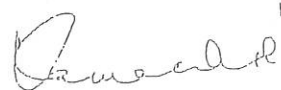
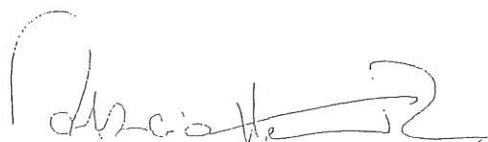


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## Agreement between India and the United Kingdom for establishment of a Joint Economic and Trade Committee

This Agreement is pursuant to the India-UK Joint Declaration made at London by the Prime Ministers of India and the UK on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2004. The Declaration resolved to establish a Ministerially-led Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) to further develop a strategic economic relationship, and develop business-led vehicles to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

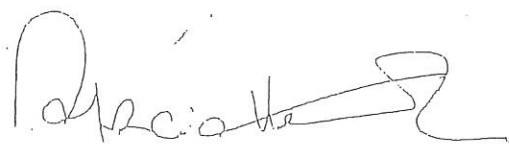
1. Accordingly, it is agreed as under:-
  - 1.1 India and the United Kingdom hereby establish a Joint Economic and Trade Committee;
  - 1.2 The Committee will be co-chaired by the Minister for Commerce & Industry of the Government of India and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry of the Government of the United Kingdom.
2. Against the background of existing or planned EU/India initiatives in the area of trade and investment, the Committee shall identify ways and means of increasing the scope of economic cooperation, including expansion of bilateral trade and investment.
3. The Committee will meet once a year or as and when considered necessary, at a date convenient to both the parties, alternately in the United Kingdom and India.
4. The Committee will discuss specific issues and sectors of economic cooperation and based on such discussions it may decide to constitute subsidiary Working Groups to deal with such specific issues/sectors. The terms of reference for such groups shall be decided by mutual agreement.
5. The Committee will encourage business-led vehicles to enhance bilateral trade and investment in traditional and non-traditional areas as identified by the Committee
6. The agenda for each meeting will be agreed in advance by both parties. A preparatory senior officials' meeting, to prepare the detailed agenda and draft recommendations for the Ministerial session, may be convened.
7. Both parties, taking into consideration the agenda of the meeting, will appoint the members for each meeting of the Committee.



8. The Committee will maintain close contact with the concerned private sector organisations in both countries and will invite business representatives to contribute towards the agenda and, where appropriate, participate in its meetings.
9. The Committee will interact with other bilateral mechanisms as required in accordance with its Terms of Reference to ensure coherence and synergy in bilateral interactions.
10. The Committee will draw up agreed minutes of its proceedings, which shall include recommendations for action, by both sides. A progress report on any recommendation shall be submitted to the next Committee meeting.
11. To facilitate implementation of these recommendations, an interim meeting of senior officials will be convened to review progress. It is envisaged that at least one such interim meeting would take place between Ministerial meetings.
12. Either party may terminate this arrangement by sending a written communication to the other party giving six months' notice in advance.
13. Nothing in the Terms of Reference of the Committee shall require the United Kingdom to take any action which would be contrary to or inconsistent with its obligations as a Member of the European Union and with the EU Common Trade Policy, or with the strategic partnership between the EU and India.
14. The Committee will become operational immediately upon the signing of this Agreement.



Minister for Commerce and  
Industry, Department of  
Commerce, Government of India



Secretary of State for Trade and  
Industry, Government of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain &  
Northern Ireland

New Delhi  
13-1-2005