# Memorandum of Understanding

#### Between

Indian Coast Guard of the Republic of India

and

Bangladesh Coast Guard of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

for the Establishment of Collaborative Relationship
to Combat Transnational Illegal Activities at Sea
and Develop Regional Cooperation
between the Indian Coast Guard and
Bangladesh Coast Guard

The Indian Coast Guard and the Bangladesh Coast Guard, hereinafter referred to singularly as the "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

Recognizing that cross border crimes at sea create a threat to the safety of maritime transportation and economic activities which endanger the safety of both countries,

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Recognizing the need for the Safety of lives at sea and the safety of maritime transportation, economic activities and to maintain good governance at seas,

Have reached the following understanding:

### Article 1

- 1. The Parties shall implement the provisions of this Memorandum within their territories according to the local laws and regulations within the scope of available facilities.
- 2. The Parties shall establish instant means of communication between them, including telephone, fax, radio and e-mail in order to facilitate quick exchange of information and active cooperation round the clock.
- 3. The Parties shall co-operate with each other for maritime safety and to prevent crimes at sea, particularly on the followings:
- (a) Suppression and prevention of maritime crime such as piracy, armed robbery, illegal trafficking of arms, human trafficking and smuggling of harmful medical drugs, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- (b) Exchange of information relating to ships and that includes accused persons who are involved in criminal activities within the scope of this Memorandum and traveling to or across the ports of both Parties.
- (c) Carry out if possible-search and rescue (SAR) operation at sea, based on a request from the other Party.
- (d) Exchange of information and mutual assistance relating to any pollution in the sea.
- (e) Endeavour be made by both Parties to retrain fishermen from crossing respective maritime boundary.

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- (f) Exchange of expertise within the scope of this Memorandum.
- (g) Exchange of invitations between the Parties to attend training, courses, workshops, seminars, conferences and programmes that are held by either Party within the scope of this Memorandum.
- (h) Exchange of specialists visits from both Parties to promote the cooperation stated in this Memorandum.

#### Article 2

- 1. Each Party shall take urgent action to assist the ships and crew members of the other Party- upon the request of the other Party-in search and rescue operations (SAR). The requested Party shall notify the requesting Party of the action taken.
- 2. The Parties shall cooperate with each other to ensure possible assistance for the maintenance of the ships and provide support in emergency cases at the cost of the requesting Party in accordance to the laws and the legislations in force in both countries.
- 3. Each Party shall cooperate within the fields of its authorities with respect to the activities included in this Memorandum.

#### Article 3

1. In order to achieve the objectives of this Memorandum, the Parties shall hold an annual meeting (Higher Level) or as agreed upon between them, to discuss their mutual concerns and methods to counter maritime crimes that affect both countries and meeting shall be held alternately in both countries.

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2. The host Party shall be responsible for arranging and preparing the meeting and the visiting Party shall bear the visiting expenses and any other costs as agreed by the Parties.

#### Article 4

The Parties shall facilitate ship/ships visits between the two countries, in order to encourage operational and administrative cooperation between them.

#### Article 5

This Memorandum does not prejudice the rights and the obligation of Parties arising from other bilateral or international treaties.

#### Article 6

Any amendments to this Memorandum shall be in writing and with the mutual consent of the Parties and the amendments shall be valid in accordance to the provisions of Article 8 of this Memorandum.

#### Article 7

Any disputes arising out of the application or interpretation of the provisions of this Memorandum shall be settled amicably through consultations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

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## Article 8

This Memorandum enters into force from the date of receipt of last notification informing the completion of the internal procedures of each Party. This Memorandum shall remain in force for a period of (5) five years and shall be automatically renewed for a similar period, unless either Party notifies the other, in writing, of its intention to terminate the Memorandum (6) six months prior to the date of expiry.

This Memorandum is signed at Dhaka on Sixth Day of June, 2015 in two originals in Hindi, English and Bangla languages, all texts being equally authentic, and in case of any discrepancy, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Republic of India

For the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Dr. Md. Mozammel Haque Khan Senior Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh