AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA ON EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL / SPECIAL PASSPORTS

The Government of the Republic of India and The Government of the Republic of Tunisia,

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 nationals of the Republic of India and the nationals of the Republic of Tunisia who are holders of diplomatic or official / special passports into their respective countries,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

- 1. A national of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official / special passport shall be permitted to enter into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through their respective international points of entry and exit without visa requirements.
- 2. A national of either Contracting Party, holding the said passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the maximum period of ninety (90) days without a visa.

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ARTICLE 2

- 1. A Citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic or consular staff or as representative of his/her country in an international organization located in the territory of the other Contracting Party and is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport, shall be required to obtain a visa prior to entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party.
- 2. The holders of diplomatic and official passports of either Contracting Party who are employed by an international organization, body, agency or any other such entity, would be required to obtain visa prior to their entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party for official or private visits.
- 3. The conditions enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate or representative in international organization, their children and their dependent parents.

ARTICLE 3

- 1. Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry into, or shorten the stay in its territory, of any national of the other Contracting Party, holder of diplomatic or official / special passport, who may be considered unwelcome person.
- 2. If a national of one 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 will issue a new passport or travel document to its national and inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

ARTICLE 4

The abolition of visa does not exempt the nationals of each contracting party who are holders of diplomatic or official/special passports, from the duty of complying with the laws and rules in force in the territory of the other contracting party.

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ARTICLE 5

- 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, each Contracting Party shall transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of its respective passports, including a detailed description of such documents, currently used, at least thirty (30) days before the entry into force of this Agreement.
- 2. Each Contracting Party shall also transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of its new or modified passports, including a detailed description of such documents, at least thirty (30) days before they are brought into force.

ARTICLE 6

Each Contracting Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health, to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Agreement, which shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 7

The duration of diplomatic and official passports of nationals of either Party shall be valid for at least six (6) months on the date of entry into the territory of the country of the other party.

ARTICLE 8

Any difference or dispute arising out of the implementation of the provision of the Agreement shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties without reference to any third party or an international tribunal.

ARTICLE 9

1. This agreement comes into force on the days of the reception, through diplomatic channels, of the second notification regarding the accomplishment of the internal procedure and will remain in force indefinitely.

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- 2. Each contracting party can at any time notify the other, through diplomatic channels, of its decision to rescind this agreement. In this case, the rescission takes place thirty (30) days after the date of the notification to the other contracting party.
- 3. At the request of any of the contracting parties, this agreement can be reviewed by mutual consent. The agreed upon amendments will come into force according to the procedures mentioned in the first paragraph of this Article.

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

DONE at TUNIS on this 30th day of April in the year two thousand fifteen in two (2) originals; in Hindi, Arabic 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 INDIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

Name: Anil Wadhwa

Designation: SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Name: M'hamed Ezzine CHELAIFA

Designation: SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS