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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND  
IUCN–THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION**

Attached for information is a paper on the above subject.

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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS  
BETWEEN  
THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK  
AND  
IUCN-THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION**

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall form the basis of cooperation between –

**ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)**

**and**

**IUCN-THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN)**

### **I. THE COOPERATION PARTNERS**

1. ADB and IUCN have a mutual interest in achieving effective and relevant policies and programming in international development. ADB and IUCN are international organizations that have mandates to support sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region, have common membership in the region, have Observer Status in the United Nations General Assembly, and seek to build strategic alliances with their partners in the international development community. ADB is a major development agency in the Asian and Pacific region which seeks to foster economic growth, good governance, human resource development and the reduction of poverty for the benefit of its developing member countries. IUCN is an international union of members that seeks to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

2. Representatives of ADB and IUCN have held discussions with a view to enhancing their opportunities for cooperation. ADB and IUCN have concluded this Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the relationship and provide the bases for future collaboration. It has been agreed that collaboration will strengthen institutional capacities in both organizations and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the use of their respective resources.

3. During the past decade, IUCN and ADB have collaborated on a number of programs and projects. The scope of these activities has ranged from conferences, publications, and capacity building exercises to regional technical assistance. The cooperation between ADB and IUCN has largely been grounded on IUCN's participation and access to conservation technologies in various environmental fields as well as its knowledge of country-specific environmental conservation issues.

4. ADB and IUCN have concluded that they should cooperate in the identified areas of mutual interest, without creating formal obligations for either Party pursuant to this MOU.

### **II. THE AIMS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

5. ADB and IUCN acknowledge that the cooperation, which they seek to foster, shall facilitate the realization of their common aim of poverty reduction and environmentally sustainable development. Both institutions recognize that, given the scale and complexity of the challenges in the Region, collaboration is essential to build on synergies of each organization's strengths.

6. In addition to the matters stated in paragraph 5, ADB and IUCN shall work together:

- (a) to support poverty reduction at the regional and sub-regional levels in the Asian and Pacific region; and
  - (b) in support of other development goals, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the regional and sub-regional levels.
7. The cooperation between ADB and IUCN shall be guided by the following principles:
- (a) country and, where relevant, regional ownership of sound development policies and programs are necessary to ensure sustainable development;
  - (b) long-term approaches to sustainable development are needed;
  - (c) full stakeholder participation, particularly emphasizing gender equity, will be encouraged; and
  - (d) development policies and programs should be results-oriented and built on transparent relationships between development assistance providers and beneficiary countries.

### **III. ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED COOPERATION AND JOINT ACTIVITIES**

8. ADB and IUCN shall focus on their shared strategic and operational priorities and use their comparative strengths and advantages, and shall:
- (a) select and develop collaborative activities to bring a clear benefit to both organizations and their members;
  - (b) undertake all collaborative activities with a clear, mutual, written understanding of which organization will undertake what activity (or portion of the activity);
  - (c) share knowledge of lessons learned and evaluations of the sustainability of development interventions in the Asian and Pacific region;
  - (d) consult each other in policy dialogue, programming, and project implementation at the regional, sub-regional, and national levels, where feasible and appropriate;
  - (e) explore the potential of co-financing programs and projects; and
  - (f) exchange and/or second staff for both short-term and long-term periods for purposes of training and to work on agreed collaborative activities.
9. Special efforts will be made to foster collaboration in the countries of the region where both ADB and IUCN maintain country offices.

10. It is envisaged that the potential for joint activities may include those areas specified in the Appendix. The Appendix may be amended from time to time by written agreement of the two organizations.

#### **IV. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

11. ADB and IUCN recognize that effective cooperation depends upon open, comprehensive and regular exchange of information at the institutional level. They agree to make appropriate arrangements to:

- (a) give each other notice of reasonably relevant:
  - (i) conferences, seminars and workshops being organized or sponsored;
  - (ii) regional, country, sector and thematic policy/strategy documents;
  - (iii) program and project approval documents; and
  - (iv) regional program, country program, sectoral, project and other evaluations; and
- (b) share with each other information on any projects or studies in which the other has expressed special interest.

12. IUCN, in particular, will, as necessary,:

- (a) provide ADB with access to its regional and global environment data; and
- (b) update ADB on new global and regional information and technologies that IUCN reasonably believes might be used by ADB in the development and design of its projects and programs.

13. ADB, in particular, will ensure that, where relevant, information generated in the course of its development assistance to developing member countries is made available to IUCN, consistent with ADB's policy on disclosure of information.

14. Consultation and exchange of information and documents pursuant to paragraphs 11-15 will be without prejudice to arrangements that may be required to safeguard the confidential and restricted character of certain information and documents. If either ADB or IUCN regards any such information to be confidential or restricted, it will give written notice to that effect and the receiving party will ensure the observance of such confidentiality and/or restricted circulation of such information.

15. Neither ADB nor IUCN will make any commitments or take any positions on behalf of the other without the other's specific prior written consent. Each organization will maintain the right to independent expression on issues related to activities that may be undertaken under this MOU, but will endeavor, to the greatest extent practicable, to apprise each other in advance of the publication or dissemination of any such independent expressions or issues, in order to avoid potential public misunderstandings and/or confusion.

## **V. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

16. ADB and IUCN recognize that appropriate representation is important to emphasize their common interests, purpose and intentions and to facilitate all aspects of effective cooperation. They agree that arrangements shall be made to extend reciprocal invitations to their respective annual meetings and such other of their meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops as are relevant to the identified areas of cooperation.

## **VI. CONSULTATIONS**

17. ADB and IUCN recognize that it is important to arrange periodic consultations to review the planning, implementation and outcomes of their cooperation activities, including discussions of results, challenges, opportunities and problems. They agree to hold consultations periodically as required, and not less than once every two years.

18. ADB and IUCN staff at the national and regional levels will meet formally and informally, as mutually agreed, to develop concepts and plans for joint work.

## **VII. FOCAL POINTS**

19. ADB and IUCN hereby designate the following focal points for all purposes associated with this MOU:

(a) for ADB:

Director General, Regional and Sustainable Development Department  
Asian Development Bank  
6 ADB Avenue  
Mandaluyong City  
1550 Metro Manila, Philippines  
Telephone: (632) 632-4444  
Fax: (632) 636-2444  
Email: information@adb.org

(b) for IUCN:

Regional Director  
Asia Regional Office  
# 63 Sukhumvit 39 Soi Phrom Phong  
Sukhumvit Road, Klongtan  
10110 Bangkok, Thailand  
Telephone: ++662 662 4029-33  
Fax: ++662 662 4388  
Email: amkrdo@iucnt.org

20. The respective focal points shall be responsible for:

- (a) establishing effective communication and liaison with the other focal point;
- (b) facilitating the implementation of all aspects of this MOU and the opportunities for cooperation that are identified;

- (c) promoting this MOU and the cooperation activities undertaken under it, within the respective organizations and, as appropriate, with external audiences;
- (d) facilitating the attendance of ADB and IUCN representatives at relevant meetings, workshops and seminars held by ADB or IUCN, or held jointly;
- (e) convening the periodic consultations that are agreed to be held in accordance with this MOU; and
- (f) monitoring the implementation of this MOU and evaluating the cooperation activities that are undertaken between the two organizations in accordance with Part VIII of this MOU.

### **VIII. PREPARATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF JOINT WORK ACTIVITIES**

21. ADB and IUCN will, within a mutually acceptable period of the signing of this MOU, prepare and share the information of:

- (a) a list of all current operational cooperation activities between the parties and the implementation status of these;
- (b) a list of potential cooperation activities for the 12-month period following the execution of this MOU, based on each institution's strategic and annual plans; and
- (c) an indicative list of planned cooperation activities for two subsequent 12-month periods, which will be reviewed, updated, and rolled over as provided in paragraph 22.

22. ADB and IUCN will, at the end of the first 12-month period following the execution of this MOU and annually thereafter, prepare a joint written report to be submitted to the President of ADB and the Director General of IUCN on progress made, with recommendations for implementation for the following year and for rolling over the two-year indicative list of planned cooperation activities.

23. Reporting requirements for joint activities, as well as all other rights and obligations arising therefrom, will be as specified in the agreement for each individual activity.

24. ADB and IUCN agree that:

- (a) the relevant program managers in the organizations will be responsible for the implementation of cooperation activities within their areas of responsibility;
- (b) the relevant program managers will provide brief reports as necessary to the designated focal points on the status of implementation of all cooperation activities that are within their areas of responsibility;
- (c) the designated focal points will prepare joint reports when they deem it necessary detailing the implementation status of the cooperation activities;

- (d) the relevant program managers will prepare annual assessments of the results achieved from the cooperation activities;
- (e) the assessments shall be reviewed by the designated focal points when considering further cooperation activities; and
- (f) the designated focal points shall conduct joint evaluations of the overall development impacts of the cooperation undertaken under this MOU.

#### **IX. PROMOTION OF THE COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS**

25. ADB and IUCN recognize that the involvement of both organizations in joint cooperation activities should be publicized, both within their organization and in the general community. They therefore agree that:

- (a) there will be public acknowledgement of the role and contribution of each organization to the cooperation projects and activities in all public information documentation relating to cooperation activities;
- (b) the use of the name and logo(s) of each organization in documentation related to the cooperation projects and activities will be in accordance with the current policies of each organization concerning such usage as communicated in writing to the other organization; and
- (c) all publicity materials (such as press releases) will be jointly agreed upon, and approved by each organization prior to release to the public or media.

#### **X. TERM AND REVIEW**

26. This MOU shall take effect from the date it is signed by the authorized representatives of the two organizations.

27. ADB and IUCN agree that the term of this MOU will be for the period 2004-2016, which encompasses the term of ADB's Long-Term Strategic Framework, three IUCN planning cycles and the target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

28. A joint mid-term review of achievements under this MOU will be carried out within six years of the date of signing, taking into account ADB's Medium Term Strategy (2011-2015) and IUCN's quadrennial planning cycle.

29. This MOU may be terminated by one focal point giving six months' notice in writing to the other.

#### **XI. DEALING WITH PROBLEMS**

30. All problems arising between the two organizations during the term of this MOU, and which impact adversely on the potential of the two organizations to collaborate effectively, shall be made known to the respective focal points as soon as possible after a problem has become evident. The focal points shall take whatever action is appropriate to seek an amicable resolution of any such problem. Where the attempts of the focal points to address

any problem have not resolved it to the satisfaction of both parties, the representatives of the two organizations who are the signatories to this MOU shall take whatever action they consider may be appropriate to achieve an amicable resolution.

## XII. MISCELLANEOUS

31. This MOU is not intended to create legal relations between the two organizations or to impose formal obligations on them.

32. Any specific activities, which are identified under this MOU as being opportunities for collaboration between the two organizations, shall be the subject of further written agreements, entered into in accordance with the practices and procedures of the two organizations.

33. This MOU may be amended by mutual written consent of the two organizations

34. In keeping with the administrative nature of these arrangements, no provision of this MOU shall be construed so as to interfere in any way with the independent decision-making autonomy of the two organizations with regard to their respective affairs and operations.

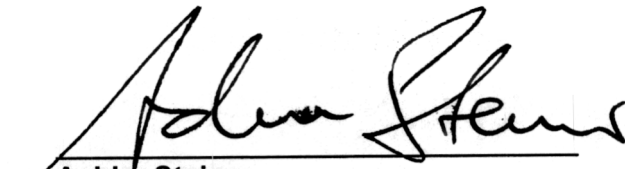
DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2004

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

IUCN-THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION



Tadao Chino  
President

  
Achim Steiner  
Director General

## APPENDIX

### PROPOSED AREAS FOR COOPERATION

ADB and IUCN envisage three principal areas as the focus for joint activities:

- (a) forums and stakeholder consultations –  
this area will also build on recent successful coordination by IUCN of stakeholder consultations related to ADB projects in areas where IUCN has a comparative advantage, and may be used, among other things, to further facilitate civil society participation in and input into ADB policy and program development;
- (b) knowledge management and capacity building –  
this area will focus on, but not be restricted to, the transfer of skills and tools to developing member countries, including sharing of and collaboration on publications and other sources of information, transfer of cutting-edge technologies in biodiversity conservation, promotion of participation especially by the poor, and legal and policy mechanisms for legal reform and implementation of international conventions; and
- (c) collaborative programs and projects –  
this area may include regional technical assistance as well as other cooperative arrangements at the national, sub-regional, regional, and global levels in areas of mutual interest to ADB and IUCN.

These will be elaborated in the indicative list of cooperative activities to be prepared, as described in paragraph 21, in the main text of the MOU.