APPENDICES
APPENDICES

Appendix - 1

Moscow Declaration between India and the Russian Federation on International Terrorism


India and the Russian Federation affirm that international terrorism is a threat to peace and security, a grave violation of human rights and a crime against humanity. The struggle against international terrorism has become one of the priority tasks of the world community. This evil can be vanquished only by combining the efforts of all States.

Whatever be the motive of their perpetration – political, ideological, philosophical, racial, ethnic, religious or any other, terrorist acts are unjustifiable.

India and the Russian Federation support the adoption on the basis of international law of decisive measures against all States, individuals, and entities which render support, harbour, finance, instigate or train terrorists or promote terrorism. It is essential that all States, without exception, should pay particular attention to the prevention of access of terrorists and extremist organisations and groups to financial resources on the basis of international law.

In multi-ethnic and democratic countries such as India and the Russian Federation, violent actions being perpetrated under the slogan of self-determination, in reality represent acts of terrorism which in most cases have strong international links. In addition, all acts and methods and practices of terrorism constitute a grave violation of the purposes and the principles of the United Nations, jeopardise friendly relations amongst States and are aimed at destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democratic basis of society. Multi-ethnic and democratic societies are especially vulnerable to acts of terrorism which are an attack against the values and freedoms enshrined in such societies.

Fully resolved to developing cooperation in the struggle against new challenges in international terrorism including in the nuclear, chemical, biological, space, cybernetics and other spheres, both Sides noted the presence of close nexus between terrorism and illegal trafficking in narcotics, trade in arms and organised crime and pointed to the significance of the need for close interaction at the bilateral, as also at the multilateral level in combating these challenges to international stability and security.

India and the Russian Federation are closely following the development of the situation in and around Afghanistan and emphasise the necessity to avert the spilling over of the conflict beyond the boundaries of one region, to prevent further extension of terrorism. The Sides accorded highest priority to the continuation of effective interaction on Afghanistan in the framework of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan established between the two countries in October 2000.

India and the Russian Federation reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations in the efforts of the international community in the struggle against terrorism. They agreed that such a struggle must be conducted on the basis of international law including the United Nations Charter. In this connection, the Sides called for early completion of negotiations under U.N. auspices on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism and the Convention for the suppression of acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Adoption of these Conventions would assist in strengthening the international legal basis for effectively combating the global menace of terrorism.
Joint Statement of India and the Russian Federation on Strategic Issues
Moscow
6th November 2001
http://meaindia.nic.in/speechl2001/11/06spc02.htm

India and the Russian Federation, as strategic partners, reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate bilaterally and at the multilateral level on strategic issues for the development of a multi-polar world based on a new cooperative security order.

They noted that their bilateral relations of long-standing friendship, trust and confidence, contribute to Eurasian stability, and are a factor of global significance. They would continue their active cooperation in addressing issues of global and regional security, including threats posed by terrorism and extremism.

Dialogue and consultation among the countries concerned would be crucial in bringing about a new framework of security that would promote global peace and security and stability. Both sides would undertake joint efforts, bilaterally and in multilateral forums, in promoting this objective.

Both sides expressed their support to preserving existing arms control and disarmament agreements, including the ABM Treaty. The two sides consider as of priority importance strengthening regional and international security as well as support for advancing towards general and complete disarmament, in particular by systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally with the ultimate goal of eliminating these weapons.

They reaffirmed their support for the UN Secretary General’s proposal noted by the Millennium Declaration for an International Conference to address and effectively eliminate nuclear dangers and for the proposal to convene the fourth Special Session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament.

India welcomed the readiness of Russia and the United States to further reduce their strategic offensive weapons. India and Russia called upon other nuclear weapon states also to join the process of nuclear reductions at an appropriate stage. As original states-parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, both sides stressed their commitment to ensuring that the provisions of the Convention are fully and effectively implemented and called upon other states to do so.

Both sides reiterated the importance of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament-negotiating forum and stressed that this body should respond to the global disarmament agenda through multilaterally negotiated, internationally and effectively verifiable disarmament agreements. They stressed their readiness to work with others for an early commencement of negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament for banning the future production of weapon grade fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.

With a view to ensuring the non-weaponisation of outer space, while at the same time preserving the use of space for the full range of cooperative, peaceful and developmental activities, both sides called upon the international community to make efforts for concluding appropriate legally binding instruments towards that end including the proposal for a comprehensive agreement on banning the deployment of weapons in outer space, non-use of force or threat of the use of force against space objects.

They declared their readiness to work jointly with other states on the creation of a Global Control System for non-proliferation of missiles and missile technologies on a global, equal and non-discriminatory basis, under the UN auspices. They attach special significance to the preparation of the UN Secretary General’s Report on Missiles during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly.
Both sides are determined to maintaining and further strengthening their already effective and transparent system of national export controls, in line with the objectives of non-proliferation in all its aspects without adversely effecting the peaceful applications of dual use materials and technologies. Both sides shall continue to consult on a regular basis on strategic issues.

Moscow
6th November, 2001
Joint Statement of India and the Russian Federation
http://meaindia.nic.in/speech/2001/11/06spc03.htm

Appendix – 3

At the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, His Excellency Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, paid a state visit to the Russian Federation from November 4-7, 2001. This visit was in line with the agreement to have annual Summit Meetings outlined in the Declaration on Strategic Partnership signed at the time of the State visit to India by President Putin in October 2000.

During his visit to the Russian Federation, Prime Minister Vajpayee met with President Putin, Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation Mr. Mikhail Kasyanov and Speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation Mr. Gennady Seleznyev. Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation and Co-Chairman of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission (IRIGC) for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation and IRIGC for Military-Technical Cooperation Mr. Ilya Klebanov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr. Igor Ivanov and Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation Mr. Sergei Ivanov called on Prime Minister Vajpayee.

Prime Minister Vajpayee was conferred an Honorary Doctorate by the Moscow State University. Prime Minister Vajpayee also visited St. Petersburg where he attended a dinner hosted by Mr. Vladimir Yakovlev, Governor of the St. Petersburg Regional Administration. He inaugurated an exhibition of Indian paintings at the Russian Museum.

A Moscow Declaration on International Terrorism was signed by the Prime Minister of India and the President of the Russian Federation. A number of other bilateral documents were signed for strengthening cooperation in other fields. A Joint Statement on Strategic Issues was agreed upon. During the meetings, discussions took place on bilateral matters, and on regional and international issues of mutual interest. The talks were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere in the true spirit of the strategic partnership existing between the two countries. Both Sides stressed upon the time-tested relationship between India and the Russian Federation which has been marked by continuity, trust and mutual understanding. A close identity of views was noted on issues of mutual global interest.

