



**MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION AMONG THE BAY OF BENGAL  
INITIATIVE FOR MULTI-SECTORAL TECHNICAL AND  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION (BIMSTEC) MEMBER COUNTRIES  
CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF A BIMSTEC CENTRE FOR  
WEATHER & CLIMATE**

**Recognizing** the decision, during the First BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand on July 31, 2004, to explore the expansion of, inter alia, weather and climate research and natural disaster mitigation and management,

**Whereas** the member countries of BIMSTEC are interested in the establishment and operation of the BIMSTEC Centre of Weather and Climate,

**Recalling** the recommendations of BIMSTEC Workshop on weather and climate held in New Delhi, India on July 21-23, 2005, inter alia, appreciation expressed by BIMSTEC member countries for setting up of BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate in India,

**Bearing in mind** that a number of effective measures and steps to ensure the necessary infrastructure and facilities for the BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate have been taken,

**Desirous** of concluding a Memorandum of Association and defining the terms and conditions for the establishment and operation of the BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate,

Member countries of BIMSTEC have **agreed** as follows:

## **Article 1 Establishment**

1.1 The Governments of BIMSTEC member countries agree to take measure which may be required for the setting up of BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate in India, hereinafter called "the BCWC" as provided for under this Memorandum.

1.2 The BCWC shall be registered under existing Indian laws. It will, however, function in the common interest of all BIMSTEC member countries.

## **Article 2 Objectives and Functions**

### **1. The objectives of BCWC are:**

- (a) To promote and encourage cooperation between BIMSTEC member countries in identified areas of fundamental and applied scientific research in weather prediction and climate modeling.
- (b) To promote scientific capacity building in weather and climate research.
- (c) To encourage and assist the publication of important results of research obtained within the framework of the BIMSTEC cooperation on weather and climate.

### **2. The functions of the BCWC will be:**

- (a) To organize training programme on weather and climate modeling for participants from BIMSTEC member countries.
- (b) To assist in establishing regional data bank and information network on weather and climate amongst BIMSTEC member countries.
- (c) To arrange collaborative research and development activities in weather and climate modeling resulting in improved weather prediction technique to reduce loss of lives and damage to property caused by natural disaster in the BIMSTEC member countries.

- (d) To promote the use of new scientific and technical tools to strengthen preparedness in handling disaster and to improve early warning system.
- (e) To coordinate establishing and maintaining a reliable and timely communication network in the BIMSTEC member countries.
- (f) To promote awareness on early warning systems with particular reference to extreme weather and climate events.
- (g) To provide scientific and technical information on weather and climate conditions within the region by encouraging collaboration between national and regional weather services and other agencies.
- (h) To promote cooperation in outreach of weather and climate information to the end users.
- (i) To promote cooperation in development of tools for application of weather and climate information for important sectors of economy of the region and share experience thereon.
- (j) To provide assistance to scientists / institutions in the form of grants and equipment as well as other appropriate means for the pursuit of advanced scientific research within BIMSTEC countries on weather and climate.
- (k) To encourage and assist the publication of important results of research obtained within the framework of the BIMSTEC Cooperation on weather and climate.

### **Article 3 Governance**

#### **I. Governing Board:**

- (a) The BCWC shall have a Governing Board consisting of one nominee from each BIMSTEC member country. The overall control of activities of the BCWC shall be vested in the Governing Board.

