

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

**AND**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE**

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**

**ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM**

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (hereinafter referred to as "The Parties"),

Desiring to strengthen friendly relations and focus mutual understanding between the two countries, for the development of tourism on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

HEREBY agree as follows :

#### ARTICLE -1

The Parties shall create favorable conditions for the development of long-term cooperation in the field of tourism for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

#### ARTICLE- 2

The Parties shall, in accordance with the laws and internal regulations in force in each country, encourage the application of simple procedures for their citizens traveling between two countries for tourism purposes.

#### ARTICLE- 3

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan shall designate the Tourism Authority of the Ministry of Information and Culture and Tourism, and the Government of the Republic of India shall designate the Ministry of Tourism, as



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their executing agency to be responsible for all matters relating to the implementation of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE- 4

The Parties shall facilitate the said implementing authority of each Party to set up its representative office for Tourism in the other country, in accordance with the laws in force in the country where such office is located.

#### ARTICLE- 5

The Parties shall encourage their implementing authorities to coordinate tourism activities, in accordance with the rules and regulations in force in each country, by exchanging information, expertise and experience regarding inventory of tourism resources, prevalent legislation and regulations on tourism activities and measures for preservation as well as sustainable development of both natural and cultural resources.

#### ARTICLE- 6

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of expertise regarding the organisation, management and operation of tourism business, and shall assist each other in training their staff in the field of tourism. The Parties shall also consider exchange of curriculum and methodology on tourism teachings, studies and research.

## ARTICLE- 7

The Parties shall facilitate the import and export of materials and document for publicity including tourism information, publicity materials, films and exhibition materials, free from customs duty to the extent provided for by the internal laws of the country into which the said materials are imported.

## ARTICLE- 8

The Parties will form a Working Group composed of an equal number of representatives of both countries for the implementation of this agreement to which members of the private tourism sector may be also included. The Working Group will meet alternately in each country at a mutually convenient date and venue.

## ARTICLE- 9

The Agreement may be amended and supplemented at any time as decided and agreed to by the Parties. The termination of this Agreement will not affect the implementation of the programmes and projects that may have been formalized during its subsistence, unless the Parties agree otherwise.



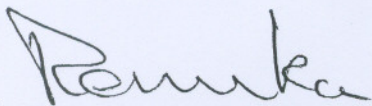
## ARTICLE- 10

The Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed by the Parties. This Agreement will be valid for a period of five years and will be automatically renewed for a successive five year period, unless either of the Parties expresses its desire to terminate it, by written notification addressed to the other, through diplomatic channels three months in advance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments have signed this agreement.

Done at Kabul on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2005 in two originals each in Dari and English languages all the texts being equally authentic. In case of any differences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF INDIA



(RENUKA CHOWDHURY)  
Minister of State for Tourism  
(Independent Charge)

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF  
AFGHANISTAN



(DR. SAYED MAKHDOOM RAHEEN)  
Information, Culture  
& Tourism Minister