

Letter of Intent

between

The Government of the Republic of India

and

The Swiss Federal Council

for further strengthening the India-Switzerland relations for the future in the form of an

India-Switzerland Science and Innovation Alliance

The Government of the Republic of India, represented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), and the Swiss Federal Council, represented by the Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI), hereafter called "the signatories",

CONSIDERING the mutually beneficially collaboration that has taken place between the two countries under the framework of the Agreement of 10 November 2003 between the Government of the Republic of India and the Swiss Federal Council on "Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology",

HIGHLIGHTING the various facets of cooperation as reflected in the discussions and the corresponding protocols of the Joint Committee meetings held under the mentioned Agreement of 10 November 2003,

RECOGNIZING the focus of both the countries on Science and Innovation and the numerous opportunities for cooperation available in this field between both the countries,

DESIROUS of further strengthening their collaboration in the fields of Science and Innovation with a view to tapping the energy of the bright and enterprising youth of the two countries and their innovative ideas,

INTENDING to further strengthen their relations in Science and Innovation in the broadest possible range of disciplines, including the social sciences, and by taking the relations forward in the form of an *India-Switzerland Science and Innovation Alliance (the Alliance)*,

Declared their intention as follows:

The Alliance encompasses all the existing collaboration in the fields of Science and Innovation taken place and future calls and co-investments of resources between India and Switzerland.

The Alliance is based on mutual interest, equality in co-investment and on the principles of scientific excellence. It takes into consideration the autonomy of the funding agencies, universities, universities of applied sciences and other stakeholders, based on their own strategies.



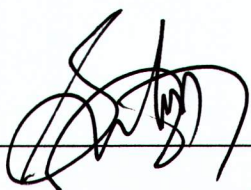
As an example of ongoing and future co-operation, the signatories highlight the Science and Innovation activities supported by swissnex India, in particular the Academy-Industry Training Programme, the ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship Programme, the India Industry Internships as well as the Innosuisse Internationalization Camps.

The India-Switzerland Joint Committee on Science and Technology under the aforementioned bilateral Agreement of 2003 should continue to be the forum to review the progress in the Alliance on a regular basis, as well as to decide activities supported by the signatories.

The content of this Letter of Intent does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

Signed in duplicate in Bern on the Thirteenth Day of September in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen, in the English language.

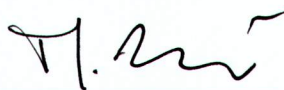
ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



Ambassador Sibi George

Ambassador of India to Switzerland
For the Department of Science and
Technology of the Republic of India

ON BEHALF OF THE SWISS FEDERAL
COUNCIL



Ambassador Mauro Moruzzi

State Secretariat for Education, Research
and Innovation
Swiss Confederation