AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA ON THE EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

The Government of the Republic of Cuba and the Government of the Republic of India.

Hereafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties"

Considering the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly relations, and

Desiring to facilitate the entry of the citizens of the Republic of Cuba and the citizens of the Republic of India,

Who are holders of diplomatic passports into their respective countries.

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

- 1. Citizens of any of the Contracting Parties, who are holders of a valid diplomatic passport, may enter into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through their respective international points of entry/exit without a visa.
- 2. Citizens of either Contracting Party, who are holders of passports referred to in the present Agreement, shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the maximum period of ninety (90) days without a visa, during the calendar year.

ARTICLE 2

- Citizens of either Contracting Party, who are designated as a member of the
 diplomatic or consular staff or as representative of their country to
 international organizations located in the territory of the other Contracting
 Party and are holders of a valid diplomatic passport, shall be required to
 apply for visa prior to their entry into the territory of the other Contracting
 Party.
- 2. The conditions enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse, dependent children and parents of a member of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate or representative to international organizations provided they also hold diplomatic passport.

ARTICLE 3

The holders of diplomatic passports of either of the Contracting Parties, that are employed by an international organization, body or agency or any other such entity, shall be required to apply for a visa, prior to their entry in the territory of the other Contracting Party for official or private visits.

ARTICLE 4

- Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry or reduce or conclude the staying period in its territory, to the beneficiaries of this Agreement for reasons of national security, order and public health or for being declared as persona non grata.
- 2. If a citizen of any of the Contracting Party loses his/her passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the authorities concerned of the host country for appropriate action. The diplomatic Mission or Consulate concerned shall issue a new passport or travel document to its citizen and inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

ARTICLE 5

Citizens of either Contracting Party, who are holders of diplomatic passports, shall abide by the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party while crossing its borders and while they stay in its territory.

ARTICLE 6

- 1. The Contracting Parties shall exchange, through diplomatic channels, specimens of the valid passports which are the object of the present Agreement, within thirty days (30) after the date of signature.
- 2. Both Contracting Parties shall immediately and timely keep mutually informed on the modifications made to the format of the passports object of this Agreement, and in such case shall forward the new specimens to the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 7

Each Contracting Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health, to suspend temporarily, partially or completely, the implementation of this Agreement, which shall take effect immediately after notifying the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 8

Any amendment to this Agreement proposed by the Contracting Parties shall be made through the exchange of diplomatic notes and shall come into effect on the date of receipt of the acceptance note by the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 9

Any difference or dispute arising out of the implementation or application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties, through the diplomatic channels without consulting third parties or an international court.

ARTICLE 10

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last notification made by the Contracting Parties, in writing and through the diplomatic channels, informing about the fulfilment of the internal legal requirements for its entry into force.—
- 2. This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period and may be terminated by either Contracting Party by notification through diplomatic channels, which shall enter into force ninety (90) days after the date of such notification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

on this day of in the year two thousand in two (2) originals; in Spanish, Hindi and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

ABELARDO RAFAEL CUETO SOSA AMBASSADOR OF REPUBLIC OF CUBA IN INDIA FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

R. SWAMINATHAN
SPECIAL SECRETARY (AMS &CPV)
GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF INDIA