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**Memorandum of Understanding  
for  
Technical Cooperation  
in  
Earth Observations and Earth Sciences  
between the  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
of the  
United States of America  
and the  
Ministry of Earth Sciences  
of  
the Republic of India**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States of America, and the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) of the Republic of India, (hereinafter "the Parties"):

Acting under the Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of India (hereinafter "S&T Agreement"), signed on October 17, 2005;

Recognizing the importance of scientific and technical cooperation in Earth Observations and Earth Sciences, to include, but not limited to: Meteorology, Climate Variability and Change, Hydrology, Oceanography, Coastal and Ocean Management, and that such cooperation has mutual benefits for both countries, and that international cooperation in these areas will strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding between their peoples and will advance the state of these sciences of both countries;

Recognizing that the livelihood and well-being of over 60% of the world's population depends upon the monsoons, of which the Asian summer monsoon is the largest. Reliable predictions of the monsoons, at least a season in advance, are crucial to better manage the economies and health of nations in monsoon regions. Furthermore, the Asian summer monsoon is a key component of Earth's climate system, having important linkages with weather and climate around the

globe. Beyond scientific issues related to monsoons, dynamical and chemical processes in and around the Indian subcontinent have significant impacts on the atmosphere and oceans across the planet.

Believing that it is important to have an open data policy to share past and current in situ and satellite data, related to Earth Observations and Earth Sciences;

Wanting to share responsibilities for contributing to the world's future prosperity and well being, desiring to make further efforts to strengthen their respective national research and development policies in the fields of Earth Observations and Earth Sciences;

Considering cooperation in Earth Observations and Earth Sciences as an important condition for the development of national economies of both countries;

Intending to strengthen their cooperation in the fields of Earth Observations and Earth Sciences through specific and advanced technology applications; and

Wishing to increase the effectiveness of their scientific activities through a partnership program in Earth Observations and Earth Sciences, have agreed as follows:

### **Article I Purpose of Memorandum**

- (1) The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to facilitate arrangements and understandings that lead to cooperation and coordination of activities and programs in Earth Observations and Earth Sciences.
- (2) The broad objective of the cooperation is to allow the exchange of scientific resources, personnel, and technical knowledge on the basis of equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit, which support the improvement or development of Earth Observations and Earth Sciences for both Parties.
- (3) As Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding, NOAA and MoES believe it is important to have an open data policy in accordance with national laws to share past and current in situ and satellite data, as mutually agreed upon, related to Earth Observations and Earth Sciences. Since India and the USA are members of the Global Earth Observation

