



**BIMSTEC MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON MUTUAL
COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIPLOMATIC TRAINING**

AMONG

**THE BANGLADESH FOREIGN SERVICE ACADEMY OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH**

**THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ROYAL
GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN**

**THE SUSHMA SWARAJ INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

**THE STRATEGIC STUDIES AND TRAINING DEPARTMENT OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE
UNION OF MYANMAR**

**THE INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF NEPAL**

**THE BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC TRAINING
INSTITUTE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**

AND

**THE DEVAWONGSE VAROPAKARN INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

THE Bangladesh Foreign Service Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Royal Government of Bhutan

THE Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India

THE Strategic Studies and Training Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

THE Institute of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal

THE Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and

THE Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants"),

RECOGNISING the spirit of cooperation that exists among their respective countries;

TAKING into consideration the importance of enhancing cooperation through the execution of activities among the Participants;

DESIRING to promote closer collaboration among the Participants;

BEING AWARE of immense potentiality of cooperation in the field of foreign service of the BIMSTEC countries in general, and among their diplomatic training institutions in particular;

APPRECIATING the value of specialized training, orientation and exchange amongst the diplomatic cadres;

And WISHING to further enhance cooperation and encourage more active engagements among the Participants for mutual benefits;

Have reached the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH I

The purpose of the present Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to create a framework for closer cooperation between the Participants and to facilitate collaboration in the area of diplomatic training for the fulfillment of the following objectives:

- a) To carry out joint programmes and projects that may contribute to improving the quality of training and retraining, studies and projects serving the agreed common objectives, priorities and activities of the BIMSTEC countries;
- b) To increase the exchange of knowledge, experiences and achievements in application of new teaching methods used in diplomatic training among the BIMSTEC countries; and
- c) To ensure and achieve high-quality education and qualification in diplomatic training and skill development.

PARAGRAPH II

The Participants may exchange information on the Modules of training programmes, international trends and advances in training, training techniques and the use of technology in training, including design and content of e-learning; as well as identify experts and joint research in areas mutually decided upon by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH III

The Participants will exchange experience, information and publications on subjects of common interests including training programmes, curricula of studies, and other academic, educational and training activities undertaken by the Participants in the field of diplomacy and international relations.

PARAGRAPH IV

The Participants will promote the exchange of experts, scholars, faculties and diplomatic trainees in fields of mutual interest.

PARAGRAPH V

The Participants will encourage coordinated research, joint studies and seminars on subjects of mutual interest.

PARAGRAPH VI

The Participants will mutually decide to explore other forms of cooperation which can be mutually beneficial to the Participants.

PARAGRAPH VII

1. The Participants will decide the specifics and logistics of each project jointly undertaken through direct discussion or diplomatic channel.
2. If necessary, a separate protocol laying down the terms and conditions of the proposed project may be concluded. However, as a general rule, the host institution will meet expenses incurred on local hospitality and logistics while the sending institution will bear expenses on international travel and other incidental entitlement/expenditure, if not otherwise agreed upon. This, however, will not limit any voluntary offer of any of the Participants.

PARAGRAPH VIII

This MOU does not create any legally binding obligation upon the Participants and does not constitute a treaty under international law.

PARAGRAPH IX

Any difference between the Participants concerning the interpretation and/or implementation of this MOU will be settled amicably by consultations through diplomatic channels.

PARAGRAPH X

The Participants may consider, as seen appropriate, holding a consultation meeting at least once in every three (3) years in order to take stock of the progress and possible steps to be taken for furthering cooperation under this MOU.

PARAGRAPH XI

1. This MOU will come into effect on the date of its signature by the Participants and will continue to have effect for a period of three (3) years. The renewal of this MOU will be agreed in a written notification by the Participants prior to 60 days of the expiration of this MOU, or this MOU will be terminated in accordance with the following sub-paragraphs.

2. Any Participant may at any time withdraw from this MOU by giving notification in writing to other Participants through diplomatic channels. Withdrawal will become effective ninety (90) days after the date of the notification and will not affect the ongoing projects unless otherwise decided by the Participants.

3. Withdrawal from this MOU by any single Participant will not cause to cease the continuation of cooperation by other Participants under the MOU. However, withdrawal by any three of the Participants will automatically terminate the MOU for all, which will be effective 90 days after such withdrawal. The termination of this MOU will not affect any ongoing project or event under this MOU, unless otherwise agreed upon by the Participants.

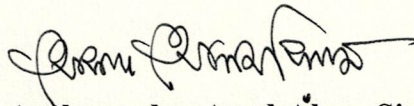
PARAGRAPH XII

1. This MOU may be revised or amended at any time, by mutual consent of the Participants, through diplomatic channels. Such revisions or amendments will come into effect on such date as may be determined by the Participants and will form an integral part of this MOU.

2. This shall be deposited with the Secretary General of BIMSTEC.

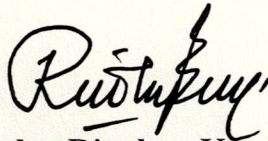
Signed in Colombo on the Thirtieth Day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Two, in eight originals, in the English language, all texts being equally authentic.

On behalf of the Bangladesh Foreign Service Academy of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH



Ambassador Asad Alam Siam
Rector, Foreign Service Academy

On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN



Ambassador Rinchen Kuentzyl
Ambassador-designate of Bhutan to Sri Lanka

On behalf of the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service of the
Ministry of External Affairs of the
REPUBLIC OF INDIA



H.E. Mr. Saurabh Kumar
Secretary (East) of the Ministry of External Affairs

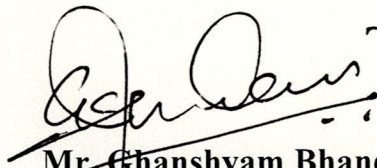
On behalf of the Strategic Studies and Training Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR



M.E. U Han Thu

**Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of
Myanmar to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

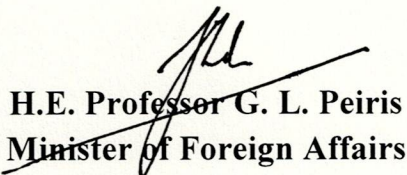
On behalf of the Institute of Foreign Affairs of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
NEPAL



Mr. Ghanshyam Bhandari

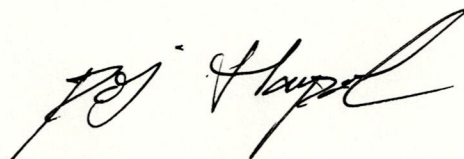
Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

On behalf of the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training
Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



H.E. Professor G. L. Peiris
Minister of Foreign Affairs

On behalf of the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
KINGDOM OF THAILAND



H.E. Mr. Poj Harnpol

**Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to
the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**