

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA, AS REPRESENTED BY
THE
BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS (BIS),
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, AS REPRESENTED BY
THE
MAURITIUS STANDARDS BUREAU (MSB)**

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1. PREAMBLE

1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), and Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) is to facilitate technical cooperation in the fields of standardization, certification (to include product and system certification), testing, with the aim of exchanging of information and facilitation of mutual trade of goods and services, in line with WTO/TBT Agreement.

2. SCOPE

2.1 The scope of this MOU is to facilitate closer cooperation and provide a mechanism by which BIS and MSB can work together towards the common aim of strengthening standardization, certification and testing activities, and facilitate sharing of expertise and mutual trade with the aim of effective implementation, administration and benefits of the WTO/TBT Agreement.

3. AREAS OF COOPERATION

3.1 Standardization

3.1.1 BIS and MSB agree to exchange information and documents in the fields of standardization. These will include organizational structure for standardization, rules and procedures for standards formulation, programmes for standards formulation.

3.1.2 BIS and MSB agree to exchange scientific and technical information on standardization problems mutually agreed upon.

3.1.3 BIS and MSB agree to cooperate with each other to increase their role in international standards settings activities.

3.1.4 BIS and MSB agree to work in close cooperation in the field of International Standardization, such as identification of the areas of twinning.

3.2 Certification

3.2.1 BIS and MSB agree to study each other's organizational structure, rules and procedures for third party product certification as well as Quality Systems Certification.

3.2.2 BIS and MSB agree to exchange their in-house manuals for product certification as well as Quality Systems Certification. BIS and MSB also agree to upgrade competencies through training programmes for the setting up of System Certification Schemes.

3.2.3 BIS and MSB agree to exchange technical information on certification activities mutually agreed upon for the development of each other's activities.

3.2.4 BIS and MSB agree to study each other's procedures for product certification as well as Quality Systems Certification before considering mutual recognition.

3.3 Testing

3.3.1 BIS and MSB agree to examine each other's organizational structure, procedures for laboratory tests, approval of laboratories, and the development of laboratories based on international criteria with the aim of allowing mutual recognition of test reports.

3.3.2 BIS and MSB agree to exchange information about the testing facilities available in each other's laboratories with a view to carrying out joint research and development activities on mutually agreed basis.

3.3.3 BIS and MSB agree to extend their testing services to each other on mutually agreed terms.

3.3.4 BIS and MSB agree to cooperate in proficiency testing schemes in order to comply with international requirements for accreditation.

3.4 Technical Information

3.4.1 BIS and MSB agree to exchange information relating to compilation, storage, retrieval, application and dissemination of scientific and technical information on standardization, certification, metrology and testing.

3.4.2 BIS and MSB agree to exchange information on effective operation of the Enquiry Point and notification procedures according to the WTO/TBT requirements.

3.5 Sale of Publications

BIS and MSB agree to consider entering into an agreement for authorizing each other to sell their respective standards in their countries subject to mutually agreed terms and conditions. The commercial terms will be addressed in the proposed Agreement

3.6 Training

3.6.1 BIS and MSB agree to train each other's personnel in the field of standardization, product certification, system certification, testing and training for enquiry point personnel on reciprocal basis and in areas of mutual interest.

3.6.2 BIS and MSB agree to organize training programmes for each other's personnel in standardization, product certification, certification system and testing.

3.6.3 BIS and MSB will mutually agree to design training courses, in MSTQ, develop course materials and exchange resource persons to conduct such courses.

4. GENERAL

4.1 BIS and MSB agree to exchange each other's bulletin, brochures and standards related publications and in addition to providing information on standardization, certification and testing.

5. FINANCING

5.1 BIS and MSB agree that the cost related to any activity under this MOU shall be decided on mutually agreed terms as and when the need arises.

6. DURATION

6.1 This MOU shall come into effect from the date of signatures of both parties. It may be terminated by either party by submitting a written statement four (4) months in advance.

6.2 This MOU may be amended and supplemented as agreed by BIS and MSB for furthering bilateral cooperation.

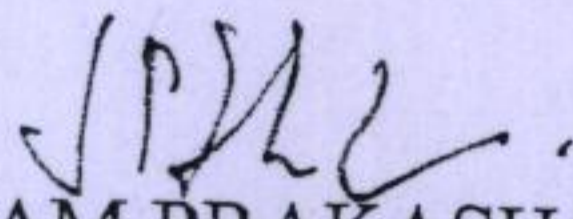
7. LANGUAGE

7.1 BIS and MSB agree to use English as the working language.

8. DISPUTE

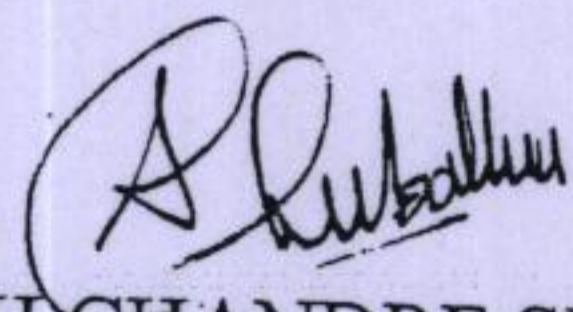
8.1 Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this MOU shall be settled by mutual consultations and negotiations.

Signed on behalf of
Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)


SVAYAM PRAKASH SHARMA
Director General
Bureau of Indian Standards

Dated 24 10 2005

Signed on behalf of
Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB)


SURESH CHANDRE SEEBALLUCK
Secretary for Home Affairs
Prime Minister's Office of the Republic of
Mauritius

Dated 24 10 2005