MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION BETWEEN MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY of the Government of the Republic of India and THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY of the Government of the People's Republic of China hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties":

- CONSIDERING the Inter-Governmental S&T Agreement signed between India and China in Beijing on December 22, 1988;
- NOTING that a number of Inter-Departmental Cooperation Protocols have been concluded between the concerned scientific agencies/organisations;
- RECALLING the discussions held between the visiting State Councillor from China and the Minister for Science & Technology and Ocean Development from India in November 2004;
- RECOGNISING the mutual interest to research & development, education and training, transfer of technology and dissemination of knowledge on long term basis;
- DESIRING to promote S&T cooperation in a more coordinated and useful manner;

HAVE reached the following understanding:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties shall constitute a Steering Committee to guide, coordinate and facilitate cooperative activities under various Protocols/Agreements concluded between the corresponding Government agencies/departments/institutions, and give directions to promote new themes as may be deemed necessary from time to time.

- The Steering Committee will be Co-chaired at the Ministerial level by the Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences from the Indian side and the Minister for Science & Technology from the Chinese side;
- The Members of the Steering Committee will be decided by the Contracting Parties depending on the issues to be discussed;
- The Ministry of Science and Technology from India and the Ministry of Science and Technology from China are responsible for the organisation and arrangement of the meetings and relevant activities of the Steering Committee.

The Term of Office of the members will, as a rule, be for five years with the possibility of one extension.

ARTICLE II

The Functions of the Steering Committee shall include:

• According to science and technology development policies of both countries, promoting the development of science and technology cooperation of both countries, deciding key cooperation fields, and encouraging and guiding science and technology cooperation

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activities of both countries to develop in the direction of joint research and development, and commercial development.

- Guiding science and technology cooperation and exchange between the two countries implemented within the framework of science and technology cooperation joint committee between the Governments of India and China.
- Promoting, supervising and coordinating science and technology cooperation and exchange activities implemented within the framework of bilateral science and technology cooperation agreements among different departments.

ARTICLE III

Expenditure on travel and accommodation of the participants will be borne by sending party. Any other cost associated with it will be borne by the Host Party.

ARTICLE IV

The Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect on the date of its signature by the representatives of the Contracting Parties. It shall be valid for a period of five years. It will be extended thereafter for another five years, unless a written notice of termination has been given by either of the Parties six months in advance. Termination of this memorandum will not affect activities already approved jointly or in progress under the terms of this Memorandum.

ARTICLE V

The Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments have signed the present MOU.

DONE at Beijing on the seventh day of September, 2006 in two originals in English.

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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MINISTER FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

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MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY