

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
And
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway
On
The India-Norway Ocean Dialogue**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India (hereinafter referred to collectively as the Parties).
2. The Parties **recognize** that oceans, along with coastal and marine resources, play an essential role in human well-being and social and economic development.
3. The Parties **acknowledge** the universal and unified character of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector.
4. The Parties **stress** the need to harness the potential of the blue economy to promote economic growth, job creation, trade and investment, and contribute to food security and poverty alleviation, whilst safeguarding the ocean's health through sustainable development of its resources.
5. The Parties are **mindful** of the urgent challenges facing the oceans, such as pollution, including plastics and other marine debris, consequences of climate change, including more frequent natural disasters, biodiversity loss, over-exploitation of resources, fisheries crimes and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
6. The Parties **emphasize** the need to move towards integrated and ecosystem-based approaches in the management of renewable and non-renewable natural resources to maximize the sustainable economic yield from the ocean.

7. The Parties **appreciate** the opportunities for increased cooperation in developing, and strengthening, the blue economy in Norway and India.

8. Based on the understanding above, the Parties will hold regular interactions, in order to identify areas of strategic collaboration, sustainable use of renewable and non-renewable natural resources and sustainable development of the blue economy in Norway and India.

9. Cooperative activities may be agreed in areas of mutual interest pertaining to the development of the blue economy as listed below:

- Shipping & Seaports
- Fisheries & Aquaculture
- Ocean Energy and Technology
- Ocean Research & Services
- Ocean Observation
- Marine Biotechnology
- Integrated Ocean Management
- Maritime Safety & Security
- Marine Biodiversity
- Combating Marine Plastic Litter and Micro Plastic
- Tourism

10. The Parties will promote and facilitate direct contact and cooperation between government agencies, public institutions, businesses, academic institutions and other organizations in both countries, subject to available resources.

11. The Parties will cooperate, communicate, exchange information and continue to collaborate through a number of measures including:

- Government dialogue
- Visits by experts, scholars and delegations
- Jointly organized seminars, workshops and meetings involving experts, scientists and government agencies and businesses
- Bilateral exchange programs on environmental management and capacity building

- Joint projects
- Other forms of cooperation as mutually agreed upon

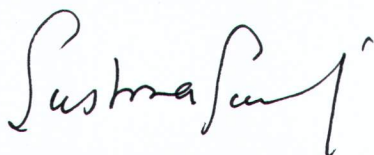
12. This MoU will come into force on the date of its signature. Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving three months written notice to the other Party. This MoU can be amended by the mutual written consent of the Parties.

13. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this MoU.

Signed in New Delhi on ⁰⁷~~11~~ January 2019 in two originals, in English and Hindi languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of India

For the Government of Norway



Minister of External Affairs



Minister of Foreign Affairs