

Translation

Joint Statement
on the Further Development of the Strategic and Global Partnership
between Germany and India

Berlin, 11 April 2013

Shaping the future together

1. During the second round of Indo-German intergovernmental consultations held today in Berlin Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh discussed the state of the Strategic Partnership agreed in 2000 and reaffirmed their commitment to further enhancing cooperation over a broad spectrum. They agree to continue with the successful format of regular intergovernmental consultations chaired by heads of government and with the participation of relevant ministers as well as to add as required other formats to the existing wide range of consultation architecture instruments.
2. Indo-German cooperation opens up excellent prospects for developing both countries to the benefit of their people. Germany and India share the view that new initiatives in the area of trade, bilateral investment, energy, energy security, the environment, culture, education, training, research, technology and defence can catalyse and activate the great potential of their bilateral ties.
3. The Indo-German Consultative Group provides valuable input for bilateral cooperation. Both heads of government pay tribute to the intensive and productive work done by its members and are pleased that the Group is to continue its activities.
4. Germany and India are determined to expand further their cooperation in science, research and technology – dynamic core areas of the Indo-German Partnership – and to take new initiatives in this connection.

To this end Germany and India are jointly investing in a programme aimed at enabling universities in both countries to offer joint master's and doctoral degree courses as

well as to organize graduate and academic exchanges in the context of joint research projects.

Examples of such programmes are the Dr Angela Merkel scholarships for Indian law students, 50% of whose funding comes from the Jawaharlal Nehru Award prize money received by the Federal Chancellor in 2011 and 50% from the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service – DAAD), as well as the German Chancellor Fellowship Programme, which will offer India an additional 10 fellowships a year.

5. Germany and India are expanding their cooperation on civil security research. In 2013 they plan to support five pilot projects in the areas of natural disaster management, biological risks, urban security, protecting and saving lives and the social aspects of civil security. In 2014 they intend also to establish a joint programme in this connection.
6. Both sides are very pleased with the way the Indo-German Science and Technology Centre is developing into a key platform for Indo-German research and technology cooperation.
7. Both sides welcome the recent opening of the German House for Research and Innovation in New Delhi. They expect it to give their cooperation in the field of research and technology a further boost.
8. Both sides are pleased with the success of their vocational training partnership. In this context German and Indian companies are involved in developing practice-oriented training and supporting the further qualification and training of instructors on the basis of dual vocational training standards. It is intended to further expand cooperation on vocational training in key future sectors such as energy-efficient construction by establishing an Advanced Training Institute on Energy-Efficient Construction Technology, which will operate at the interface between vocational training and academic education.
9. With a view to promoting and intensifying personal contacts and intercultural skills, Germany is cooperating with India's Ministry for Human Resources Development and the Kendriya Vidyalaya (KVS) schools to support German teaching in Indian schools

under its Schools: Partners for the Future (PASCH) initiative and its “German in 1,000 Schools” programme.

10. Both sides consider the “Year of Germany” in India and the “Days of India” in Germany an unqualified success. The programmes organized in this connection have built important bridges between our societies and contributed to mutual understanding. Both sides want to follow up on the great interest generated by the travelling exhibition Urban Mela with its “CitySpaces” theme – the core focus of the “Year of Germany” in India – by launching an Indo-German urbanization forum. This would enable topics such as urban planning, architecture, mobility, transport, the supply of goods and infrastructure as well as culture, society and public life to be discussed in a variety of working groups.
11. Close trade and investment relations are a core dimension of our partnership and of great importance for the development of both the Indian and the German economy. Both Governments will strongly back a further intensification of Indo-German business cooperation.
12. Both sides agree that the major infrastructure projects India is planning to create new eco-friendly cities and industrial enterprises open up tremendous prospects for cooperation. The Indian Government’s planned “Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor” (DMIC) offers ample scope for cooperation as well as a host of investment and business opportunities over the years ahead.

