

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

*Cooperation in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Wildlife Management  
Recovery Strategy of Tiger and its Habitat.*

WHEREAS the parties are desirous to develop a mutually beneficial relationship to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable wildlife management and conservation based on the principles of mutual respect, sovereignty, equality and the best interest of the parties.

NOW THEREFORE the parties have reached the following understanding.

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **PARTIES**

The parties to this Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter MOU) are the Ministry of Environment, Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Republic of India

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **PURPOSE OF THE MOU**

The objective of the MOU is to facilitate further cooperation in biodiversity conservation and sustainable wildlife management in context of recovery strategy of Tiger and its habitat.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The parties should seek to promote:

- 3.1. Biodiversity conservation with specific focus on conservation and restoration of Tiger in their former range areas from which they went extinct,
- 3.2. Sourcing of tigers from India and other source areas into the Cardamom rainforest landscape and other landscapes where appropriate, and cooperative efforts on the ground to protect the habitat and ensure its perennity over time,
- 3.3. Sharing and exchange of expertise and capacities aimed at promoting Tiger conservation in two countries,
- 3.4. Wildlife Conservation by sharing good practices in technological applications, mechanisms of livelihood generation for local communities living in wildlife habitats, and sustainable management of biodiversity. The two countries will support advances in these spheres at International forums, respecting the views of each other within the context of the unique socio-economical milieu of each country.
- 3.5. Collaboration in areas of climate change, environmental governance, environmental impact assessments, pollution and waste management and other areas of mutual interest.
- 3.6. Sourcing of animals for conservation translocations where appropriate and based on global best practices.

## ARTICLE 4

### RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTIES

The Parties will provide appropriate resources for the programmes undertaken under the provisions of this MoU. Each party shall be responsible for the cost associated with implementation of the activities identified in areas of collaboration, unless otherwise agreed by both parties.

#### **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Republic of India Agrees:**

- 4.1. To attend meetings on mutually agreed convenience called by MoE, Kingdom of Cambodia/ NTCA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to coordinate tiger restoration project activities, sharing information and problem solving.
- 4.2. To build GDPA/MoE staff and rangers capacity building on biodiversity conservation and management especially tiger and its prey restoration activities.
- 4.3. To support the project plan for implementation for tiger recovery initially in the Cardamom Mountains.
- 4.4. To facilitate CITES permit for export of Tigers to Cambodia.
- 4.5. To provide technical and financial support for mutually agreed activities related to Tiger restoration.

#### **Ministry of Environment, Kingdom of Cambodia Agrees:**

- 4.6. To facilitate, where appropriate, and needed for program implementation, the granting of visas for approved personnel and consultants affiliated with activities undertaken within the terms of this agreement.
- 4.7. To facilitate, where appropriate, exemption from custom importation duties and fees for imported items used in support and implementation of activities undertaken within the terms of this agreement.
- 4.8. To facilitate CITES permit for import of Tigers from India
- 4.9. To ensure that the involved GDNPA/MOE promote open communication with the organization to assist planning, management and problem solving.
- 4.10. To co-ordinate with relevant civil society groups and relevant stakeholders like Wildlife Alliance for implementation of tiger recovery project activities.

## ARTICLE 5

### DURATION OF MOU

This MoU shall remain in force for an initial period of five (5) years from the date of the last signature. Thereafter, it shall be automatically renewed for successive five-year periods, unless either parties terminates this Agreement by giving six months written notice to the other party.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **AMENDMENTS**

This MoU may be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Parties, after having afforded the other party three (3) months written notice. No variation, amendments and alterations to this MoU will be of any force and effect unless reduced in writing and signed by both parties.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Any disputes between the Parties arising out of the interpretation, application and implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through diplomatic channel negotiations and in the spirit of friendship and co-operation.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **TERMINATION**

- 8.1. Termination of the MoU will only be effective, on six (6) month notice from the Party wishing to terminate the MoU.
- 8.2. The termination of this MoU shall not affect obligations or programmes undertaken in terms of any separate agreements or contracts until their completion.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **GOOD FAITH**

The parties undertake to act in utmost good faith towards each other under this MoU and to adopt all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure the realization of the objectives of this MoU.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **ENTIRE MOU**

This MoU constitutes the entire understanding between the parties in respect of this subject matter.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **NATURE OF MOU**

None of the other clauses are legally binding on the Parties.

**ARTICLE 12**

**DOMICILUM**

The Parties hereto respectively choose the addresses where legal notices may be sent (domicilium citandi et executandi) for all purposes of this MoU as follows:

**National Tiger Conservation Authority,  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and  
Climate Change, Republic of India**

**Ministry of Environment,  
Kingdom of Cambodia**

**IN WITNESS WHEREFORE**, the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed and sealed this MoU in two original copies, in English, each Party retaining such original.

Thus done at Phnom Penh on this 12 day of November 2022

For Ministry of Environment, Forest and  
Climate Change, Republic of India

Name: **H.E. Dr. Devyani Khobragade**  
Designation: Ambassador

For Ministry of Environment,  
Kingdom of Cambodia

Name: **H.E. SAY Samal**  
Designation: Minister