The Sides stressed the significance of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership signed by President of the Russian Federation and the Prime Minister of India in October 2000 which has elevated the multifaceted ties between the countries to a qualitatively new and higher level, has laid a strong foundation for further development of Indo-Russian relations, and strengthened common understanding and trust between them. Both Sides highlighted the forward movement in bilateral relations pursuant to the decisions taken during the visit of President Putin. They agreed to give greater depth, span and content to their bilateral relations and identified steps to further strengthen them. The Sides noted the excellent political contacts between the two countries. This has been marked in the regular meetings at the Ministerial and other levels besides exchanges between the Parliamentary, Judicial as well as other Constitutional bodies. Both sides attached importance to regular and in depth Foreign Office Consultations on a wide range of issues, including strategic stability.

A comprehensive review of the trade and economic relations between the two countries was undertaken. Both sides confirmed their intention to make efforts at the diversification and establishment of new settlement procedures in the area of trade and economic cooperation. A need to focus on promoting investment, boosting trade as well as removing barriers in trade was emphasised. It was noted that the decisions taken during the Seventh session of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC) helped in the promotion of
cooperation in important areas such as civil aviation, energy and information technology. In this connection, the Inter Session Review Meeting of the Co-Chairmen held in New Delhi in October 2001 was considered significant for the further intensification of trade and economic relations between the two countries. The signing of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Promotion of Aviation Safety has opened up broad prospects for the development of bilateral ties in civil aviation. The Confederation of Indian Industries signed an agreement with the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs on setting up of representative offices in Moscow and New Delhi respectively. EXIM Bank of India signed an agreement to extend a credit line of US $ 10 million with the Vnesheconombank of the Russian Federation. The State Bank of India and the Canara Bank also reached agreement with the Central Bank of Russia for setting up a branch in Moscow. These steps will further boost bilateral trade relations between the two countries. Both sides agreed to encourage further cooperation in the area of Information Technology and Computerisation.

Emphasizing that a promising area of cooperation between the two countries was in the energy sector which is expected to occupy a central place in their bilateral relations in the coming years, the two Sides welcomed the conclusion of the agreement on participation of ONGC Videsh Limited in the Sakhalin-I oil and gas project in the Russian Federation.

Keeping in view the increasing importance of energy security, both Sides noted the growing significance of the energy sector in their bilateral relations and expressed their common desire to intensify long term collaborative efforts in this regard. Expert level discussions would be held on a possible setting up of an institutional mechanism to carry forward cooperation in the area of energy security. The Sides reiterated their commitment to continue their cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy as well as outer space. A "Memorandum on Implementation of Kudankulam NPP Project" was signed.

Both Sides took note of the successful development of scientific and technological cooperation between them and the establishment of the Joint Council for Implementation of the Integrated Long-Term Program of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between India and Russia for the period up to 2010. The Sides recalled the traditional contacts in the field of culture between the two countries and emphasised that steps need to be taken for further strengthening these ties. Three Chairs and two projects of cooperation relating to Indology were established at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kazan, and Vladivostok.

The Sides stressed that they attach importance to the development of ties between the regions of the Russian Federation and the States and Union Territories of India. They attach importance to the activities of the Working Group for Regional Cooperation under the IRIGC. Agreements were reached on the establishment of partner-relations and cooperation between the Astrakhan region in the Russian Federation and the Gujarat state in India.

The Sides noted that military-technical cooperation has acquired a new dimension covering not only trade in arms and military equipment, but also joint research and development of new projects. They considered that the First Session of the Inter Governmental Commission for Military and Technological Cooperation held in June 2001 in Moscow was mutually beneficial and productive.

The Eminent Persons Group, agreed to during President Putin's visit to India with the objective to render assistance and prepare recommendations to the Governments of both countries in connection with various initiatives aimed at a further development of bilateral relations, strengthening of cooperation on regional and international issues, will be meeting early next year in New Delhi.

The Sides expressed satisfaction over the interaction between the National Security Council of India and the Security Council of the Russian Federation. They noted that the regular meetings of the Working Groups established under the Indo-Russian Protocol of Cooperation between the two Councils would help in further strengthening this cooperation. Both Sides consider it one of the most pressing objectives of today to strengthen regional and global stability and international security. A Joint Statement of India and the Russian Federation on Strategic Issues was agreed to during the visit.

Both Sides reaffirmed their commitment to promote the formation of an equitable multipolar world order based on the principles of rule of law and equality, territorial integrity and non-interference in domestic affairs of States, with a view to removing threats to stability and international security. They expressed their desire for the further reform of the United Nations in order to strengthen its central role in international
affairs. They agreed on the advisability to expand the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to make it more representative and increase its effectiveness. The Russian Federation reiterated that it supports India, an influential member of the international community, as a strong and appropriate candidate for the permanent membership of the expanded UNSC. Both Parties will actively cooperate within the United Nations to ensure an effective implementation of the Millennium Summit Declaration.

The Sides reaffirmed that global terrorism is a threat to international peace and security. Cooperation to combat terrorism is becoming an imperative of contemporary international reality. The two Sides believe that combating this menace should be on a comprehensive and long-term basis and should be directed also at those supporting, harbouring or providing safe haven to terrorists. India and the Russian Federation intend to make their full contribution to the establishment of such a system. They proceed from the understanding that terrorist acts admit no justification under any political, ethnic, religious, social, economic, or other grounds. Terrorism is an absolute evil; it is a global scourge to be collectively countered.

The two Sides expressed their satisfaction with the level of cooperation between India and the Russian Federation in countering international terrorism and other transnational organised crimes, which fuel terrorism, including drug trafficking. The two Sides reiterated their resolve to continue and coordinate efforts for strengthening the international legal basis for combating these challenges. In this regard, they stressed the need for the early finalisation of the Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in the UN. A Moscow Declaration on International Terrorism was agreed upon between Prime Minister Vajpayee and President Putin during the visit.

Both Sides expressed their commitment to the territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan. They agreed that for peace and stability to return to Afghanistan, it was essential to ensure the establishment of a broad-based independent government with representation from all ethnic groups. Both Sides stressed that there could be no place for elements of the Taliban in any future Afghan government. They underscored the important role the international community would have to play in the political, social and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan and in this context agreed to ensure close coordination between them to ensure the success of all such endeavours.

Both Sides also discussed the on-going operations in Afghanistan. They emphasized that this could be at best a first phase in the campaign against international terrorism which must be pursued to its logical end. For this, it was essential that every State be made to refrain from organising, instigating, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in another State, or acquiescing in organised activities within its territories directed towards the commission of such acts. They also called for the full and unconditional implementation of the relevant UNSC Resolutions on terrorism.

Both Sides remain deeply concerned over the threat to security and stability in Central Asia posed by international terrorism and religious extremism. The Sides noted with satisfaction that the two countries hold similar position on issues concerning Central Asia. In their view, regional cooperation can play an important role in stabilization of the situation in the Central Asian region.

The Sides shared their concerns over the developments in the Middle East, which is still passing through a crisis. They spoke in favor of adoption of urgent measures to resume Israeli-Palestinian dialogue on the basis of the Mitchell plan. The Sides expressed their conviction that there existed no alternative to the peace process there and declared the need to ensure a just, lasting and comprehensive peace on the basis of the Madrid principles, and, first and foremost, the relevant UN Resolutions, and the “land for peace” principle.

The two Sides believe that the response to the present threats and challenges to security in the Asia-Pacific region, including the escalation of terrorist acts, violent forms of extremism and separatism, should be sought through the consolidation of efforts of all the States concerned. The importance of the work within the ASEAN Regional Forum, with a view to promoting trust in the political and military sphere with future application of preventive diplomacy methods, was emphasized. India and the Russian Federation expressed their mutual readiness to further enhance constructive interaction with the countries of the Asia Pacific region in the bilateral and multilateral formats in the interests of stability and security in this vast region.
Both Sides expressed their conviction that the visit of the Prime Minister of India to the Russian Federation and the discussions held would facilitate further development of strategic partnership between the two countries, expansion of bilateral cooperation and interaction aimed at strengthening international strategic stability and in the building of a just, fair, democratic and multi-polar world order.

His Excellency Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, extended an invitation to His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, to visit India which was accepted with pleasure. The dates of the visit would be finalised through diplomatic channels.

National Security Concept of the Russian Federation
Approved by Presidential Decree No. 1300 of 17 December 1999
January 18, 2000

The national security concept of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the Concept) constitutes a system of views on ensuring the security of the individual, society and the state from external and internal threats in all spheres of life in the Russian Federation. The Concept formulated the key directions of the state policy of the Russian Federation. The national security of the Russian Federation is interpreted as the security of its multinational people as the bearer of sovereignty and the only source of power in the Russian Federation.

I. Russia in the World Community

The situation in the world is noted for a dynamic transformation of the system of international relations. Two mutually excluding trends dominate them now that the age of bipolar confrontation is over. The first trend is seen in the strengthening of economic and political positions of a considerable number of states and their integration associations, and in the improvement of the mechanisms of multilateral guidance of international processes.

Economic, political, research-technical, ecological and information factors are coming to play an ever greater role. Russia will facilitate the development of an ideology of the creation of a multipolar world on this basis.

The second trend is seen in the attempt to create a structure of international relations based on the domination of developed Western countries, led by the USA, in the international community and providing for unilateral solution of the key problems of global politics, above all with the use of military force, in violation of the fundamental norms of international law.

The development of international relations is accompanied with competition and the striving of some countries to reinforce their influence on world politics, in particular by creating mass destruction weapons. The significance of military force in international relations remains considerable.

Russia is one of the world's largest countries, with a long history and rich cultural traditions. Despite the complicated international situation and internal problems, it continues to objectively play an important role in world processes, in view of its considerable economic, research-technical and military potential and unique situation on the Eurasian continent.

In the future, Russia will become deeper integrated into the world economy and develop its collaboration with international economic and financial institutes. Objectively, there is a community of the interests of Russia and the interests of other states on many problems of international security, including resistance to the proliferation of mass destruction weapons, prevention and settlement of regional conflicts, struggle with international terrorism and drug trafficking, the solution of acute global ecological problems, including problems of ensuring nuclear and radiation safety.

At the same time, some states have stepped up their efforts to weaken Russia's positions in the political, economic, military and other spheres. The attempts to ignore the interests of Russia when tackling major
problems of international relations, including conflict situations, can undermine international security and stability and slow down the ongoing positive changes in international relations.

The problem of terrorism, which is transnational in nature and threatens stability in the world, has grown in many countries, including the Russian Federation, which calls for pooling the efforts of the international community and raising the effectiveness of the available forms and methods of combating this threat and taking emergency measures to neutralise it.

II. The National Interests of Russia

The national interests of Russia is a combination of balanced interests of the individual, society and the state in the economic, domestic political, social, international, information, military, border, ecological and other spheres. They are long-term and determine the basic goals, strategic and current tasks of the domestic and foreign policy of the country.

National interests are ensured by the institutes of state power, which operate, in particular, jointly with the public organisations working on the basis of the Constitution and legislation of the Russian Federation.

The interests of the individual boil down to the implementation of constitutional rights and freedoms, the ensurance of personal security, the raising of the quality and standards of life, and physical, spiritual and intellectual development of the man and citizen.

The interests of society boil down to the development of democracy, the creation of a social state ruled by law, the attainment and maintenance of social accord, and the spiritual renewal of Russia.

The interests of the state boil down to the inviolability of the constitutional regime, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Russia, political, economic and social stability, the unquestionable ensurance of legality and the maintenance of law and order, and the development of equitable and mutually beneficial international cooperation.

The implementation of the national interests of Russia is possible only on the basis of stable economic development. This is why the national interests of Russia in this sphere are key to all other interests.

In the domestic political sphere, the national interests of Russia boil down to maintaining the stability of the constitutional regime and the institutes of state power, ensuring civic peace and national accord, territorial integrity and the integrity of the legal space, law and order, the completion of the development of a democratic society, as well as the neutralisation of the reasons and conditions, which facilitate the appearance of political and religious extremism, ethnic separatism and their consequences, namely social, ethnic and religious conflicts and terrorism. The national interests of Russia in the social sphere boil down to ensuring high living standards for the people.

National interests in the spiritual life boil down to maintaining and developing the moral values of society, the traditions of patriotism and humanism, and the cultural and research potential of the country.

The national interests of Russia in the international sphere boil down to ensuring the sovereignty and reinforcing the position of Russia as a great power and one of the influential centres of the multipolar world, developing equitable and mutually beneficial relations with all countries and integration associations, above all the countries members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Russia's traditional partners, all-round respect for human rights and freedoms and inadmissibility of double standards in this sphere.

The national interests of Russia in the information sphere boil down to compliance with the constitutional civil rights and freedoms in acquiring and using information, the development of modern telecommunication technologies, and the protection of state information resources from unwarranted access.

The national interests of Russia in the military sphere boil down to the protection of its independence, sovereignty, state and territorial integrity, the prevention of a military aggression against Russia and its allies, and the creation of conditions for a peaceful, democratic development of the state.
The national interests of Russia in the border sphere boil down to the creation of political, legal, organisational and other conditions necessary for ensuring a reliable protection of the state borders of the Russian Federation, and compliance with the procedure and rules of economic and other forms of operation in the border space of the Russian Federation as stipulated by the Russian legislation. The national interests of Russia in the ecological sphere boil down to the maintenance and improvement of the environment.

The key elements of the national interests of Russia are the protection of the individual, society and the state from terrorism, including international terrorism, and emergency situations of the natural and technogenic nature and their consequences, as well as from the dangers arising from hostilities or as the consequence of such hostilities in wartime.

III. Threats to the National Security of Russia

The current situation in the Russian economy, the inadequate organisation of state power and the civic society, the socio-political polarisation of Russian society and the spread to crime to social relations, the growth of organised crime and terrorism, the aggravation of national and deterioration of international relations create a wide range of internal and external threats to the national security of the country.

Threats in the economic sphere are comprehensive and determined above all by the considerable reduction of the domestic gross product, the investment and innovation activities and research-plan technical potential, the stagnation of the agrarian sector, the unbalanced bank system, the growing domestic and foreign debts, and the domination of fuel, energy and materials in Russia's exports, and of foods and consumer goods, including basic necessities, in imports.

The weakening of the research-technical and technological potential of the country, dwindling research in the strategic spheres of research-technical progress, the exodus of specialists and intellectual property abroad threaten Russia with the loss of leading positions in the world, the degradation of science-intensive industries, growing technological development on foreign countries, and the weakening of its defence ability.

Negative economic processes underlie the separatist trends in some members of the Russian Federation. This aggravates political instability, weakens the common economic space of Russia and its key component parts, namely the industrial- technological and transport contacts, the financial-banking, credit and tax systems.

Economic disintegration, social differentiation of society and devaluation of spiritual values contribute to the growth of tensions in relations between the regions and the centre and threaten the federative system and the socio-economic structure of the Russian Federation.

Ethnic egotism, ethnic centrism and chauvinism, for which some public organisations are noted, as well as uncontrolled migration facilitate the growth of nationalism, political and religious extremism and ethnic separatism, and create conditions for the development of conflicts. The common legal space of the country is being undermined by neglect for the principle of the domination of the norms of the Constitution of the Russian Federation over other legal norms, of federal legal norms over the legal norms of the Russian Federation, and by inadequate state guidance at different levels.

The threat of spreading crime to social relations, which are developing in the process of the reform of the socio-political system and economic operation of the country, is becoming particularly great. Major mistakes made at the initial stage of reforms in the economic, military, law-enforcement and other spheres of state operation, the weakening of the system of state regulation and control, the inadequate legal base and the absence of a strong state policy in the social sphere, and the dwindling spiritual and moral potential of society are the basic factors facilitating the growth of crime, especially organised crime, and corruption.

The consequences of these mistakes can be seen in the weakening of legal control over the situation in the country, the integration of some elements of the executive and legislative branches of power with criminal structures, the spread of crime to the control of banking and big business, major enterprises, trade establishments and producer networks. Consequently, the struggle against organised crime and corruption is not just a legal, but a political task.
The scale of terrorism and organised crime grows owing to the frequent conflicts over the change of the form of property, the growing struggle for power on the basis of group and ethnic-national interests. The absence of an effective system for social prevention of transgression, the inadequate legal material and technical base of the efforts to prevent terrorism and organised crime, legal nihilism, and the exodus of qualified personnel from the law-enforcement agencies increase the influence of this threat on the individual, society and the state.

The stratification of society into a small group of rich and the overwhelming majority of low-income citizens, the growth in the number of citizens who live below the poverty line and the growth of unemployment pose a threat to the national security of Russia in the social sphere. The crisis of the health and social protection systems, the growth of alcohol consumption and drug addiction threaten the physical health of the nation.

The consequences of the deep social crisis are the dramatic reduction of the birth rate and life expectancy in the country, the distortion of the demographic and social structure of society, the depletion of the labour resources as the basis of the development of industries, the weakening of the family as the fundamental element of society, and the fall of the spiritual, moral and creative potential of the population.

The deepening of the crisis in the domestic political, social and spiritual spheres can result in the loss of democratic achievements. The main threats in the international sphere are determined by the following factors:

* the striving of individual states and inter-state associations to lower the role of the existing mechanisms of ensuring international security, above all the UN and the OSCE;

* the danger of weakening the political, economic and military influence of Russia in the world;

* the strengthening of military-political blocs and unions, above all the eastward enlargement of NATO;

* the possible appearance of foreign military bases and large military contingents in direct proximity to the Russian borders;

* the proliferation of mass destruction weapons and their delivery vehicles;

* the weakening of the integration processes in the Commonwealth of Independent States;

* the appearance and escalation of conflicts close to the state borders of the Russian Federation and the external borders of countries members of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

* Claims to the territory of the Russian Federation.

Threats to the national security of the Russian Federation in the international sphere can be seen in the attempts of other states to hinder the strengthening of Russia as a centre of influence in the multipolar world, prevent the implementation of its national interests and weaken its positions in Europe, the Middle East, the Transcaucasus, Central Asia and Asia Pacific.

Terrorism poses a serious threat to the national security of the Russian Federation. International terrorism has launched an open campaign designed to destabilise the situation in Russia. There are growing threats to the national security of the Russian Federation in the information sphere. There is a major threat in the striving of some countries to dominate the world information space and oust Russia from the foreign and domestic information market; the elaboration by some countries of a concept of information wars, which provides for the creation of means of dangerous influence on the information spheres of other world countries; the disruption of the normal operation of the information and telecommunication systems and of the safety of the information resources, as well as attempts to gain unwarranted access to them.

The level and scales of military threats have been growing. The transition of NATO to the use of force (military force) beyond the zone of its responsibility and without the sanction of the UN Security Council,
which has been elevated to the level of a strategic doctrine, is fraught with the destabilisation of the strategic situation in the world.

The growing technological surge of some leading powers and their growing possibilities to create new-generation weapons and military hardware are creating prerequisites for a qualitatively new stage in the arms race and a dramatic change in the forms and methods of waging hostilities.

