

AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN  
ARAB REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF INDIA ON EXEMPTION OF VISA  
REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC  
AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

The government of the Syrian Arab Republic 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 Syrian Arab Republic and the citizens of the Republic of India who are holders of diplomatic or official passports into their respective countries,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The terms applying in this Agreement have the following meanings:

**"Diplomatic Passports"**: The Diplomatic passports of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Diplomatic passports of the Republic of India;

“Official Passports”: “The Service and Special Passports of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Official Passports of the Republic of India.

## ARTICLE 2

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, holding a valid Diplomatic or Official 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/exit without a visa.

2. A citizen of either Contracting Party, holding a valid Diplomatic or Official Passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a maximum period of sixty (60) days without a visa.

## ARTICLE 3

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic or consular staff in the territory of the other Contracting Party and is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport, shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter the territory of the other Contracting Party, and shall be granted, on request from the diplomatic mission/consular post concerned, within 60 (sixty) days of the arrival of the diplomatic/official passport holder, a residence visa for the period of his/her official stay.

2. A citizen of either Contracting Party being the representative of his/ her country in an international organization located in the territory of other Contracting Party holding the said passports shall also enjoy the rights mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. The facilities enumerated in paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse of a member of the Diplomatic Mission or Consulate or representative in an international organization, their children and their dependent parents, provided they hold a similar category of passports or the children's names are entered in their father's or mother's passport.

#### ARTICLE 4

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid Diplomatic or Official Passport and has to attend a meeting or conference convened by an international organization or Government, in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter and stay in 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 a visa prior to their entry into the territory of the other Contracting Party for official or private visits.

#### ARTICLE 5

1. Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry into, or shorten the stay in its territory, of any citizen of the other Contracting Party, whom it may consider undesirable.

2. If a citizen 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 citizen and will inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

#### ARTICLE 6

Citizens of either Contracting Party, being holders of Diplomatic or Official Passports shall abide by the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party while crossing its frontiers and throughout the duration of their stay in its territory.

#### ARTICLE 7

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 notify the other Contracting Party of any modifications of the mentioned passports and shall also transmit to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels, specimens of its new or modified passports, including a detailed description of such documents currently used, at least thirty (30) days before they are brought into force. The new passports shall be accepted from the date of receiving the modified passports.

#### ARTICLE 8

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 48 hours after a notification has been given to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

#### ARTICLE 9

Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, a revision or amendment of the whole or part of this Agreement. Any revision or amendment, which has been agreed to by the Contracting Parties, shall come into effect on a date to be mutually agreed upon and shall accordingly form part of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 10

Any dispute between the Contracting Parties related to the application or interpretation of the present agreement shall be resolved by consultations or negotiations between the Contracting Parties without reference to any third party or an international judiciary or arbitration body.

#### ARTICLE 11

This Agreement shall enter into force after a lapse of 30 (thirty) days from the date of the reception of the last written notification on the fulfillment by the parties of the internal procedures that are necessary for its entry into force. The 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 thirty (30) days after the date of such notification.

In witness whereof, the undersigned being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE in Damascus on                      of June in the year two thousand and ten in two (2) originals each; in Arabic, 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  
Syrian Arab Republic

for the Government of the  
Republic of India

Ambassador Ahmad Arnous  
Deputy Minister  
of Foreign Affairs

V.B Haran  
Ambassador of India  
to the Syrian Arab Republic