

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE  
ISLAMIC TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN  
FOR COOPERATION IN MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) of the United States of America and the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) of the Islamic Transitional Government of Afghanistan (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"), for the purpose of promoting cooperation and the exchange of information in the field of health;

Recognizing the importance of progress in the health sciences, health administration, and family welfare for the quality of life for all people;

Desiring to share fully advances in the field of health of benefit to the peoples of both countries;

Desiring to continue strengthening the friendly relations existing between the peoples of the two countries; and

Recognizing the benefits to be derived by both Parties from close continued cooperation in these fields;

Have agreed as follows:

**Article I**

The Parties shall promote cooperation between the two countries in areas such as disease prevention and control, public health protection, biomedical and behavioral research and research training, health services and health policy research.

The principal objectives of this cooperation are for both Parties to provide each other opportunities to exchange ideas, information, skills and techniques, and to collaborate on problems of mutual interest

## **Article II**

The cooperation contemplated in this Memorandum of Understanding may include exchanges of scientific, technical, and health systems management information, exchanges of scientists and technical experts, the convening of joint seminars and meetings, the development of training programs, the conduct of joint research projects and the provision of research training, and other forms of health-related scientific and technical cooperation as may be mutually agreed.

## **Article III**

Pursuant to the aims and provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties shall encourage and facilitate the development of direct contacts and cooperation between constituent agencies and scientists of the two Parties, universities, research centers and other institutions of the two countries. All contacts and activities will serve to promote the National Health Policy of Afghanistan and be consistent with its priorities. Under this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties may agree to co-sponsor cooperative activities in the field of health programs and biomedical and public health research with other agencies of the Governments of the United States and Afghanistan. Each such activity will be described in writing and agreed upon by both Executive Agents (see Article V, below). This agreement, however, does not commit resources of other U.S. government agencies.

## **Article IV**

Joint activities, where possible, shall be coordinated with, or be supportive of, the activities and goals of international health bodies, including the World Health Organization and UNICEF, and shall be coordinated and consistent with the overall U.S. foreign assistance program managed by the United States Agency for International Development.

Scientists, technical experts, governmental agencies and institutions of third countries or international organizations may, in appropriate cases, be invited by agreement of the Parties to participate, at their own expense unless otherwise agreed, in projects and programs being carried out pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding.



## **Article V**

To assist in the coordination of activities, to facilitate cooperation, and to provide guidance as needed, the Parties designate the following "Executive Agents" for each side:

For the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:

Director, Office of Global Health Affairs  
Office of the Secretary

For the Afghanistan Ministry of Public Health:

Minister of Public Health  
Deputy Minister of Public Health (Professional)  
Director of International Relations

Cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations in both countries and are subject to the availability of funds and personnel.

Both Parties recognize that there will be multiple programs and sources of funding for activities sponsored under this Memorandum of Understanding and that there is no single dedicated source of funds. Both Parties agree to make their best efforts to identify appropriate sources of funds to support all aspects of the implementation of this collaboration. When funds are identified and approved for a collaborative project, respective responsibilities of each Party will be clearly specified in each activity description.

The activities to be carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding may be proposed by either side and shall be documented in work plans or other written correspondence, establishing mutual written agreement, in advance of each activity.

This Memorandum of Understanding does not supersede other international obligations or national laws and regulations of either party with respect to transfers and release of information and equipment subject to export and re-export laws and regulations.

## Article VI

The Parties shall use their best efforts to facilitate entry to and exit from their territories of personnel and equipment of the other Party engaged in or used in activities under this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Parties shall endeavor to ensure that all participants in agreed cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding have access to facilities and personnel within their countries as needed to carry out those activities

## Article VII

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed to prejudice, limit or determine other arrangements in health, scientific and technical cooperation or assistance between the Parties.

## Article VIII

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force for five years. It may be amended, extended, or terminated by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the validity or duration of any arrangements entered into pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding prior to its termination.

## Article IX

Done in Kabul, Afghanistan, in duplicate, in the English and Dari language, on this 8th day of October, 2002.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA:

FOR THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH OF THE ISLAMIC  
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF  
AFGHANISTAN:

