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K.J.S. Prasada Rao
Registrar

D.O. No.SF/IN/15003/03
May 23, 2003

Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque bearing No.561966 dated 23/5/2003 drawn on the State Bank of India, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110057 favouring "Registrar, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad" for Rs. 8,44,740 (Rupees eight lakhs forty-four thousand seven hundred and forty only). This is in accordance with Article 10 of the Agreement signed between BRAOU and SAF-India. A copy of the signed agreement is enclosed for your record and reference. The amount of Rs 8,44,740 is arrived on the basis of today's exchange rate of Rs 46.93 per US Dollar [US \$ 18,000 X Rs 46.93].

I shall be grateful if you could kindly have a duly stamped receipt sent to us for the amount of the cheque as also an acknowledgement of the Agreement.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

K.J.S. Prasada Rao
Registrar

Dr. V.S. Prasad
Vice Chancellor
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University
Prof. G. Ram Reddy Marg
Road No. 46, Jubilee Hills
Hyderabad 500 033

Encls: a/a

Registrar
Pl. acknowledge
VSP
26/5/2003

VCO/980
27/5/03

AGREEMENT
ENTERED INTO BETWEEN
SOUTH ASIA FOUNDATION
(hereinafter referred to as "SAF")

AND
Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Open University
(hereinafter referred to as "BRAOU")

hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"

In conformity with the decisions regarding SAF Learning Initiative (hereinafter referred to as SAFLI) taken by the Vice-Chancellors/Rectors of Open Universities and Representatives of other distance education Institutions in the SAARC countries, and approved by the Chairpersons of SAF Chapters at a meeting held on 19th February 2003, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, (hereinafter referred to as "Colombo Resolutions").

SAF and the BRAOU wish to enter into this agreement in regard to the design and implementation of SAFLI for the purpose of jointly delivering with other Institutions of distance education a Post-Graduate Diploma in Environment and Sustainable Development (PGD-ESD), together with optional IT courses for students to choose from for added credits.

Article 1

Objectives

By mutual cooperation in the field of higher education, the Open Universities and other Institutions of distance education in the SAARC countries, intend to promote regional cooperation and lifelong, secular learning that emphasises humanism and celebrates the rich heritage of South Asia's unity in diversity at all levels and sections of society.

Article 2

Implementation of the Programme

The design and development of SAFLI programme shall be implemented as stipulated in the Colombo Resolutions adopted by its Academic Council assembled for the SAF Second General Conference in Colombo on 18-19 February 2003.

Article 3

SAFLI Academic Council

1. The SAFLI Academic Council shall oversee the implementation of SAFLI programmes and its members shall serve at the discretion of their respective nominating institutions.

2. The Academic Council comprise : (i) SAF Founder Madanjeet Singh and/or his nominee (ii) A nominee of UNESCO Director-General. (iii) Vice Chancellors/Rectors of Open Universities and other Institutions of distant education in SAARC countries (iv) A nominee each of the Chairperson of SAF Chapters in countries without an Open University viz. Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives. (v) One Programme Coordinator from each University/Institution (vi) One member each from the institutions/NGOs associated with SAFLI and (vii) a SAFLI Content Coordinator (currently Prof.Suresh Garg).

Article 4

SAFLI Steering Committee

1. Subject to the provision of this Agreement, the SAFLI Steering Committee shall be responsible for the actual implementation of SAFLI programmes, advise the Academic Council and report to the Chairpersons of SAF Chapters in SAARC countries.
2. The Steering Committee shall be composed of (i) SAF Founder Madanjeet Singh and/or his nominee.(ii) A nominee of UNESCO Director-General. (iii) One Vice-Chancellor/Rector representing each National Open University in SAARC region as well as an additional Vice-Chancellor representing an Indian State Open University by rotation, determined by the date of its establishment. (iv) A nominee each of the Chairperson of SAF Chapters in countries without an Open University viz. Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives (v) SAFLI Content Coordinator (currently Prof.Suresh Garg).

Article 5

Beneficiaries of the Programme Participants

The programme shall be open to candidates from SAARC countries. Each course will be headed by a brief note stating that: "South Asia Foundation Learning Initiative (SAFLI) is designed to promote regional cooperation and lifelong, secular learning that emphasizes humanism and celebrates the rich heritage of South Asia's unity in diversity at all levels and sections of society".

Article 6

Curriculum

A Post-Graduate Diploma in Environment and Sustainable Development (PGD-ESD), shall be delivered together with optional IT courses for students to choose from for added credits. The curriculum and the total number of selected candidates for each session of the programme shall be determined by the Parties upon the recommendations of the Steering Committee/Academic Council and the respective Statutory Bodies of the participating universities/institutions.

Article 7

Resource Persons

The programmes shall be delivered by resource persons appointed by the Parties upon the recommendation of the Steering Committee/Academic Council.

Article 8

Examination and Award Process

The examination and award process of the programme shall be determined by the Parties upon the recommendation of the Steering Committee/Academic Council. The parties agree that participants having passed the required examinations shall be awarded appropriate diploma certificates by the respective institutions and these certificates shall jointly bear the logos of SAF and the diploma awarding institution.

Article 9

Delivery dates of the programmes

The delivery dates of each programme shall be agreed upon by the parties on the recommendation of the Steering Committee/Academic Council.

Article 10

Funding

To start with the entire cost for design, development of multiple media course materials shall be borne by SAF, estimated at a sum of USD 18,000/- for each course. For the course, "Globalization and Environment" each of some 350 pages for up to 1,000 copies, 1 video & 2 audio, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Open University shall receive USD 18,000/-. The agreement also stipulates that for subsequent courses, which may be added to SAFLI programmes in future, the cost shall be shared equally between SAF and the participating University/ Institution in case they offer such programmes.

Article 11

Commencement of the Agreement

This Agreement shall commence on the date upon which the Parties append their respective signatures to it. It shall become effective from the date of approval by the organs of the Parties competent to give effect to it.

Article 12

Duration of the Agreement

The activities and progress of SAFLI shall be continuously monitored jointly by SAF Chapters and the participating Open Universities/institutions. The overall SAFLI programme shall be evaluated at the end of 2006 by an independent review committee appointed by SAF Chairpersons.

Article 13

Early Termination of the Agreement

1. Either party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement by providing the other party with three calendar months advance notice in the event of the other party committing a material breach of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and failing to remedy such breach within 60 (Sixty) days after receipt of written notice calling upon such party to remedy the breach complained of. Such termination shall take effect at the end of the three-month period or the end of the course in progress at that time, whichever shall first occur.
2. The termination of this Agreement, for whatever reason, will not affect the rights of a party, which may have accrued as at the date of termination and will further not affect any rights, which specifically or by their nature survive the termination of this Agreement.

Article 14

Privileges and Immunities of SAF

Nothing in or relating to this Agreement shall be deemed a waiver of any of the Privileges and Immunities of SAF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate, in English at New Delhi On this 20th day of May...2003.

**FOR THE SOUTH
ASIA FOUNDATION**



B.G. Verghese
Executive Director, SAF-India
South Asia Foundation
A-33, Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar
New Delhi-110057
Phone: 6153721-24, Fax 6153671

**FOR Dr.B.R.AMBEDKAR OPEN
UNIVERSITY**



Prof. V.S. Prasad
Vice – Chancellor
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University
Prof. G. Ramkrishna Marg
Road No- 46, Jubilee Hills
Hyderabad-500 033. INDIA (A.P.)