

Cultural Exchange Programme
between
the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the
People's Republic of Bangladesh
for the years 2023-2027

Desirous of further promoting the cultural relation between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (hereinafter referred to as the 'Parties')

Considering the cultural and historical bonds that link the two nations,

Taking into account their interest to foster and consolidate the mutual cultural relations and the cultural agreement dated 13 October 1991,

Also taking into account the celebrations of the *Mujib Borsho* marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 2020-2021 and 50th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Government of the Italian Republic in 2022,

Have agreed on the following programmes for the years 2023-2027:

Chapter 1: Culture & Art

Article 1: The Parties shall exchange their information, experiences, photos, CDs, slides, films and microfilms in cultural, art, literature and historical and archaeological fields.

Article 2: The Parties shall hold cultural weeks and different fairs and exhibitions including book, publications, handicrafts, painting, calligraphy, visual arts and other artistic works.

Article 3: The Parties shall facilitate for cooperation among Writers, Writers and

Publishers Associations and publication Guild Associations and for their participation in conferences, forums, meetings and educational workshops scheduled by the affiliated organizations of both countries.

Article 4: While exchanging information in the field of printing and publication on scientific technology especially electronic publication, the parties will cooperate in the field of research projects within the framework of publication of book.

Article 5: The Parties will invite each other to participate in national and international book fairs which may be held in either of the countries and provide the necessary facilities in this field.

Article 6: The Parties will exchange their cultural and artistic groups to participate in cultural festivals.

Article 7: The Parties will exchange visit of representatives of concerned agencies and cultural and artistic experts to visit the relevant centers and exchange idea for development of mutual cooperation.

Article 8: While holding film week in both countries, the Parties will cooperate in the fields of films and filmmaking and participate in international seminar, conference, festival and other cultural, artistic, scientific and educational conferences held in their countries and invite each other to participate in such events.

Article 9: The Parties will share information of each other's international seminar, conference, festival and other cultural, artistic, scientific and educational conferences held in their countries and invite each other to participate in such events.

Article 10: The Parties will exchange visit of their experts who are familiar with maintenance and repair methods of cultural and historical woks and their protection to visit such work and to deliver lecture in the said fields.

Article 11: The Party's national archives and laboratories will cooperate in the field of exchange some resources related to the other country which is existed in the relevant country, exchanging experiences, information, lists, books, publications, microfilms, manuscripts, exchanging research experts and

trainees, participating in meetings and fairs related to book and librarianship , service and publication of common projects.

Article 12: The Party's national archives and laboratories will cooperate in the field of repair and restoration of handwritings and manuscript and also copying such works or/ and preparing microfilms.

Article 13: The Parties will provide necessary facilities to establish and develop their Cultural Centers through mutual consultations.

Article-14: The parties agree to cooperate in order to fight illicit trade in objects of cultural heritage with preventive, repressive, and remedial measures in accordance with the respective national legislation and in compliance with the obligation provide for in the 1970 UNESCO International Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing Illicit Import, Export, and Transport in Ownership of Cultural Property.

Article 15: The Parties shall devote particular attention to cooperation in compliance with the obligations provided for in the 1972 UNESCO International Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and in the 2003 UNESCO International Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The Parties also undertake to cooperate in compliance with the obligations provided and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Article 16: The Parties will encourage joint cultural and educational initiative aimed at fostering the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the fight against of discrimination and the promotion of gender equality and women empowerment

Chapter 2: Education

Article 17: Both Parties will exchange data, documents, periodicals and publications in the field of culture and heritage.

Article 18: The two Parties will encourage cooperation between schools of each country and universities and institutions of higher education on music, drama, dance, theater and performing arts, fine arts and crafts of the two countries.

The collaboration will be aimed at promoting:

- The strengthening students and teachers distance exchanges between schools of all levels (primary, lower and upper secondary), also through twinning programs;
- awareness of the respective languages and cultures through, inter alia, the exchange of books, publications, educational and audiovisual material;
- mutual understanding of school systems, through the exchange of teaching programs, methods and experiences.

Article 19: The Parties will inform each other of international educational and research meetings and conferences on culture and heritage held in both countries and facilitate the participation of their representatives.

Article 20: The Parties will also promote cooperation between their respective National Information Centers in charge of academic mobility and recognition in order to facilitate student mobility and higher education joint activities.

Article 21: The Italian Party will evaluate the possibility of awarding scholarships to Bangladeshi citizens, according to its budgetary framework. The conditions and procedures concerning the scholarships, including the amount of the monthly allowance, are specified each year by the call for applications published on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation's website.

Article 22: The Parties declare their readiness to provide consultation services in the field of technical and professional training on excavation, restoration and preservation of archaeological monuments and to facilitate cooperation between their respective archaeological and museum experts.

Chapter 3: Press and Media Communication

Article 23: The Parties will reciprocally facilitate exchanges in the radio and television sector by promoting direct agreements between their respective broadcasting organizations, also in order to encourage a better understanding of the realities of both countries and deepen their mutual knowledge.

Chapter 4: Tourism

Article 24: Both Parties will cooperate to enhance the visit of world heritage sites and historical monuments to each other's country.

Each Party will ensure protection of personal data received from the other Party for the purpose of carrying out the cooperation activities under this Programme, undertaking not to transfer them to third parties and not to process them in a manner that is incompatible with the defined purposes without the prior written consent of the other Party.

Chapter 5: General Provisions

Article 25: All activities/programs/exchanges under this CEP will be initiated through diplomatic channel. Modalities for the implementations of the same will be mutually agreed upon.

This Program operates in accordance with applicable international law obligations and in full compliance with the national legislation of both Parties and, as for the Italian Party, the obligations deriving from its membership within the European Union.

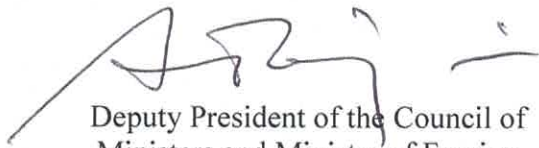
Miscellaneous

Article 26: This programme will be valid for a period of 5 (five) years from the date of signing.

Signed in duplication on the...25...day of July... 2023... in Rome, Italy, in English language.

**For the Government of the Italian
Republic**

Antonio Tajani



Deputy President of the Council of
Ministers and Minister of Foreign
Affairs and International Cooperation

**For the Government of the
People's Republic of Bangladesh**

Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP



Minister for Foreign Affairs