

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF COMOROS

ON

COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of the Comoros (Hereinafter jointly referred to as the “parties” and separately as a “party”);

DESIRING to consolidate and strengthen friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries;

RECOGNISING the benefit of promoting mutual co-operation and the exchange of knowledge and understanding of the respective culture and their history and life styles;

ACKNOWLEDGING the mutual advantages that will result from this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Hereby agree as follows:--

Article 1
Objectives

The objective of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is to promote closer co-operation in the field of arts and culture for the purpose of developing activities, programmes and project for cultural and artistic exchange in accordance with the parties' relevant domestic laws and regulations based on equality and mutual benefit.

Article 2
Competent Authorities

The Competent authority responsible for the implementation of the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall be:

- a. In case of the Government of Republic of India, the Ministry of Culture.
- b. In the case of the Government of Union of the Comoros, The Ministry of Tourism and Arts.

Article 3
Conformity

The implementation of this MOU shall be in accordance with the laws and regulation applicable in the respective countries.

Article 4
Music And Dance

The Parties shall exchange music and dance ensembles and/or individual performing artist including classical and folk troupes for a period not exceeding 10 days each. Dates and other details of such exchange shall be mutually agreed upon by the parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 5
Theatre

- a. Both Parties shall encourage and facilitate exchange of theatre performances in both countries and to participate in local and international theatre festivals on mutually agreed terms.
- b. Both Parties shall exchange theatre journals and publications on a reciprocal basis between the two countries on mutually agreed terms.

Article 6
Exhibition, Seminars and conferences

- a. The Parties shall exchange contemporary and modern arts exhibitions between the two countries on reciprocal basis on mutually agreed terms.
- b. Both Parties shall invite experts from the other side to participate in international seminars, symposiums, conferences, camps, residencies etc on culture and arts.

Article 7
Archaeology

- a. Both Parties shall support cooperation in the field of protection, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage of both countries.
- b. The Parties shall exchange one expert each in the field of protection and conservation of ancient monuments and archaeological sites, art objects and development of archaeological site museums for a two-week period, details of which shall be mutually agreed upon by the parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 8
Archives

- a. The Parties shall promote exchange of information and documentation concerning the history of Comoros in the archives of India and the history of India in archives of Comoros, as well as copies of documents (digital copies) of

interest to both Parties in order to replenish in respective collections. Modalities shall be worked out through mutual consultations.

- b. Both Parties shall exchange experts for a period of one week in each case, in the field of Records Management, Archive Administration and Conservation of records, digitalization and digital preservation of records.
- c. The National Archives of India shall provide professional training facilities to officials and student of Comoros in the courses run by the School of Archival Studies. Similarly, the National Archives of Comoros shall provide professional training courses to officials of National Archives of India.

Article 9
Library

- a. Both Parties shall exchange publications and other reading materials of mutual interest on reciprocal basis.
- b. The Parties shall assist exchange of visits of library experts reciprocally with a view to promoting library activities between both countries. Details shall be finalized through diplomatic channels.

Article 10
Museums

- a. The National Museum on both sides shall exchange exhibitions, museum exhibits and museum personnel. Exhibitions may also be organized jointly by the respective museums. Details shall be finalized through diplomatic channels.
- b. Exchange of the Museum's personnel/experts including Curators, Deputy Curators, Research Officer, Assistant Curators, and Conservators for the period of four weeks to share knowledge and expertise in respective fields.
- c) Exchange of standard arts publications.

Article 11
Literature

- a. Both Parties shall exchange a writer's delegation on reciprocal basis. Details of such visits will be mutually decided by the parties through diplomatic channels.
- b) Both Parties shall promote the translation of literary work of famous writers and poets in both countries.

Article 12
Research and Documentation

Both Parties shall facilitate

- a. Study of the artistic heritage, folklore/folk traditions and narrative forms.
- b. Devising creative activities for cognitive and skill development of the students.
- c. Exploring possibilities of developing educational activities at Art Academies, Museums, Cultural Center and Education Institutions for children.
- d. Development of Audio-Visual and printed educational materials for students and teachers to have better understanding of tangible and intangible art forms of both countries.
- e. Documentation of Arts, Museum objects and production of Cultural Resources of both countries.

