

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, INDIA; NANSEN ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH CENTRE (INDIA), COCHIN, INDIA; AND NANSEN
ENVIRONMENTAL AND REMOTE SENSING CENTRE, BERGEN, NORWAY**

1.0 Preamble:

A mutual agreement is made between the three parties – Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Kochi, India, Nansen Environmental Research Centre India (NERCI), Cochin, India and Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Centre (NERSC), Bergen, Norway.

2.0 The Parties:

2.1 Cochin University of Science and Technology – CUSAT

CUSAT is an autonomous University for higher education founded in 1971. It has at present 26 Departments/Schools for teaching/research and has a faculty of nearly 400 and student strength above 2000. Laboratory facilities are available in all disciplines of Marine Sciences at the Lakeside Campus of the University. CUSAT is involved in quite a number of research projects funded by various national agencies and is also recipient of grant under the Dutch NUFFIC program under which a Centre for Integrated Management of Coastal Zone is established.

2.2 Nansen Environmental Research Centre (India) – NERCI

NERCI was founded in 1998 as a non-profit research Centre between Norwegian and Indian partners. Located in Cochin, India, the Centre focuses on basic and applied research and assessment related to environmental, ecological and climate issues of regional interest concerning India and central Asia.

2.3 Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Centre – NERSC

NERSC is a non-profit research foundation established in 1986 in affiliation with the University of Bergen. NERSC performs environmental and climate research on a contract basis with Government Research Council and Industry. The Centre Employs approximately 80 persons of which 10 are PhD. Students. Several undergraduate students do their studies under supervision of the scientists at the Centre.

3.0 Objectives:

The overall objective is to develop joint co-operation in research and higher education among the three participating institutions subject to the following conditions in particular, in different areas

- a) The safety of the classified data will be ensured and foreigners will be denied access to the classified data.
- b) Only satellite data maps and other Geographic information which are in public domain will be used.
- c) All value addition will be carried out in consultation with Ministry of Defense, Govt. of India.
- d) Representative of Ministry of Defense (NPOL) /GSGS will be included as a member of the Research Team.
- e) Security vetting of Geospatial data will be carried out by Army Head Quarters / GSGS before it is made available to foreign institutions and researchers.

Objectives include the following specifically:

- 1) To develop the exchange of visiting scientists/teaching faculty between the participating institutions in order to strengthen the basic understanding of their prioritized research and educational activities.
- 2) To initiate and develop joint research projects between scientists from the three institutions.
- 3) To co-ordinate and facilitate the elaboration of joint project allocation to be submitted for funding through national and international bodies.
- 4) To stimulate and support the exchange of undergraduate and graduate students through dedicated programs such as the NANSEN Fellowship program for young students and the Norwegian Governmental "quota" program.
- 5) To develop co-operation in the fields of distance educational courses and research programmes.

4.0 Financial aspects:

All Parties will explore national, international, institutional and other sources of funding in order to support the scientific and educational aspects that will arise from this Agreement. Any activity, which requires resources from any of the Parties will be discussed and mutually agreed upon prior to the commencement of each activity in order to ensure that all parties agree to the financial arrangements.

5.0 Administrative Responsibility:

The administrative responsibility for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding in Cochin University of Science and Technology shall be vested with the Registrar, Cochin University of Science and Technology. The other parties will nominate their own officials responsible for the implementation of this Agreement.

6.0 Duration:

This agreement is effective for a period of five years from the date of signing of the MoU. Either of the parties may terminate the Agreement by a six months notice. The actual scientific Co-operation under this agreement is subject to annual revision.

7.0 Arbitration:

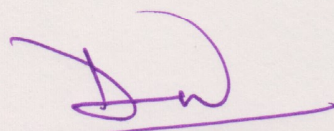
In case of any dispute between the parties with regard to any of the Clauses in the agreement, it shall be referred for arbitration by the Arbitrator appointed with the consent of all the parties as per the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act prevailing in the country in which the agreement is executed so that the dispute between the parties can be settled. In case any of the parties disputes the award of the Arbitrator, the dispute shall be resolved through Courts at the place where the agreement is executed.

Approval:

This MoU will come into force only after approval by University Grants Commission (UGC) as per Notification No. 1-1/2012(CPP-11) dated 11/07/2016.

This Agreement is signed in three originals one to each of the three parties

**For CUSAT
Kochi**

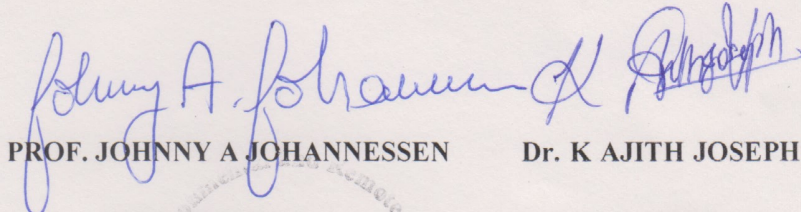

Dr. S. DAVID PETER

Registrar

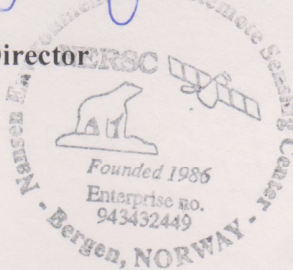
REGISTRAR
COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Kochi-682 022



**For NERSC
Bergen, Norway**


PROF. JOHNNY A JOHANNESSEN

Director



**For NERCI
Kochi**

Dr. K AJITH JOSEPH

Executive Director

29-05-2017

