

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE SLOVAK OFFICE OF STANDARDS, METROLOGY AND TESTING
(UNMS SR)
AND
THE BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS (BIS)
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF STANDARDIZATION
AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT**

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (UNMS SR), Slovak Republic and The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), New Delhi, India, hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Participants”.

Desiring, in a spirit of co-operation and mutual interest, to enhance and strengthen technical cooperation in the fields of standardization, and conformity assessment with the aim of exchanging necessary information and expertise between the Participants.

Have reached the following understanding:

SECTION 1

Objective

The objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are to facilitate closer cooperation and provide a mechanism by which Participants can work together towards the common aim of strengthening standardization, and conformity assessment activities and facilitate sharing of expertise and mutual trade.

SECTION 2

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants shall, within their competence and in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, encourage and promote cooperation in the areas of:

2.1 Standardization

(1) The Participants shall, upon request, exchange information and documents in the field of standardization that may relate to organizational structure of standardization activities performance, rules and procedures of standards development, standardization work programs, submission of comments on international standards at various stages of development etc.

(2) The Participants shall exchange scientific and technical information on issues / areas of standardization mutually agreed upon.

2.2 Conformity Assessment

2.2.1 Certification

- (1) The Participants shall study each other's organizational structure, and the rules and procedures for third party product certification and the Management Systems Certification, to the extent as may be appropriate with the aim of entering Bilateral Cooperation Arrangement for utilizing each other's inspection services.
- (2) The Participants shall exchange in-house manuals for product certification and Management Systems Certification, to the extent as may be appropriate.
- (3) The Participants shall exchange technical information on certification activities upon their consensual agreement for the development of their activities.

2.2.2 Testing

- (1) The Participants shall exchange information in relation to testing facilities available in their laboratories and/or network.
- (2) The Participants shall study the other Participants organizational structure and/or network for testing, procedures for laboratory tests, and the development of laboratories based on international criteria with the aim of allowing mutual recognition of test reports.

2.3 Technical Information

The Participants shall exchange information relating to compilation, storage, retrieval, application and dissemination of scientific and technical information on standardization, and conformity assessment.

2.4 Training

The Participant shall provide training for the other Participants' personnel in the field of standardization and conformity assessment on reciprocal basis and other areas of mutual interest, as may be appropriate.

SECTION 3

Financing

The Participants shall bear the costs related to any activity arising from or as a result of this MoU on terms to be mutually agreed between the Participants.

SECTION 4

Amendment

This MoU may be amended or supplemented at any time by mutual written agreement between the Participants.

SECTION 5

Language

The Participants agree to use English as the working language.

ARTICLE 6

Dispute Settlement

Any dispute, disagreement or claim arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this MoU shall be settled amicably by consultations and negotiation between the Participants.

SECTION 7

Implementation

The Participants will hold bilateral consultations with a view to examine and promote their bilateral relations and exchange views on international issues of mutual interest.

SECTION 8

Final Provision

(1) This MoU will come into force from the date of its signature by the Participants and shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years. Thereafter, it will be automatically renewed for further subsequent periods of five (5) years at a time.

(2) This MoU may be terminated at any time by either Participant by giving at least four months' advance notice in writing to the other Participant of its intention to terminate it.

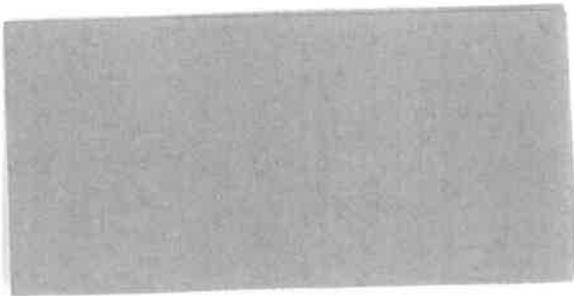
(3) This Memorandum of Understanding is not an international agreement and does not establish any rights or obligations in accordance with the international law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE UNDERSIGNED BEING DULY AUTHROTISED
THERETO, HAVE SIGNED THE PRESENT MOU.

Signed on 22 February 2024 in New Delhi in two originals, each in English,
Hindi and Slovak languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence
in interpretation, the English text will prevail.

On behalf of

the Slovak Office of Standards,
Metrology and Testing

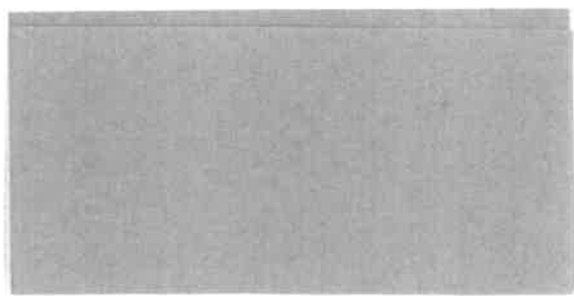


(Rastislav Chovanec)

**State Secretary of the
Ministry of Foreign and European
Affairs of the Slovak Republic**

On behalf of

the Bureau of Indian Standards,
Government of the Republic of India



(Chandan Bahl)

**Scientist G and Deputy Director General
Bureau of Indian Standards
(IR&TIS, MSC and SCM)**