In order to meet the skilled labour requirements of companies operating along the DMIC, the Indian side is planning inter alia to open 100 new vocational training centres there. The German Government is supporting these new centres by arranging contacts with German vocational training providers.

The new corridor planned between Mumbai and Bangalore likewise opens up interesting prospects for Indo-German cooperation. Both sides agreed to consider undertaking a feasibility study as well as other steps towards realizing this project.

13. Both sides emphasize that mobility and freedom of movement are important factors in enabling their companies to advance economic integration and generate continuous and sustainable growth.

14. Germany and India recognize the important role that cooperation on electric mobility can play in reducing energy consumption, improving the environment, transforming industry and building an eco-friendly industrial society. They intend to support the sustainable and sound development of their electric vehicle production sectors by facilitating exchange and cooperation in the area of electric vehicle technologies, production and market development.
15. Both Governments recognize that there is immense potential for cooperation between small and medium-sized enterprises in Germany and India. It is these enterprises that guarantee growth, innovation and jobs. Both sides believe that joint research and development projects involving medium-sized companies and business-oriented research establishments in both countries are of great importance. Both Governments accordingly intend to promote through their national programmes Indo-German research and development cooperation activities by companies and research establishments aimed at developing new marketable products, processes and technical services.
16. Both Governments also see considerable potential for cooperation in the services sector and tourism.
17. Both sides recognize the role that norms and standards play in opening markets and see Indo-German cooperation in this area as beneficial to both the Indian and the German economy. They plan to extend their cooperation also to the areas of accreditation, conformity assessment, product safety and market surveillance. Both sides accordingly agree to set up a working group on quality infrastructure.
18. Germany and India have a shared interest in the creation of decent jobs offering employee rights, social security and adequate protection in case of sickness as well as appropriate incomes. They both want to see fair and safe working conditions. They are keen to continue their good cooperation at G20/ASEM meetings of employment ministers and support the ILO recommendations on Social Protection Floors. Both sides highlight the importance of corporate social responsibility (CSR) for sustainable development. They share the view that governments have a supporting role to play in disseminating the CSR ethos and reaffirm their determination to intensify their exchanges in this connection.

19. Both sides commend the energy policy dialogue under way in the Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF), which is coordinated by the Indian Ministry of Power and the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, as well as the opening of a liaison office in New Delhi. Under IGEF auspices an “Excellence Enhancement Centre” will also be established as a bilateral association of power plant operators based in New Delhi. There are plans for civil society to participate to an even greater degree in the 6th Indo-German Energy Forum scheduled for the first quarter of 2014 in New Delhi. The ongoing policy dialogue between the relevant ministries will likewise be continued and expanded. This concerns in particular cooperation projects in the field of renewable energies and energy efficiency launched with special reference to climate protection under the International Climate Initiative of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

20. Since 2008 Germany and India have intensified their cooperation in the area of agriculture, food and consumer protection and are pursuing their dialogue in this connection also with the corporate sector in the bilateral working group Agrar. With a view to promoting sustainable agriculture, a new cooperation project is planned on plant variety protection and seed legislation. It is intended to intensify research cooperation in the agriculture and food sector.

21. Germany and India note the urgent need to find effective and viable solutions to the pressing problems of climate change and its consequences for humanity. This includes mitigation and adaptation strategies designed to support the continued economic and social development notably of developing countries. Both sides commend the ongoing cooperation under the International Climate Initiative of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and are keen for it to continue. Both sides agree that climate protection should be one of the issues discussed at the Second Indo-German Environment Forum planned for 2014 in New Delhi.

22. Germany and India look forward to continuing their successful cooperation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) context. In 2012 Germany offered India support for 600 CDM projects. In future this cooperation will encompass inter alia the evaluation of the Indian CDM portfolio in terms of its contribution to socio-economic development as well as support in devising systems designed to measure and assess such impacts.

