



**U.S.INDIA IMPORTERS' COUNCIL**



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Between

**The American World Trade Chamber of Commerce**

and

**U.S. India Importers' Council**

This agreement is entered into among the World Trade Chamber of Commerce, Inc. doing business as the American World Trade Chamber of Commerce doing business in the United States and headquartered in New York City henceforth referred to as AWTCC and the U.S. India Importers' Council headquartered in Mumbai henceforth referred to as USIIC.

Whereas, it has been established that there is mutual interest in the facilitation of trade between the United States and India to the benefit of peoples in both countries. Whereas AWTCC is focused on US based exports with a unique interest in India and USIIC has a focus on imports into India from the United States, thus making a natural harmony between the organization.

Therefore, agreed to by representatives of the AWTCC and USIIC, the contracting parties have agreed to engage in a joint memorandum of understanding (MOU).

**Purpose**

This MOU establishes a partnership to advance the mutual goals of AWTCC and USIIC to increase economic activity between India and the United States of America and to assist in minimizing barriers to engaging in trade between these two nations. The partnership will engage in activities to facilitate trade and commerce; improve education of both parties' audiences; and increase the readiness of businesses to engage in trade between India and the United States.

**The broad objective of the MOU are:**

- i. Parties will engage in co-promotion to increase awareness within each partner's audience.
  - a. AWTCC will recognize USIIC as a 'Core Partner' and designate them as a resource for US companies looking to do business in India.
- ii. Connect the network of US chambers of commerce engaged in the AWTCC partnership program with the goal to:
  - a. Enable state, metro, and local chambers to collect and disseminate information.

- b. Provide contact points in between USIIC and local chambers to encourage and facilitate business collaboration throughout the United States
- iii. Representation in respective markets
  - a. AWTCC and USIIC will assist in communicating business networking opportunities in India and the United States
  - b. AWTCC and USIIC will be able to assist with representation in their headquartered country for the other party
    - i. This representation will be done on an as needed basis and based on the party identifying a specific opportunity for representation and communicating this as an invitation to represent the other party
  - c. Examples of such representation are to include but not be limited to: trade delegations, business conferences, and other networking events
- iv. The AWTCC trade documentation partnership program will be extended to USIIC with the focus to:
  - a. Ensure ease of trade and legitimacy of trade documents, USIIC will be able to work with AWTCC in detailing processes for trade documents for Indian businesses importing products in order to ensure integrity of US supplies and safety of Indian importers.
    - i. Relevant documents include but are not limited to, certificates of origin, certificates of free sale, and manufacturer's declarations.
  - b. Feasibility investigation around USIIC formally joining the AWTCC Export Documentation referral program
  - c. Feasibility investigation around vegetarian and vegan certification to ensure common standards and compliance with the expectations in the country of import with mutual recognition for issued documents by each party.
- v. Training and educational activities will be collaborated on. Events will be tailored to the respective audience of both parties.
  - a. AWTCC will engage in training events on specific topics to include but not be limited to, immigration and visa options, US customs requirements and standards, rules of origin, and common export documents.
  - b. USIIC may cover training for the AWTCC audience on topics of their specialization.
  - c. In both situations, these activities will help co-promote awareness of each party involved.
- vi. AWTCC and USIIC will engage in event co-promotion. This may include highlighting events relevant to each partners audience and can extend to AWTCC assisting with USIIC delegations coming the United States.
- vii. Assistance in hosting trade delegations formed by either party to include
  - a. Assistance with event and speaker organization for delegations
  - b. Assistance with identifying locations to host delegations
- viii. Both parties agree to regularly exchange relevant information which can help with the joint mission. This is to include tangible figures as well as general experiences and trends witnessed by either party.

- ix. AWTCC and USIIC will engage in resource sharing to include logos, statements, visuals, and other graphics necessary to promote the collaboration and each party.
- x. USIIC and AWTCC will each assign a designated point of contact to plan, monitor, cooperate, and evaluate the execution of the activities as outlined. The contact points will establish discussions on an as needed basis to ensure the MOU is executed.
- xi. At the request of either party, cross training or discussion will be had to ensure mutual familiarity.
- xii. Enable chambers of commerce, world trade offices, and similar organizations connected via the AWTCC partnership program to outline their intent to assist and participate alongside the AWTCC and be recognized as collaborators.

This agreement shall be in effect from the date of signature for a period of one year and will automatically be extended by one-year intervals unless 30 days advance written notice of termination is given by one party to the other. The agreement is to be executed on a 'best effort' basis and not intended to create any binding legal obligations by either party. No party shall be liable to each other for any matter, claim, compensation, indemnification arising out of this MoU in any manner whatsoever and each party shall bear their own consequences thereof. In no event shall either party be liable to the other party for any special, indirect, consequential, or punitive damages of any nature.

**For AWTCC**

*Alex Sonifrank*

**For USIIC**

ASHISH  
SHAMRAO  
PEDNEKAR

Digitally signed by: ASHISH  
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Date: 06th June 2025

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