

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT (AITD)
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)**

1. With a view to strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the two organizations in the service of their membership, Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) agree to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding, which is concluded taking into account the following:

- The Memorandum of Association of AITD
- Terms of Reference of ESCAP

2. Accordingly, AITD and ESCAP agree to:

- cooperate and collaborate, to the extent possible, on development issues and concerns of mutual interest;
- develop and implement, as appropriate, joint projects including organizing workshops, seminars, and meetings on mutually identified areas of priority concern;
- exchange analytical reports and technical publications on mutual economic and social development concerns;
- establish linkages through exchange of information, documentation and ideas between AITD and ESCAP.

3. AITD and ESCAP also agree to cooperate with each other, to the extent possible, through undertaking active collaboration in the following specific areas of mutual interest:

- developing long-term strategic plans for the transport sector with the objective of its balanced and sustainable development and with due regard to users interest, equity considerations and environment protection;

- improving the transport services and infrastructural facilities of the member countries through enhancing their national capabilities;
- determining costs of providing infrastructure services and facilities for various modes of transport;
- designing and implementing policies, plans and services aimed at accelerating investment in infrastructure development;
- providing forums for both public and private sectors to share their views and experiences, thereby strengthening their partnerships in infrastructure development by reducing impediments and facilitating mobilization of required resources;
- integrating effective transport related policies having a bearing on measures needed to bring rural populations into the mainstream of national development for the support of economic growth and poverty alleviation;
- promoting technology transfer in the transport industries;
- promoting non-motorized transport in the region;
- improving facilitation measures for efficient movement of international transport through removal of physical and non-physical barriers in the smooth flow of passengers, goods and vehicles on links of the transport networks and at various nodes including border crossings, transshipment points and seaports;
- promoting intermodal linkages on a regional basis;
- promoting multimodal transport systems to increase the efficiency of the transport sector in the logistics of international production and distribution. This will include corridor studies as well as an examination of the legal and other impediments in introducing this concept;
- harmonizing national, regional and international legislation on transport and related areas;
- addressing issues of environmental concern that would mitigate the detrimental effects of infrastructural development and operation;
- improving safety of transport services;

- developing National Institutions and Sub-centres with suitable linkages to the regional framework under the aegis of ESCAP, including the networking of transport-related centres of excellence;
- devising effective human resources development strategies and programmes to upgrade skills;
- examining the scale and distribution of tourism-related activities with specific reference to basic infrastructure requirement of the following elements: transportation by air, land and water, telecommunications, power, water and accommodation.

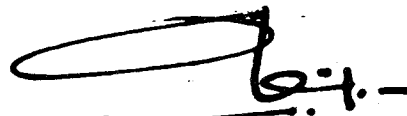
4. This MOU will enter into force upon signature of the President of AJTD and the Executive Secretary of ESCAP.

SIGNED in Bangkok and New Delhi on in two original copies in English, both texts being equally authentic.



Abid Hussain
President
Asian Institute of
Transport Development
New Delhi

Date 31/11/97



Adrianus Mooy
Executive Secretary
Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok

Date 28/10/97