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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE  
EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE ORGANIZATION (ESSO),  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (MoES),  
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA  
AND  
THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL (NERC)  
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM  
ON COOPERATION IN EARTH SCIENCES**

The Earth System Science Organization, Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Republic of India and the Natural Environment Research Council of the United Kingdom (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties") foster and support academic research within their own communities in their respective countries;

Recognising that the very best research in both countries may be delivered by working with the best researchers in their respective countries;

Recognising that the Parties share mutual strategic priorities in funding Earth system science research, and the desire of the Parties to increase mutual collaboration in addressing environmental challenges;

With the intention that this MOU shall cover scientific and technical collaboration in natural environmental research funded by the Parties including, but not limited to, meteorology, climate variability and change, oceanography, hydrology, natural hazards and biodiversity;

Recognising this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a mutual statement of intention between the Parties to help develop and support collaborative activities;

The Parties have reached the following understanding:

**ARTICLE I - PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM**

- (1) The purpose of this MOU is to facilitate arrangements and understandings that lead to cooperation and coordination of activities in all research fields of mutual interest undertaken by the Parties.

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- (2) Where appropriate, the Parties shall encourage and support activities which involve areas of broad collaborative research including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Sharing information on scientific priorities which may help identify opportunities for collaborative activities;
  - (b) Identifying and developing new opportunities for collaborative activities;
  - (c) Delivering collaborative activities such as, but not limited to, networking, exchange of scientific and technical capability, and co-funding new research through joint calls where appropriate.
- (3) The MOU is not intended to be, and shall not constitute in any way, a legal agreement, or impose any legal obligations on the Parties.

## **ARTICLE II- RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARTIES**

- (1) The Parties will develop separate detailed Implementing agreements or Arrangements to support any agreed collaborative activities (see Article IV)
- (2) The MOU will enable the Parties to act in conformity with their internal rules.
- (3) The Parties shall be responsible for:
  - (a) Management and coordination of activities undertaken under the auspices of this MOU
  - (b) Designation of appropriate officials to manage and coordinate joint activities.
  - (c) Where possible, supporting the provision of all necessary arrangements to facilitate entry to and exit from its country of personnel and equipment of the other country, engaged in or used in projects under this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this MOU, all activities under this MOU will be conducted in accordance with, and are subject to, all applicable laws, and to all executive orders, guidelines and policies of the Participants.





### ARTICLE III- FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- (1) Each Party shall provide staff, facilities and other support necessary for implementation of activities as mutually determined by the Parties. Such support will be subject to the availability of funds and personnel and will be in accordance with the laws and regulations of its respective country.
- (2) In accordance with the principle of equality and reciprocity, each Party will bear its own individual full costs it incurs in performing, managing, and administering its own efforts under this MOU, unless specific finance becomes available for selected research initiatives.
- (3) The funding contribution and national restrictions for Participants will be detailed in the relevant Implementing agreement for any agreed collaboration activities. The terms of funding will be established by the Parties in the signed Implementing agreement before commencing each activity.
- (4) There shall be no exchange of funds between the Parties of the MOU unless otherwise agreed. This MOU is not a funding document and all funding is subject to a separate agreement by each of the parties and the availability of funds.

### ARTICLE IV- IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS

- (1) Specific projects to implement the cooperative activities identified in Article II (above), including tasks, responsibilities, milestones, deliverables, resources, and related conditions, will be concluded by the Parties and any other cooperating entities, when appropriate, and will be embodied as Implementing Agreements or arrangements under this Memorandum of Understanding. Implementing agreements or arrangements shall be governed by this MOU, unless expressly stated otherwise. Projects established under this Memorandum of Understanding will be coordinated through the heads of the two Parties or their designees. Coordinators and working groups may be appointed by mutual consent of the Parties, as required, to consider and act on matters related to the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (2) Periodic reports, on the progress towards achieving the purpose of the MOU as stated in Article I, including status reports on each of the projects, shall be submitted to the heads of the two Parties or their designees. Such reports should outline future activity areas, represent proceedings of working groups, seminars or meetings, and document the progress and results of a particular projector program.

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