The operation of foreign special services and the organisations, which they are using, has been growing in scale on the territory of the Russian Federation. The growth of negative trends in the military sphere is facilitated by the drawn-out reform of the military organisation and defence industries of the Russian Federation, the insufficient financing of national defences and the inadequate normative legal base. This can be seen now in the critically low standard of operational and combat training of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, other troops, military formations and agencies, inadmissible fall in the provision of modern weapons, military and specialised hardware to the troops (forces), and extremely acute social problems, which negatively affects the military security of the Russian Federation as a whole.

Threats to the national security and interests of the Russian Federation in the border sphere are determined by:

* economic, demographic and cultural-religious expansion of the adjacent states into the Russian territory;

* the growing activity of the transborder organised crime and foreign terrorist organisations.

The threat of the deterioration of the ecological situation in the country and the depletion of its natural resources directly depend on the economic situation and the readiness of society to accept the global nature and significance of these problems. This threat is especially great in Russia owing to the priority development of the fuel and energy industries, the underdeveloped nature protection legislation, the absence or limited use of nature-saving technologies, and a low ecological culture. There is a trend for using the territory of Russia for processing and burial of materials and substances which present an environmental hazard.

In this situation, the weakening of state control and the low effectiveness of the legal and economic mechanisms of preventing and liquidating emergency situations increase the risk of technogenic catastrophes in all spheres of economic operation.

PnP Consortium looks 10 years ahead

http://www.nato.int/doculupdatel2008/06-juneel0618a.html

NATO Secretary General opened a conference celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Partnership for Peace (PnP) Consortium of Defence Academies and Security Studies Institutes on 18 June 2008.

The PnP Consortium was established in 1998 to help promote education in topics related to security. It does this by facilitating cooperation between both civilian and military institutions in NATO and Partnership for Peace countries. Participating organizations include universities, research institutions and training centres, both military and civilians.

The Consortium operates by establishing working groups that bring together experts, policy-makers, and defence and security practitioners to pool information and develop products (such as educational tools or scholarly publications).

The PnP Consortium’s “focus on education and training promotes the mental transformation that must underpin any lasting security order,” said NATO Secretary General, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer. “It has become the flagship of Defence Institution Building and plays a major role in security sector reform.”
Also speaking was the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Partnership Strategy, Mr. Gregory Gross, who underlined the need for the Alliance to focus on partners’ capacity building “outside and beyond the Euro-Atlantic region”. To the Consortium, he issued the challenge “not to rest on past achievements”, but to continue evolving as the world changes.

Declaration on Establishment of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

The heads of state of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People’s Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan highly appraise the positive role played by the "Shanghai Five", in the five years since its founding, in promoting and deepening mutual trust, relations of friendship and good-neighbourliness among the member states, consolidating regional security and stability and facilitating common development;

Unanimously recognise that the founding and development of the "Shanghai Five" have conformed to the post cold-war historic trend that mankind aspires to peace and development, shown the great potentiality of peaceful and friendly coexistence, unity and cooperation realized through mutual respect and confidence by countries with different civilization backgrounds and traditional cultures;

Point out, in particular, that the two agreements signed by the five heads of state of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People’s Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan respectively in Shanghai in 1996 and in Moscow in 1997, on confidence-building in the military sphere in border areas and on mutual reduction of military forces in the border areas, and the summary documents signed during their meetings in Alma-Ata (1998), Bishkek (1999), Dushanbe (2000), have made important contributions to preserving regional and world peace, security and stability, greatly enriched contemporary diplomatic and regional cooperation practices and exerted extensive and positive influence in the international society;

Firmly believe that against a background of the rapid development of the process of political multipolarisation and information globalisation in the 21st century, it is conducive to the member states more effectively jointly making use of the opportunities and replying to the new challenges and threats; and hereby solemnly declare:

1. The Republic of Kazakhstan, the People’s Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan have founded the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
2. The purposes of the SCO are: strengthening mutual trust and good-neighbourly friendship among the member states; encouraging effective cooperation among the member states in political, economic and trade, scientific and technological, cultural, educational, energy, communications, environment and other fields; devoting themselves jointly to preserving and safeguarding regional peace, security and stability; and establishing a democratic, fair and rational new international political and economic order.
3. The SCO shall hold a formal meeting of heads of state of the member states a year, hold meetings of heads of government regularly; the meetings shall be held in rotation among the member states. With a view to expanding and strengthening cooperation in all fields, in addition to the established meeting mechanisms for the leaders of the relevant departments, new meeting mechanisms may be set up in accordance with circumstances, and permanent and temporary expert groups may be formed to study work plans and proposals for further developing cooperation.
4. The "Shanghai Spirit" formed during the "Shanghai Five" process, with "mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for multicultures, striving for common development" as its basic contents, has been precious treasure accumulated in the cooperation among the countries of the region in recent years. This spirit should be carried forward so that it will become the norm governing relations among the SCO member states in the new century.
5. The SCO member states shall abide by strictly the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, mutually respect independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, not interfere in each other’s internal affairs, not use or threaten to use force against each other, adhere to
equality and mutual benefit, resolve all problems through mutual consultations and not seek unilateral military superiority in contiguous regions.

6. The SCO has been evolved on the basis of the two agreements signed respectively in 1996 in Shanghai and in 1997 in Moscow on confidence-building in the military sphere in the border areas and on mutual reduction of military forces in border areas. Its cooperation has been expanded to political, economic and trade, cultural, scientific and technological, and other areas. The principles embodied in the above-mentioned agreements have determined the basis of the mutual relations among the SCO member states.

7. The SCO adheres to the principle of non-alignment, does not target any other country or region, and is open to the outside. It is ready to develop various forms of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation with other countries, international and regional organisations. On the basis of consensus, it shall admit as its new members those countries which recognise the cooperation purposes and tasks within the framework of the organisation, the principles expounded in Article 6 of the this declaration and other articles, and whose joining will facilitate the realisation of cooperation.

8. The SCO sets special store by and makes all necessary efforts to ensure regional security. The member states will cooperate closely to implement the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, including setting up an Antiterrorist Center of the SCO in Bishkek. Moreover, relevant multilateral cooperation documents will be formulated to restrain illegal weapons and narcotics smuggling, illegal immigration and other criminal activities.

9. The SCO will make use of the huge potential and extensive opportunities in the mutually beneficial cooperation in economic and trade fields among its member states, strive to enhance further development of both bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the member states and plurality of this cooperation. For this purpose, a negotiating process on trade and investment facilitation will be initiated within the framework of the SCO to formulate an outline of long-term, multilateral economic and trade cooperation and relevant documents will be signed.

10. The SCO member states will strengthen their consultations and coordination of activities in regional and international affairs, support and cooperate with each other closely on major international and regional issues, and jointly promote and consolidate peace and stability of the region and the world. In the current international situation, it is of particular significance to preserve global strategic balance and stability.

11. To coordinate the cooperation of the departments in charge of the SCO member states and organise their mutual collaboration, a National Coordinators Council of the SCO member states is hereby set up and foreign ministers of the SCO member states will approve the council's temporary rules to regulate its activities.

12. The heads of state instruct the National Coordinators Council, on the basis of this declaration and the documents signed by the heads of state of the "Shanghai Five", to start drafting the Charter of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation which, among other things, shall clearly enunciate the purposes, goals and tasks of future cooperation of the SCO, the principle and procedures for the admission of new members, legal effect of the decisions made and the way to conduct mutual coordination with other international organisations. The document will be signed at the 2002 meeting of heads of state.

Summarising the past and looking forward into the future, the heads of state firmly believe that the founding of the SCO marks the entry into a brand new development phase for the cooperation of the member states. This is in conformity with the trend of the times, the realities of this region and the fundamental interests of the peoples of the member states.

**Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism**

Shanghai, June 15, 2001


The Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"), guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations concerning primarily the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of friendly relations and cooperation among States; aware of the fact that terrorism, separatism and extremism constitute a threat to international peace and security, the promotion of friendly relations among States as well as the exercise of basic human rights and liberties; acknowledging that the mentioned phenomena pose a serious threat to the territorial integrity and security of
States, as well as their political, economic and social stability; guided by the principles of the Almaty Joint Statement of 3 July 1998, the Bishkek Declaration of 25 August 1999, the Dushanbe Declaration of 5 July 2000 and the Declaration on the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation of 15 June 2001; firmly convinced that terrorism, separatism and extremism, as defined in this Convention, regardless of their motives, cannot be justified under any circumstances, and that the perpetrators of such acts should be prosecuted under the law; believing that joint efforts by the Parties within the framework of this Convention are an effective form of combating terrorism, separatism and extremism, have agreed as follows:

Article I

For the purposes of this Convention, the terms used in it shall have the following meaning:

1) "terrorism" means any act recognized as an offence in one of the treaties listed in the Annex to this Convention (hereinafter referred to as "the Annex") and as defined in this Treaty; there act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict or to cause major damage to any material facility, as well as to organize, plan, aid and abet such act, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, violate public security or to compel public authorities or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act, and prosecuted in accordance with the national laws of the Parties;

2) "separatism" means any act intended to violate territorial integrity of a State including by annexation of any part of its territory or to disintegrate a State, committed in a violent manner, as well as planning and preparing, and abetting such act, and subject to criminal prosecuting in accordance with the national laws of the Parties;

3) "Extremism" is an act aimed at seizing or keeping power through the use of violence or changing violently the constitutional regime of a State, as well as a violent encroachment upon public security, including organization, for the above purposes, of illegal armed formations and participation in them, criminally prosecuted in conformity with the national laws of the Parties.

Chronology of SCO summits


SHANGHAI, June 15(Xinhua) — The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) holds its sixth annual summit here on Thursday. The following is a chronology of SCO summits.

- June 15, 2001, presidents of China, Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan hold the first SCO summit in Shanghai, at which a joint statement is issued to announce Uzbekistan's participation into the "Shanghai Five," the launch of the SCO and the Shanghai convention on crackdown on terrorism, separatism and extremism.

- June 7, 2002, the second SCO summit convenes in Russia's second largest city of St. Petersburg. The documents signed at the summit include the charter of the SCO, the agreement on setting upon anti-terrorism agency and the presidents' declaration charting the regional organization's goals.

- May 29, 2003, the heads of state from the six SCO member states hold their third summit in Moscow to discuss ways to meet challenges and strengthen cooperation in the region. At the summit, consensus is reached on the institutionalization of the regional body and on some major international issues. In a joint declaration, the leaders vow to further develop a comprehensive partnership among the six countries to face new threats and challenges.

- June 17, 2004, the fourth SCO summit meeting is held in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent. At the summit, presidents of the six SCO member states formally launch the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure and pledge to cooperate in fighting terrorism and new security threats and in strengthening their economic and trade ties.

- In June 17, 2004, the fourth SCO summit meeting was held in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent. At the summit, all the member-states formally launched the Regional Anti-Terrorist structure and pledged to cooperate in fighting terrorism and new security threats and in strengthening their economic and trade ties.

- July 5, 2005, SCO leaders hold their fifth summit in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan, to discuss measures to strengthen unity and further cooperation in economy, security and people-related affairs. At the summit, agreements are inked for fighting the three "evil forces" of terrorism, separatism and extremism and on assistance in emergency relief in disasters.
TASHKENT, June 13 (Xinhua) — The regional anti-terror agency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has been successful since it was put into motion here two years ago, said Vyacheslav Kasimov, director of the agency's executive committee.

In an interview with Xinhua ahead of the 2006 SCO summit to be held in Shanghai on Thursday, Kasimov said his agency has effectively carried out international anti-terror cooperation, adopted early-warning and prevention measures to help keep the overall security situation of SCO member countries stable.

According to the plans outlined by the Astana summit last July, the anti-terror agency coordinated military drills in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan with an eye on boosting the SCO states' capability to deal with emergencies situations, Kasimov said.

The Tashkent-based agency hosted a meeting of SCO member countries on fighting money laundering and financial terrorism last December on which all participants vowed to strengthen cooperation, the official added. The agency spared no efforts to collect information about extremist organizations and terror suspects and posted the blacklist on the website, Kasimov said, adding the agency also established working relations with other regional anti-terror groups and relevant UN agencies.

But the official noted that the legal basis for the agency is still in the buildup process. At Thursday's summit, the heads of state are expected to sign a cooperation compendium on fighting the "three evil forces" during the 2007-2009 period, he said. As for the future priorities of the regional anti-terror agency, Kasimov said the most important task is to set up a security database to improve information analysis against terror.

The SCO body was set up in June 2004 to facilitate cooperation among the six SCO member states in their fight against terrorism, separatism and extremism. The SCO groups China, Russia and four Central Asian countries — Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
We will continue to give a firm joint rebuff to attempts at disturbing the peace and tranquility in Central Asia. In this context we note the importance of the formation by the TCS member states of Collective Rapid Deployment Forces and intend to ensure the solution of this task in the nearest future.

