

CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The Governments of the Republic of India and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (hereinafter referred to as the 'Contracting Parties'),

INSPIRED BY a common desire to establish and develop closer cultural relations, and

DESIROUS OF promoting and developing in every possible manner the relations and understanding between India and Congo in the realms of art, culture, archaeology, education, including activity in the fields of science and technology, public health, mass media, tourism and sports,

HAVE AGREED as follows :

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties have agreed as follows :

- a) To cooperate in the fields of art, culture and archaeology in order to have a better understanding of their respective cultures and activities in these fields;
- b) Exchanges in the fields of art and culture;
- c) Exchange of materials in the fields of archaeology and Cultural and Artistic goods;
- d) Translation and exchange of books, periodicals and other cultural publications, whenever it is possible, exchange of copies of Art work.

ARTICLE 2

Each Contracting Party may establish, in the territory of the other, cultural institutes in accordance with laws, regulations and general policy in this regard, it being understood that prior clearance of the Government concerned would be obtained before any such institution is established. The details regarding the establishment of such institutions shall be decided between the two countries by means of an additional protocol to be negotiated after this agreement enters into force.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and facilitate :

- a) reciprocal visits of professors and experts for delivering lectures, study tours and special courses;
- b) reciprocal visits of representatives of educational, literary, scientific, technical, artistic, sports and journalists' associations and organizations; and
- c) participation in congresses, conferences, symposia and seminars.

ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to provide facilities and scholarships to students and scientific personnel of the other country seeking to study in its institutions of higher education and research laboratories as well as to follow practical training courses.

ARTICLE 5

The Contracting Parties shall agree to explore actively having regard to institutional autonomy, the scope for establishing a system for mutual recognition of academic degrees and other qualifications in both countries to facilitate collaboration.

ARTICLE 6

Each Contracting Party shall endeavour to present different facets of the life and culture of the other Party through the media of radio, television and press. With this end in view, the Contracting Parties shall exchange suitable materials and programmes.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate and promote :

- a) exchange of artists, and dance and music ensembles;
- b) exchange of art and other exhibitions; and
- c) exchanges of experts in the field of cinematography and participation in each other's International Film Festivals.

ARTICLE 8

The Contracting Parties shall encourage visits of sports teams between the two countries.

ARTICLE 9

The Contracting Parties shall, to the extent possible, ensure that text-books prescribed for their educational institutions, particularly those relating to History and Geography, do not contain any error or misrepresentation of facts about each other's country.

ARTICLE 10

Each Contracting Party shall facilitate, in accordance with its respective laws, the importation for non-commercial purpose and circulation of all material originating from the other party that may be necessary for the fulfillment of the objectives of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 11

For the implementation of the objectives of the present Agreement, a Joint Committee shall be established by the Contracting Parties as and when considered necessary consisting of an equal number of representatives of the two Governments, which shall meet as agreed upon between the Contracting Parties or at the request of either of them alternately in New Delhi and Congo at least once in three years.

The Joint Committee will be responsible for :

- a) reviewing periodically the implementation of this Agreement in the two countries;
- b) advising the Government concerned on the modalities of implementation;
- c) formulating cultural, scientific, technological and educational exchange programmes and reviewing the same;
- d) recommending to the Contracting Party concerned any item of interest to either contracting party in the fields within the scope of this Agreement; and
- e) generally advising the Government concerned as to the manner in which the provisions of this Agreement may be implemented effectively.

ARTICLE 12

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of its signing. It shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be renewed automatically thereafter for further periods of five years each time unless either Contracting Party gives to the other Party a three (3) months prior written notice of its intention to terminate it.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned representatives being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed their seals.

Done at New Delhi on this 29th day of October, 2009, in two originals each in the Hindi, French and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



(S.M. KRISHNA)
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO



(ALEXIS THAMBWE MWAMBA)
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS