

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE SLOVAK OFFICE OF STANDARDS, METROLOGY AND TESTING
(SOSMT)
AND
THE BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS (BIS)**

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (SOSMT), Slovak Republic and The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), New Delhi, India herein after referred to as "the Parties"

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 Parties.

Have reached the following understanding:

ARTICLE 1

Objective

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

ARTICLE 2

Areas of Cooperation

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

2.1 Standardization

- (1) The Parties shall exchange information and documents in the field of standardization. These will include organizational structure for standardization, rules and procedures for standards formulation, standards work programmes for standards formulation, comments on international standards at various stages of development, etc.
- (2) The Parties shall exchange scientific and technical information on issues / areas of standardization mutually agreed upon.

2.2 Conformity Assessment

2.2.1 Certification

(1) The Parties 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 Parties shall exchange in-house manuals for product certification and Management Systems Certification, to the extent as may be appropriate.

(3) The Parties shall exchange technical information on certification activities upon their consensual agreement for the development of their activities.

2.2.2 Testing

(1) The Parties shall exchange information in relation to testing facilities available in their laboratories and/or network.

(2) The Parties shall study the other Party's 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 Parties 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 Party shall provide training for the other Party's personnel in the field of standardization, and conformity assessment on reciprocal basis and other areas of mutual interest, as may be appropriate.

ARTICLE 3

Financing

The Parties 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 Parties.

ARTICLE 4

Amendment

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

ARTICLE 5

Language

Parties 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 Parties.

ARTICLE 7

Implementation

Implementation of the MoU would be achieved by regular exchange of delegations and monitoring of Annual Cooperation Programs drawn through mutual agreement

ARTICLE 8

Final Provision

(1) This MoU shall be in force for five (5) years from the date of signature by the Parties. Therefore it may be extended for subsequent periods of five (5) years at a time by mutual consent of both the parties.

(2) This MoU may be terminated at any time by either Party giving at least four months' prior notice to the other Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE SIGNED THE PRESENT MoU.

Done at New Delhi on Twenty Eighth day of July Two Thousand and Fifteen in two originals each in English, Hindi and Slovak languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

*For the Slovak Office of Standards,
Metrology and Testing*

For the Bureau of Indian Standards

Ambassador
of the Slovak Republic to India

Director General
Bureau of Indian Standards, India