

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
 BETWEEN
 EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE ORGANIZATION-MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
 OF
 THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
 AND
 THE RESEARCH COUNCIL OF NORWAY, NORWAY
 FOR
 COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCES**

Earth System Science Organization-Ministry of Earth Sciences (ESSO-MoES) of the Republic of India and the Research Council of Norway, Norway (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party"),

Whereas The Research Council of Norway is a national strategic and funding agency for research activities and a chief source of advice on and input into research policy for the Norwegian Government, the central government administration and the overall research community

Whereas ESSO-MoES conducts scientific and technical research in activities related to Earth System Science and translates the same into societal benefit

Acknowledging the Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Norway on cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology that was signed in 2006.

Concurring on the importance of scientific and technical cooperation in Earth System Sciences

Given the excellent scientific and technological research opportunities existing in the two countries in the field of Earth System Science Research,

Recognizing that such cooperation is of benefit to both countries, and

Understanding the importance of promoting a closer working relationship to address Earth System Science issues of common concern,
 Have reached the following understanding:

Article I

Purpose of Memorandum of Understanding

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MoU") is to facilitate arrangements and understandings that lead to Indo-Norwegian cooperation and coordination of activities and programs in Earth System Sciences.

The broad objective of the cooperation is to allow the exchange of scientific resources, personnel and technical knowledge to support the improvement or development of programs in Earth Sciences and Services for both Parties.

Article II Scope of Cooperative Activities

Cooperative activities are specific activities in scientific areas of mutual interest to the Parties, undertaken by the Parties or their subsidiary entities in the areas of Polar Science, Geo-hazards or any other topic of mutual interest in the field of Earth system science.

Article III Responsibilities of the Parties

The parties shall nominate representatives to communicate with each other on a regular basis in order to provide oversight to the implementation of this MOU and to evaluate performance of the MOU. The Parties shall be responsible for coordinating and engaging with other organizational entities in their own countries, as appropriate and necessary, for the completion of the tasks designated pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding. The Parties shall provide timely access to data as per their respective National Data Policy to accomplish activities under this Memorandum of Understanding. Other responsibilities include:

1. Management and coordination of activities undertaken under the auspices of this Memorandum of Understanding;
2. Designation of appropriate officials to manage and coordinate joint activities; and

There shall be no exchange of funds between the Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding. Each Party shall provide staff, facilities, and other support necessary for the carrying out of cooperative activities as mentioned in Article II above. Such support will be subject to the availability of appropriated funds and personnel and will be in accordance with the laws and regulations of respective country.

Article IV Implementing Agreements

All cooperative activity, projects and arrangements carried out by either Party in their respective territories under this MOU shall be in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of India, respectively. Specific projects to implement the cooperative activities identified in Article II, including tasks, responsibilities, milestones, deliverables, resources, Principal Investigators and related conditions to be conducted under this Memorandum of Understanding, will be concluded by the Parties and any other cooperating entities, when appropriate. Such projects will be embodied as Implementing Agreements under this Memorandum of Understanding. Projects established under this Memorandum of Understanding will be coordinated by the Parties. Coordinators

