without prior written authorisation from the providing Party.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

## **WORKING LANGUAGE**

English shall be the working language for the purpose of information exchange under this Memorandum of Understanding.

### **ARTICLE IX**

### **AMENDMENT**

The Parties may review and amend any part of this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual consent in writing, and such amendment will come into force on such date as determined by the Parties and shall form as an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **ARTICLE X**

# SAFEGUARDING RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS ARISING OUT OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the rights and obligations assumed by the Parties pursuant to any other bilateral or multilateral Agreement to which they are parties.

## **ARTICLE XI**

## SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any difference or dispute arising out on the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultation and negotiation between the Parties.

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## **ARTICLE XII**

## ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for the period of three years and shall be automatically renewed for the same period unless either Party notifies in writing through diplomatic channel of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding six months prior to the expiration of its termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done at New Delhi on this 30th day of June, in the year of Two Thousand and Seventeen, in duplicate, each in the Thai, Hindi, and English languages, all texts being equally authenthic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

(Dr. Rina Mitra) 35/6/17 Director General Narcotics Control Bureau FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

(Mr. Sirinya Sitdhichai)
Secretary General
Narcotics Control Board

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