

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL SCIENCE
BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**

The Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, hereinafter referred to as "Parties", believing in the necessity of further developing the state of health of the people of the two countries through joint efforts and the importance of health in the context of bilateral relations, noticing the contribution of such cooperation to the development of relations between the two countries, have agreed upon the following:

Article 1

The Parties shall encourage cooperation in the fields of Health Care and Medical Science on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

Article 2

The Parties shall cooperate in the areas, which inter-alia include the following :

1. Family Welfare
2. Public Health and Nutrition
3. Communicable Diseases
4. Medical Research
5. Indigenous Systems of Medicine
6. Medical Equipment and Pharmaceutical Products
7. Hospital Management
8. Nursing and Midwifery

Article 3

Cooperation between the Parties shall take place in the following forms:

- a) Exchange of information in the field of health and medicine;
- b) Exchange of health and medical experts;
- c) Training in the mutually agreed identified areas;
- d) Deputation of experts to attend international meetings held in either country; and
- e) Conducting symposia, academic meetings and working meetings

Article 4

The sending Party shall send curriculum vitae of experts, trainers/trainees, etc. along with the proposals for visits to the receiving side at least 3 months in advance. The receiving Party shall respond to the proposal at least one month before the start of training.

Article 5

The expenditure on the visits of the experts from both the countries will be met under "India's Assistance Programme to Afghanistan".

Article 6

The receiving Party shall provide medical care free of charge for the visitors sent according to this Agreement in cases of occurrence of accident or acute illness during their stay in the receiving country.

Article 7

A Working Group shall be set up to further elaborate the details of cooperation and to oversee the implementation of this Agreement. The Working Group shall meet

at least once a year, alternately in India and Afghanistan. The composition of the Working Group and venue for its meetings shall be agreed mutually between the parties.

Article 8

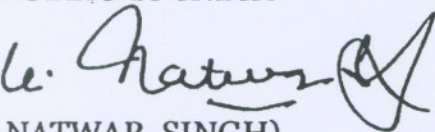
The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Public Health of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan shall be the nodal agencies for the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 9

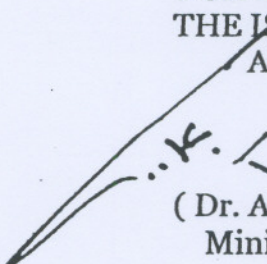
This Agreement shall come into effect on the date of its signatures and shall remain in force for a period of five years. Thereafter, it shall be extended automatically for subsequent periods of five years at a time, unless either Party gives to the other a written notice of six months in advance for its expiry.

In witness whereof, duly authorised representatives of the Parties signed this agreement at Kabul on the 28th day of August 2005 in two originals, each in Hindi, Dari and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF INDIA


(K. NATWAR SINGH)
External Affairs Minister

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
AFGHANISTAN


(Dr. ABDULLAH ABDULLAH)
Minister of Foreign Affairs