

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY**

**ON TRANSPORTATION MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

The Department of Transportation of the United States of America and the Ministry of Transport and Communication of Norway, together hereinafter referred to as the Participants,

Considering the many activities and cooperative efforts taking place between different Norwegian and United States government agencies, departments and ministries with transportation portfolios;

Noting the great private sector interest in greater bilateral investment and cooperation in the transportation and infrastructure sectors in both the United States and Norway;

Taking into account the considerable cooperation and trade between the United States and Norway; and

Recognizing that the continued growth of trade and travel is dependent upon efficient transportation links between the two countries;

Have reached the following understandings in this Memorandum of Cooperation ("Memorandum") with the intent to improve systematic and ongoing technical cooperation and exchange between the Participants in support of shared transportation objectives.

**Section I**

**Overall Objective**

The Participants intend to foster cooperative work on key issues of mutual interest for all modes of transportation, coordinating public and private sector resources and expertise to advance safe, secure, efficient and integrated transportations systems under this Memorandum.

## **Section II**

### **Scope**

The Participants intend that the cooperation cover all modes of transportation, including:

1. Roads and highways;
2. Rail;
3. Maritime infrastructure;
4. Public Transportation
5. Aviation.

The Participants may identify specific areas of cooperation that focus on current and future trends in the transportation sector, common challenges, and critical policy choices and strategies that help address them. These include but are not limited to:

1. Innovation in mobility;
2. Safety and consumer protection;
3. Multimodal transportation;
4. Infrastructure financing;
5. Smart cities;
6. Emerging technologies and automation;
7. Energy efficiency and environmental protection;
8. Good regulatory practices;
9. Freight Planning;
10. Disaster preparedness and response; and
11. Other areas of mutual interest.

The Participants may conclude specific implementing arrangements, to be incorporated as annexes under this Memorandum.

## **Section III**

### **Cooperative Mechanism Framework**

1. The Participants intend to maintain regular contact to facilitate the goals and objectives of this Memorandum through designated representatives. To this end:
  - a. The Participants plan to designate at least one overall representative to be responsible for ensuring effective communication and reporting on the status of programs established in connection with this Memorandum.

- b. The Participants intend that the designated representatives consult with each other to ensure the identification and effective functioning of mutually determined activities and related matters; and, as necessary, meet in person to discuss matters or pursue activities relating to the implementation of this Memorandum.
  - c. The Participants plan to provide to each other a written list of their designated representatives within thirty (30) days from the commencement of activities in connection with this Memorandum.
  - d. The Participants should endeavor to notify each other, in writing, of all changes to their respective lists of designated representatives.
2. The Participants propose that, when warranted, high-level meetings be conducted to advance the implementation of this Memorandum.
- a. The Participants intend that the purpose of such meetings should be to review developments in research and joint activities already undertaken, develop and finalize work plans, and establish future priorities for the Participants.
  - b. To the extent feasible, the Participants intend to alternate between Norway and the United States for the meeting venue.
3. The Participants plan to jointly appoint Working Groups to address issues of common interest and to prepare work, through meetings and remote conferencing. Progress should be described in presentations at the meetings or via remote conferencing.
- a. The Participants share a desire that Working Groups undertake cooperation efforts of mutual interest, as determined by the Participants, and report the results of cooperation efforts to the Participants.
  - b. In order to facilitate cooperation efforts, Working Groups may avail themselves of the following types of cooperation:
    - i. Communication through electronic means, such as email, webinars, teleconferences and video conferences;
    - ii. Technical information exchanges;
    - iii. Coordinated research by technical experts on subjects of mutual interest;
    - iv. Joint organization of academic symposia, seminars and workshops; and
    - v. Other activities as determined by the Participants.

4. In the course of cooperation in connection with this Memorandum, the Participants may choose to consult with transportation-industry related entities and other stakeholders and interested groups and encourage direct consultations between such entities, stakeholders, and groups in both countries. Such entities or interested groups may include:

- a. Governmental entities;
- b. State, municipal or other non-Federal level entities;
- c. Private sector and academic organizations; and
- d. Other entities or groups identified by the Participants.

#### **Section IV**

##### **Resources**

Cooperation under this Memorandum is subject to the availability of funds and other resources of each Participant.

#### **Section V**

##### **Application of Laws**

Participation in this Memorandum is subject to the applicable laws, regulations and policies of the Participants.

#### **Section VI**

##### **Duration and Revision**

The activities under this Memorandum should commence on the date of signature. The Participants may decide jointly to revise this Memorandum, and any such joint decision should be in writing. Any Participant may discontinue its participation under this Memorandum at any time but should endeavor to provide sixty (60) days prior written notice to the other Participants.

Signed in \_\_\_\_\_, in duplicate, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION OF THE  
STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE MINISTRY OF  
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION UNITED  
OF NORWAY

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Anthony R. Foxx  
Secretary of Transportation

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Ketil Solvik-Olsen  
Minister of Transport and Communications