LETTER OF INTENT

Between

THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “MOES”) and

THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “UNESCO”) in cooperation with

THE EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCES ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “ESSO”) Concerning

COOPERATION FOR REDUCING DISASTER RISKS AND CAPACITY-BUILDING IN THE EARTH SCIENCES
*Whereas*, MOES, ESSO and UNESCO (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Parties") are prepared to collaborate on disaster risk reduction and on building capacity in the Earth Sciences.

*Whereas*, the Parties are mindful of the importance of international cooperation to contributing efforts to reduce the impact of natural disasters by expertise exchanges, as well as by building capacity in the Earth Sciences.

Recognizing the importance of the principles of equality and mutual benefits.

The Parties have the intention to cooperate on the following:

a) effective exchange of data and information on natural hazards;
b) generate scientific methods for capacity development programmes in GIS and remote sensing applications in the coastal and oceanic region for scientists from related institutions;
c) develop courses for early warning systems for disaster risk reduction;
d) initiate training courses in Extended Continental Shelf matters, in order to assist African countries in making a submission to the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;
e) participate effectively in the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition;
f) provide the enabling factors for the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) to be developed into a UNESCO Category 2 Centre; and,
g) collaborate in areas of common interest.

The implementation of such cooperation shall be concluded in separate arrangement between the Parties.
The present Letter of Intent remains in force until 30 November 2019. It may be amended or extended by mutual agreement. Each Party may terminate this Letter of Intent upon 2 (two) months' written notice to the other Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have signed this Letter of Intent on 25 November 2014.

For the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India:

[Signature]
Shailesh Nayak
Secretary

For the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

[Signature]
Irina Bokova
Director-General

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