We declare the resolve of our states to continue to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation between foreign affairs, law enforcement and security agencies, and to ensure harmonization of national laws in the area of fighting against terrorism and extremism. We will combine tough counteraction against this phenomenon with measures of narrowing their social base, inter alia by way of sustained economic development and the satisfaction of the social and cultural requirements of the population. The active struggle by the states parties to the Treaty on Collective Security against terrorism and extremism is an important factor in the ensuring of international security and stability. We call on all states to cooperate in the accomplishment of this common task.

We reiterate the readiness of our countries for close cooperation with the international community also in neutralizing the seat of tension in Afghanistan and assisting the political settlement of the Afghan conflict under the aegis of the UN in every way. We call on all states to comply with UN Security Council resolution 1333 of December 19, 2000. We are convinced that the efforts of our states in the fight against terrorism and extremism, fully based on the provisions of the antiterrorist conventions and other rules of international law, will, as before, be supported by our CIS partners and the world community.

We reaffirm that cooperation among the states parties to the Treaty on Collective Security is not directed against other countries and bears an open and transparent character.

Appendix -11

The Antiterrorist Centre of the CIS Member States (Factsheet) 8-12-2000

By a decision of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States of June 21, 2000, the question of establishing an Antiterrorist Center (ATC) was basically approved. The meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the CIS held on December 1, 2000, in Minsk endorsed finally the CIS Antiterrorist Center Statute, the size of its staff, and the procedure and volume of financial support of its activity.

The decision to set up the ATC was signed by the Heads of State of the Azerbaijani Republic (with special opinion), the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, Georgia (with reservation), the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan and Ukraine (with reservation).

The Azerbaijani Republic in its special opinion noted that it "will take part in the work of the ATC of the CIS Member States based on the understanding that the Center's activity bears an information-analytical, advisory character, and will be guided by the conformance of each of the measures to be implemented under the Statute, to the Constitution, national legislation and interests of the Azerbaijani Republic, and it believes that financing for the activity of the Center will be fixed proceeding from its information-analytical, advisory focus."

The Georgia reservation states that "the Decision on the ATC shall enter into force upon completion of intra-state procedures." Ukraine noted that "the Decision will enter into force for Ukraine on condition that it is ratified by the Ukrainian Supreme Council, with the exclusion of the provisions allowing for the international personality of the Antiterrorist Center of the CIS Member States."

Overall direction of the work of the ATC is to be exercised by the Council of Heads of Security and Secret Service Agencies of the CIS Member States. Lieutenant-General Boris Mlynikov has been appointed the Head of the Center, with headquarters in Moscow. On the proposal of the CIS Council of Defense Ministers, Major-General O. K. Maksimchik on November 30, 2000, was appointed the Deputy Head of the ATC.
The number of staff of the ATC has been fixed at 60. Financing for the work of the Center will come from the funds of the CIS member states. In particular, the ATC budget for December 2000 will be 3 million rubles, and for the year 2001, 12.7 million rubles. Under the Statute, the Center is a "permanent CIS specialized agency and is designed to ensure coordination and cooperation among the competent bodies of the Commonwealth's states in the field of the combating of international terrorism and other manifestations of extremism."

Among the principal tasks of the ATC, the Statute notes are the formation of a specialized data bank on international terrorist organizations in the CIS countries and on their leaders, on non-governmental structures and persons giving support to international terrorists.

In addition, the Center will study the state and the trends of spread of international terrorism both in the CIS countries and in other states. The ATC will also participate in the preparation and conduct of antiterrorist command-and-staff and operational-tactical exercises.

In its work the Center will cooperate with the CIS Interior Ministers Council, Defense Ministers Council, and Commanders of Border Troops Council, with their working bodies as well as the Bureau for Coordination of the Struggle with Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Offenses on the Territories of the CIS Member States. The ATC will by a decision of the CIS Council of Heads of State establish its regional subdivisions (branches, representations, offices).

Besides that, the structure is called upon to render assistance to interested states of the Commonwealth in carrying out both investigative activities and comprehensive operations in the fight against international terrorism, as well as in hunting down persons who have perpetrated crimes. In addition, the ATC is charged with rendering assistance in the organization of the training of specialists and instructors for units participating in the struggle with terrorism.

The Center will also engage in the development of models of "coordinated antiterrorist operations" and in the rendering of assistance in carrying them out.

Appendix -12

Prime Minister Premier of the State Council, The Republic of India, The People's Republic of China
Joint Statement, Third Meeting of the India-Russia Joint Working Group (JWG) on Combating International Terrorism 20/0112005
http://meaindia.nic.in/declarestatement/2005/01/20js02.htm

The Third Meeting of the India-Russia Joint Working Group (JWG) on Combating International Terrorism was held in Moscow on January 19-20, 2005. The Indian delegation was led by Ms. Meera Shankar, Additional Secretary (UN) in the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The Russian delegation was led by Mr Anatoly Safonov, Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for international cooperation in fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime. Both delegations included representatives of relevant Ministries and agencies.

The Indian and Russian delegations reiterated that cooperation in combating international terrorism constitutes an important part of the strategic partnership between the two countries. They unequivocally condemned all acts, methods and practices of terrorism and reiterated their commitment to further strengthen cooperation in the field of counter terrorism. The two sides reviewed the situation surrounding their respective nations and the security challenges that they face. They shared concern on cross border terrorism and emphasized the importance of action by all States to deny safe haven for terrorist groups and their members.

The two sides exchanged views on the measures taken by both countries domestically as well as in the international arena to strengthen the war against terrorism. They also discussed linkages between terrorism and illegal narcotics as well as new challenges, such as the threat of proliferation of WMD to terrorists. The two sides reviewed the findings of the report submitted by the high-level panel appointed by the UN Secretary General in so far as it relates to terrorism and decided to work closely with each other in

The Joint Working Group attached special importance to strengthening bilateral mechanisms and agreed to continue to exchange information and share experience in the fight against international terrorism. To this aim, participants will hold a targeted discussion on suppression of financing of terrorism in the near future. The two sides agreed to hold the next session of the India-Russia Joint Working Group on combating international terrorism in New Delhi in the second half of 2005.

**January 20, 2005**

Joint Statement by the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of India, New Delhi 05/04/2005

http://meaindia.nic.in/speech/2005/04/05js01.htm

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of India, H E Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H E Mr. Islam Abduganievich Karimov, paid a State visit to the Republic of India from 4-6 April 2005. During the visit, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H.E. Mr. Islam A. Karimov met with President Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam. He also held meetings with Vice President Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, and Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Defence; Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of External Affairs and Shri Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce & Industry.

The visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Republic of India provided a continuation to the practice of regular exchange of high level visits between Uzbekistan and India, and is symbolic of the longstanding historical ties and deep cultural affinity that exists between the two countries. The talks were held in an atmosphere of warmth, friendship, trust and mutual confidence that is characteristic of the relationship.

Both Sides note with satisfaction the development of bilateral relations which serves their long term national interests, strengthens bilateral cooperation, and contributes to international peace and security. The Sides confirm their intention to further develop their bilateral relations on the principles of the UN Charter, respect for each other’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs.

The Sides note that the existing level of consultations between them promotes bilateral relations. The Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of India wish to continue this intensive interaction to strengthen friendship between the peoples of the two States for mutual benefit. The Sides noted with satisfaction the signing of the following bilateral agreements during the visit:

(i) Agreement on cooperation in Military and Military-Technical areas between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India.

(ii) Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Government of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of Education.


The Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of India are convinced that development of trade and tourism between India and Uzbekistan will promote people-to-people contacts that have historically existed between the two Sides, and strengthen cooperation and goodwill between the peoples of the two States. In this connection, the Sides noted the signing between the concerned organizations of the two countries of the following documents:

(i) Agreement on cooperation between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.
The Sides will encourage further contacts between their businessmen and entrepreneurs and facilitate their visits to each other's country. The Sides recognize the need to enhance trade, economic and investment cooperation and linkages in the banking and finance sector. They expressed satisfaction at the results of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held in Tashkent in January 2005. Sides note the potential for cooperation in the sphere of small business and entrepreneurship, light industry, oil and gas, aviation, tourism, pharmaceuticals and information technology etc. The Sides also welcomed the setting up of a joint Uzbek-Indian trading house in India to facilitate and promote bilateral trade. The Sides noted the potential of Information Technology in improving the lives of people. The Republic of Uzbekistan noted with satisfaction the completion of the computerization project of post offices in Tashkent carried out through India's aid programme. It also welcomed the commencement of work in March 2005 for the cooperation project in Tashkent to set up an Indo-Uzbek Centre for Information Technology.

The Sides noted with satisfaction the importance of the growing opportunities for technical training and higher education in India provided to Uzbek nationals under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme and other Indian scholarships. They agreed to intensify linkages between educational institutions in the two countries. Noting the rich historical and cultural heritage of the two countries, the Sides emphasize the need to intensify further cultural cooperation which contributes to strengthening the bonds between their peoples. The Sides underline their resolve to fight terrorism on a long term and sustained basis and affirm that international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and condemn in the strongest terms all acts of terrorism. The Sides emphasize the need for an early conclusion of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. The Sides intend to continue consultations between Ministries of Foreign Affairs of both the States, and coordinate their efforts through the Joint Working Group on Combating International Terrorism. The Sides expressed their support to the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to build a strong, united, prosperous and independent country. The geographical location and traditional links with Afghanistan of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of India together with their economic and technical potential, provide possibilities for cooperation in the reconstruction process in Afghanistan. The Sides underlined the importance of early realization of the international trans-Afghanistan transport corridor. Realization of this project will significantly decrease the distance and associated costs for transportation of goods between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of India, and will also provide an opportunity to Afghanistan to integrate into the regional system of transport and communications. It was noted that the Zaranj – Delaram road stretch, being built by India in Afghanistan, will constitute a key segment of the route linking Uzbekistan to the Chabahar Port in Iran.

The Sides stressed the urgent need for reforms of the structure and functioning of the United Nations Organisation so as to enhance its efficacy in dealing with the contemporary challenges and making it more reflective of the current geo-political and economic realities. Uzbekistan supports intention of India to become a permanent member of the expanded UN Security Council. The Sides noted with satisfaction that the consultations during the visit constituted an important event in the steady development of mutually beneficial Indo-Uzbek cooperation. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Islam Karimov invited the President of the Republic of India, H.E. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to pay a State Visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan also invited H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India to visit Uzbekistan. The invitations were accepted with pleasure. The dates of the visits will be established through diplomatic channels.
http://meaindia.nic.in/speech/2006/08/04js01.htm

The Second meeting of the Indo – Tajik Joint Working Group on Countering International Terrorism was held in New Delhi on 03 – 04 August 2006. The Indian delegation was led by Shri KC Singh, Additional Secretary (International Organisation) in the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The Tajikistan delegation was led by Mr Abdullo Uldoshev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Both delegations included representatives of relevant Ministries and agencies.

The two sides reviewed the developments in the respective regions. They shared concern on cross border terrorism and emphasised the importance of action by all States to deny safe haven to terrorists. The Indian and Tajikistan delegations reiterated that cooperation in combating terrorism constitutes an important part of partnership between the two countries. They unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reiterated their commitments to further strengthen counter – terrorism cooperation. The two sides expressed their concern regarding the increase in the spread of narcotics in the region and agreed that this directly threatens the security of both the countries.

The Joint Working Group emphasised the strengthening of bilateral mechanisms and agreed to continue to exchange information and share experience in the fight against terrorism. The two sides also shared concern regarding financing of terrorism in the region underlining this as crucial in the counter terrorism strategy. To bolster capacity building the Indian side offered training courses in various aspects of counter-terrorism. The Tajik side agreed to study the offer.

The two sides also discussed cooperation in the international fora and agreed to enhance cooperation through mutual consultations. They also urged the early finalisation of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the United Nations which India has sponsored and Tajikistan has supported. The Tajik side reiterated their condemnation of the Mumbai train bombings of 11 July 2006. Both sides agreed to hold the next session of the Indo – Tajik Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in Dushanbe in the first half of 2007.

The thirteenth Meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) on the Boundary Question will meet in Beijing on 31 July – 1 August 2001. New Delhi July 27, 2001
http://meaindia.nic.in/pressrelease/2001/07/20010727.htm

The Joint Working Group was established during the visit of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to China in December 1988. It meets annually at the level of Foreign Secretary/Vice Foreign Minister. It has met on 12 occasions. The last JWG Meeting was held in New Delhi in April 2000.

The Foreign Secretary will lead the Indian delegation, which will include representatives from Ministries of External Affairs, Defence and Home Affairs. Vice Foreign Minister Wang Yi will lead the Chinese delegation to the JWG. At the JWG both sides will review the progress made during the 8th and 9th Meetings of the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials (which met in November 2000 in Beijing and June 2001 in New Delhi) on clarification and confirmation of the Line of Actual Control and considers the further programme of work.

Foreign Secretary and Vice Foreign Minister Wang Yi will also exchange views on different aspects of our bilateral relations, and the regional and international situation. Foreign Secretary is, inter alia, scheduled to call on the Chinese Foreign Minister and the Minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China.

229