23. Germany and India reaffirm that they will continue their successful development cooperation in a spirit of partnership. In the jointly identified priority areas of energy, environmental and climate protection and sustainable economic development the innovative approaches pursued support India's inclusive development and poverty reduction programmes and make a major contribution to achieving global development and climate goals.
24. Germany and India agree that they will continue to collaborate with a view to strengthening the United Nations and the multilateral system by developing partnerships with other regions and promoting maximum transparency and confidence-building. They will continue to campaign through the G4 for reform of the United Nations Security Council.
25. As members of United Nations Human Rights Council, Germany and India will seek to develop joint positions and concrete projects and initiatives to advance human rights around the world.
26. By collaborating on joint projects, Germany and India intend to contribute to a stable and peaceful future for Afghanistan. In this connection both sides emphasize the importance of the regional Heart of Asia process, in which India coordinates confidence-building activities in the area of investment and trade promotion, activities which Germany supports. Both sides have further agreed to launch trilateral projects with Afghanistan in the area of higher education relating to the mining sector.
27. Germany and India welcome the growing partnership between India and the EU. In this connection both sides explicitly commend the EU's role as a political partner for India as well as the activities it undertakes on behalf of the 27 Member States with a view to ensuring a coherent EU foreign policy.
28. Both sides will work for the speedy conclusion of the negotiations between the EU and India on an ambitious free trade agreement that will give their trade relations an important boost. Further liberalization of bilateral trade, notably as regards the dismantling of all tariffs on industrial goods as well as the comprehensive and reciprocal opening of their markets in the services and public procurement sectors, will serve as a long-term stimulus to their economies and thereby generate growth and prosperity. Assuring a high standard of protection for intellectual property rights

increases the incentive to invest more in research and the development of new and innovative technologies.

29. Germany and India will seek to intensify consultations within the G20 and strengthen the G20's role as a forum for international economic and financial cooperation.
30. Both sides will therefore make strenuous efforts to achieve a consensus on trade facilitation this year at the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference so as to ensure there is still a prospect of bringing the Doha Round to a conclusion.
31. Both sides agree to intensify further their exchange of views and experience on combating terrorism as well as their practical cooperation in this connection, also in the Indo-German Working Group on Counter-Terrorism as well as multilateral forums. They are in favour of holding regular consultations on issues relating to international cyber policy. This exchange of views and experience will also deal with man-made and natural disaster protection issues.
32. In the light of new security challenges both sides are keen to intensify their security policy dialogue and exchange of views and look forward to closer security cooperation, extending also to progressively greater cooperation in the military and armaments field. This includes the exchange of information as well as collaboration on defence technology research in both countries, arms procurement projects as well as project-related developments and arms technologies.
33. Both heads of government want the bilateral dialogue on export controls and international export control regimes to continue. Germany welcomes the ongoing intensified dialogue between India and the various export control regimes (NSG, MTCR, AG and WA). Both sides agree to continue working together to prepare the ground for India to accede to the export control regimes and thereby strengthen the international non-proliferation regime.
34. Germany and India reaffirm that they will work together for a world without nuclear weapons, for universal and non-discriminatory global nuclear disarmament and a reduced salience of nuclear weapons in international affairs and security doctrines. In order to strengthen global non-proliferation efforts, they agree to advance the Hague Code of Conduct against Missile Proliferation, the Code of Conduct on Outer Space

and the goals of the Proliferation Security Initiative. They are united in their desire to promote the Additional Protocol as part of the international safeguards standard. Both sides agree to hold regular consultations on disarmament and non-proliferation issues.

35. Both countries intend to strengthen their cooperation to reduce the risk of nuclear and radiological terrorism. They reaffirm their shared commitment to promoting the full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons and Biological and Toxic Weapons Conventions and to common action to promote their universalization. They underline that the rapid entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty would represent a significant gain for global non-proliferation efforts. They express their full support for a multilateral, non-discriminatory and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
36. Germany and India are deeply concerned about Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes and urge Iran to fulfil all relevant international obligations and take the necessary steps to restore international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme. They strongly condemn the North Korean nuclear test conducted on 12 February and call upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect its international obligations as set out in several United Nations Security Council resolutions in this connection.

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