MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ON EXEMPTION FROM VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Hereafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties"

CONSIDERING the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly relations, and

DESIRING to facilitate the entry of the citizens of the Republic of India and the citizens of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Who are holders of diplomatic passports into their respective countries,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Visa Exemption

- 1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid diplomatic passport shall be permitted to enter into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through their respective international points of entry/exit without visas.
- 2. A citizen of either Contracting Party, holding the said passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a maximum period of **30 days in any period of 90 days**, without a visa.

ARTICLE 2

Visas for Assignments

- 1. A Citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic or consular staff in Missions/Posts or as representative of his/her country in an international organization located in the territory of the other Contracting Party and is in possession of a valid diplomatic passport, shall be required to obtain a visa prior to entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party.
- 2. The holders of diplomatic passports of either Contracting Party who are employed by an international organization, body, agency or any other such entity, would be required to obtain visa prior to their entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party for official or private visits.

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3. The conditions enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate or representative in international organization, their children and their dependent parents.

ARTICLE 3

Refusal of Entry & Loss of Passport

- 1. Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry into, or shorten the stay in its territory, of any citizen of the other Contracting Party, whom it may consider undesirable.
- 2. If a citizen of one Contracting Party loses his/her passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the authorities concerned of the host country for appropriate action. The diplomatic Mission or Consulate concerned will issue a new passport or travel document to its citizen and inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

ARTICLE 4

Applicability of Local/National Laws

- 1. Citizens of either Contracting Party, being holders of diplomatic passports shall abide by the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party while crossing its frontier and throughout the duration of their stay in its territory.
- 2. Nothing in the Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed as affecting the rights and obligations set out in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April, 1961 or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April, 1963.

ARTICLE 5

Passports Validity

The duration of diplomatic passports of nationals of either Party shall be valid for at least 6 (Six) months on the date of entry into the territory of the country of the other party.

ARTICLE 6

Travel Documents

1. For the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding, each Contracting Party shall transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of its respective passports, including a detailed description of

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such documents currently used, at least thirty (30) days before the entry into force of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Each Contracting Party shall also transmit to the other through diplomatic channels, specimen of its new or modified passports, including a detailed description of such documents, at least thirty (30) days before they are brought into force.

ARTICLE 7

Suspension

Each Contracting Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health, to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, which shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels. The suspension shall not affect the rights of nationals who have already entered the territory of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 8

Revision and Amendments

Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, a revision or amendment of the whole or part of this Memorandum of Understanding. Any revision or amendment, which has been agreed to by the Contracting Parties, shall come into effect on a date to be mutually agreed upon and shall accordingly form part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 9

Dispute Settlement

Any difference or dispute arising out of the implementation of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties without reference to any third party or an international tribunal.

ARTICLE 10

Entry Into Force, Duration And Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on a date to be mutually agreed upon by the Contracting Parties, which shall be notified through the exchange of Diplomatic Notes. This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for an indefinite period and may be terminated by either Contracting Party by a written notification through

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diplomatic channels, which shall enter into force ninety (90) days after the date of such notification. The termination shall not affect the rights of nationals who have already entered the territory of the other Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed the present Memorandum of Understanding.

DONE at New Delhi on this 16th day of February in the year two thousand Eighteen in two (2) originals; in Hindi, Persian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF OF THE

THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

MR. AMRIT LUGUN

JOINT SECRETARY

(CONSULAR PASSPORT & VISA)

MR. ALI CHEGINI

DIRECTOR GENERAL

CONSULAR AFFAIRS