# MEMORANDUM OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ELECTIONS BETWEEN

## THE CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA AND

### THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

The Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Election Commission of India, hereinafter called as the "Parties";

Taking into account relationship formed between the Parties;

Reaffirming commitment to democracy and reposing faith in free and fair democratic process and generally accepted norms of human rights;

Seeking to strengthen democratic institutions in order to improve electoral management and administration;

Considering the need to build on experience gained by the Parties and exchange expertise and other professional information;

Acknowledging the need to establish a mechanism for cooperation in the design and implementation of the electoral process and for exchange, mutual consultation and cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration;

Have reached the following understanding:

#### Article 1

The Parties undertake to promote cooperation, on mutually agreed terms and conditions in the mutually identified priority areas in the field of electoral management and administration, including:

- Promotion of exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of organizational and technical development of electoral process, with a view to developing the practice of management and administration;
- Support in exchanging information, materials, expertise and organizing training of personnel;

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- Facilitating relationships with other electoral authorities and organizations;

- Production and distribution of materials pertaining to electoral systems, voting technology, voters' education and awareness, participation of women, minorities, invalids, enhancing participation in electoral process; and
- Any other modality of cooperation as mutually agreed by the parties.

#### Article 2

With a view to maintaining an appropriate mechanism for implementation and followup of this Memorandum, the Parties shall conduct regular consultations on the following issues:

- Identifying and evaluating priority areas of cooperation in particular organizational and technical fields of activity;
- Recommending and preparing instruments designed to identify activities, programmes and projects to be executed, as well as arrangements for their implementation;
- Overseeing proper observance of and compliance with this Memorandum.

#### Article 3

Nothing in this Memorandum shall, in any way, prevent either party from entering into bilateral agreements with other countries on matters covered by this MoU.

#### Article 4

In the implementation of this Memorandum, the parties shall conclude Project Documents for organizational and technical cooperation activities, setting out the terms and conditions of such cooperation, the financial resources required and also the legal status of the personnel involved.

#### **Article 5**

Any dispute between the Parties relating to interpretation and application of this Memorandum shall be settled by negotiations or other mutually agreed mode of settlement.

#### Article 6

This Memorandum may be changed or amended by written agreement between the

Parties.

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#### Article 7

The Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until terminated by either Party upon a written notice.

Signed in New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 in five originals in Hindi, English, Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

for the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Election Commission of India

(Dr. Irena Hadžiabdić)

President

(A.K. Joti)

**Election Commissioner**