Article 13
Science Museums/Centres

Both Parties shall exchange one senior level Science Communication professional to study science centres / museums & non-formal science education programmes in India & in Comoros. The professional from Comoros will visit India to study NCSM museum/centre programme for identifying and strengthening collaborative avenues for development of interactive science centres & non-formal science learning centres, etc. The duration of the visit will be one week each.

Article 14
Anthropology

Both Parties shall exchange visits of experts in anthropology of different institutes of both countries.

Article 15
Festivals

The Parties shall conduct festivals in each other's country, which will include the exchange of tours of performing art groups of multiple participation from each side. The details of these tours and other activities included will be developed on the basis of reciprocity.

Article 16
Mass Media

- a. Both Parties shall exchange programme depicting various facets of life and culture in the two countries through their respective radio and TV organization.
- b. Both Parties shall endeavour to strengthen relation between their national broadcasting organizations by exchange of programmes, professionals and by utilizing training expertise and facilities available in respective country. Details of such exchange will be mutually agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels.
- c. Both Parties shall invite each other to its International Film Festivals.

Article 17
Youth Programmes

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of youth programmes, participation in youth festivals in either country, visits of the officials in charge of the Youth Affairs, sharing of experiences, skills, techniques, information and knowledge in the areas of cooperation in youth affairs and participation of youth in seminars and conference organized in both countries on youth related issues.

Article 18
General and Financial Provisions

- A. Exchange of individuals, delegations, exhibitions:

Every Party shall send to the other Party the bio-data (including languages spoken and proposed itinerary) at least two months in advance of the expected date of visit of the delegation or individuals selected under this Programme and bio-data of performing groups at an exhibition four months in advance. The receiving Party shall inform the other Party about agreeing to receive or postponing the date at least one month in advance.

- B. Exchange of exhibitions:

Separate agreements shall reach to the promoting party and the receiving party with regard to exhibition. The sending Party shall inform the receiving country about the technical details of the proposed exhibition. The necessary information for the elaboration of the corresponding catalogue must be

sent three months before the inauguration date. The art exhibits must arrive at their destination 15 days before the opening of the exhibition.

C. Exchange of materials:

Each contracting Party shall have the right to use the materials exchanged in the field of information, Mass Media in its own programmes and such materials should not be given by the receiving Party to a third Party.

D. Finances:

While visiting representatives of groups, delegations, performing groups to each other countries, sending Party will provide international travel expenses, the receiving Party will provide boarding, food and internal travel expenses, as well as emergency expenses.

E. One-month duration visits:

The sending Party will provide international travel expenses in respect of their performing groups and delegations in case of visits for a period not exceeding one month. The receiving Party will provide hospitality, which includes free boarding and lodging, internal travel expenses and free medical care in case of sudden illness in the Government Hospital. This is applicable in respect of both the Parties.

Article 19
Miscellaneous

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation, application or implementation of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

The provisions of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall not preclude the Parties from agreeing through the diplomatic channel, on other arrangements which they may deem desirable.

The present MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is not an international treaty and does not create any legal obligations under international law.

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Parties by an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through the diplomatic channel.

Either Party may terminate this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING by giving written notice to the other Party 6 (six) months in advance. The termination of this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall not prejudice the completion of any on-going programmes and projects under this MOU unless the Parties decide otherwise.

The Present MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING comes into force from the date of its signature thereof by the Parties and shall remain valid for a period of four years or till a fresh MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is signed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective government, have signed this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

DONE at Moroni, Comoros on this 11th day of October in the year two thousand Nineteen in two originals each in English, French and Hindi language. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.



H.E. ABHAY KUMAR
AMBASSADOR,
EMBASSY OF INDIA,
ANTANANARIVO,
MADAGASCAR

**For the Government of the
Republic of India**



H.E. Mohamed El Amine SOUEF
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS &
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN
CHARGE OF DIASPORA

**For the Government of the
Union of Comoros**