

**Indo-German Memorandum of Understanding  
on Academic Cooperation (HRK-AIU),  
February 3rd, 1997, revised November 18th, 2002**

**PREAMBLE**

Whereas

The

**Association of Indian Universities (AIU)**

and

The

**Hochschulrektorenkonferenz**

- **Association of Higher Education Institutions in the Federal Republic of Germany -  
(HRK)**

(hereinafter referred to as the "parties to this memorandum")

- are united in the aim of promoting academic cooperation between the two countries,

and whereas

- they recognise that strengthening of this cooperation is in the interest of both countries,

and whereas

- they are aware of the different structures of higher education in either country;

Now, for these and other good reasons,

they engage to honour and promote the following understanding, which shall extend and replace the Indo-German Academic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding of February 3rd, 1997.

**ARTICLE 1**

**Purpose**

The partners to this memorandum intend to cooperate in the areas of study, teaching and research by

- admitting each other's advanced students, particularly those pursuing doctoral studies and research;
- through the exchange of faculty and scholars;
- and through the promotion of joint research projects.

**ARTICLE 2**

**Accession by Member Institutions, Participating Institutions**

(1) Accession to this memorandum is open to

- German higher education institutions which are members of the *Hochschulrektorenkonferenz*;
- Indian higher education institutions which are members of the Association of Indian Universities and have been especially designated by the parties to this memorandum and their duly appointed representatives to be offered accession.

Lists of eligible institutions from both sides that will have been drawn up and updated, as warranted, form an integral part to this Memorandum (viz. Art. 8).

(2) Each institution of higher education which becomes a signatory to this Memorandum is entitled to cooperate with any signatory from the other country, in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum, and without further preliminary agreements.

(3) This Memorandum may be supplemented by detailed arrangements between cooperating institutions. While institutions acceding to this Memorandum shall endeavour to contribute to the development of cooperation, no institution is obliged to enter into cooperation arrangements whose costs it is unable to meet.

### ARTICLE 3

#### Admission of Indian Students at German Institutions

(1) Indian students from participating institutions holding at least a Bachelor's degree awarded by them, shall be admitted at German universities for regular courses of study leading to a *Diplom*, *Magister* or *Magister/Master's* degree. In exceptional cases of merit such students may be eligible for admission to doctoral programmes.

(2) Indian students from participating institutions holding at least a Master's degree (First Class) awarded by them, shall be admitted at German universities for doctoral work, subject to being accepted by a mentor, and irrespective of whether the doctoral degree will eventually be conferred by their German or their original Indian institution. In this context, both parties recognize the commendability of the DAAD "Sandwich Model".

(3) Depending upon the level of prior academic work undertaken by the students in question, the discipline in which the doctoral degree is sought as well as on the specific topic of the doctoral thesis, students may be required to pursue, prior or parallel to their doctoral research, such additional studies as may be proposed by the mentor and have been formally determined by the relevant department or departmental committee. However, neither the completion of such additional studies nor their evaluation shall be considered as a prerequisite for the admission to pursue doctoral studies.

(4) Indian students holding at least a Master's degree (First Class) awarded from institutions which have *not* acceded to this Memorandum, may be admitted and accepted for doctoral work subject to further scrutiny of their academic credentials by the German university departments concerned.

### ARTICLE 4

#### Admission of German Students at Indian Institutions

(1) German students from participating institutions shall be admitted to Indian colleges, universities, and deemed-to-be universities, for regular courses of study leading to the Bachelor's (B.A., B.Sc. etc.), Master's (M.A., M.Sc. etc.) or Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degrees.

(2) German students from participating institutions holding a *Diplom*-, *Magister*-, *Magister/Master's* or equivalent degree awarded by them shall be admitted at Indian universities and deemed-to-be universities to doctoral programmes for thesis research, subject to the acceptance of the project by a mentor and the approval by the relevant department or departmental committee.

(3) Depending upon the prior academic work undertaken by the students, the discipline in which the doctoral thesis is sought as well as on the specific topic of the doctoral thesis, students may be required to pursue, parallel to the thesis research, such additional studies as may be proposed by the mentor and have been formally determined by the relevant department or departmental committee. However, neither the completion of such additional studies nor their evaluation shall be considered as a prerequisite for the admission as a doctoral student.

(4) German students from participating institutions holding a *Bakkalaureus*/Bachelor's degree awarded by them or the degree of *Diplom(FH)* awarded by a German *Fachhochschule* (University of Applied Sciences), shall be admitted at Indian universities for regular courses of study leading to Master's (M.A., M.Sc. etc.) degrees. In exceptional cases of merit such students may be eligible for admission to doctoral programmes.

### ARTICLE 5

#### Cooperation in Teaching and Research

(1) Institutions that are signatories to this Memorandum will endeavor to cooperate in the fields of teaching and research by means of exchanging professors and researchers, making full use for such purposes of the support programmes offered by national and international agencies, including, where warranted, those of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the European Union (EU).

(2) The parties to this Memorandum concur that they shall seek prior consensus in all matters pertaining to the selection, appointment, tenure of office and assignments, as well as to the remuneration of the personnel exchanged.

**ARTICLE 6****Cooperation with governmental and non-governmental programmes**

HRK and AIU will make every effort to ensure the cooperation of the relevant governmental bodies and agencies active in, and responsible for, Indo-German cooperation, in the interest of linking programmes and activities in the context of bilateral governmental agreements with activities foreseen by this agreement. The same shall apply to non-governmental agencies and their programmes, especially those of the German Academic Exchange Service (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst* - DAAD) and the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation (AvH) on the German side, and their relevant counterparts on the Indian side, primarily the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Council on Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), and the Indian Council on Cultural Relations (ICCR).

**ARTICLE 7****Coordination and Consultation**

Coordination for the implementation of this Memorandum will be at the charge of the Secretariats of HRK and AIU. They shall seek the cooperation and consultation of the New Delhi Office of the DAAD, whenever warranted.

**ARTICLE 8****Information**

Attached to this agreement are two appendices:

Appendix 1:

The list of Indian member institutions of the AIU designated to become signatories to the agreement in accordance with Art. 2, para 2. The list of actual signatories will be updated periodically by AIU, which will inform HRK accordingly.

Appendix 2:

The list of German member institutions of HRK intending to become signatories to the agreement in accordance with Art. 2, para 2. The list of actual signatories will be updated periodically by HRK, which will inform AIU accordingly.

**ARTICLE 9****Duration and Termination, Amendments**

(1) This Memorandum shall be valid for five years. It shall be valid for a further five years unless one of the parties gives written notice to the contrary at least six months before the date of its expiration.

(2) Doctoral students who have been accepted by institutions in accordance with Art. 3 or Art. 4 shall be permitted to complete their studies and/or research work in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum, beyond its expiration. The expiration of the Memorandum shall not adversely affect their visa status or their eligibility for financial support.

(3) Any amendments to this agreement shall be based upon an exchange of letters, after joint consultations.

**ARTICLE 10**

**Final Clauses, Entering into Force**

(1) This agreement has been drawn up in English and German. Both versions have equal validity.

(2) This agreement shall come into effect after both parties have completed the appropriate procedures of assent and authorization and after the duly signed texts of agreements have been exchanged.

Done, in both the English and the German language,  
at Bonn, the 18th day of November 2002

For the  
Association of Indian Universities

*Prof. Dr. V K Patil.*  
President

For the  
Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

*Prof. Dr. Klaus Landfried*  
President