

PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACT

FOR OFFSHORE AREAS

This Contract made this _____ day of _____ 1999/200__ between:

1. The President of India, acting through the _____, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (hereinafter referred to as Government) of the FIRST PART;

AND

XYZ Company, a Company incorporated under the laws of _____ (hereinafter referred to as XYZ) having its registered office at _____ which expression shall include its successors and such assigns as are permitted under Article 28 hereof, of the SECOND PART; (In case of Contractor consisting of more than one Company, this will apply for all such Companies)

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS

- (1) By virtue of article 297 of the Constitution of India, Petroleum in its natural state in the Territorial Waters and the Continental Shelf of India is vested in the Union of India;
- (2) The Oil Fields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 (53 of 1948) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959, made thereunder (hereinafter referred to as "the Rules") make provisions, inter alia, for the regulation of Petroleum Operations and grant of licences and leases for exploration, development and production of Petroleum in India;
- (3) The Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones Act, 1976 (No. 80 of 1976) provides for the grant of a license or letter of authority by the Government to explore and exploit the resources of the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone and any Petroleum Operation under this Contract shall be carried out under a license or letter of authority granted by the Central Government;
- (4) The above Acts and Rules provide for the grant of exploration license/letter of authority and mining lease in respect of any land or mineral underlying the ocean, within the territorial waters, the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone of India by the Central Government, and XYZ Company(ies), had applied for an exploration license/letter of authority to carry out Exploration Operations in that area offshore identified as Block _____ and more particularly described in Appendix A and XYZ Company(ies) has/have been duly authorised to carry out Petroleum Operations in the said area referred to in this paragraph;
- (5) Rule 5 of the Rules provides for an agreement between the Government and the Licensee or Lessee containing additional terms and conditions with respect to the license or lease;
- (6) The Government desires that the Petroleum resources which may exist in the Territorial Waters, the Continental Shelf, and the Exclusive Economic Zone of India be discovered and exploited with the utmost expedition in the overall interest of India and in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices;
- (7) XYZ Company(ies) has/have committed that it has/they have, or will acquire and make available, the necessary financial and technical resources and the technical and industrial competence and experience necessary for proper discharge and/or performance of all obligations required to be performed under this Contract in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices and will provide guarantees as required in Article 29 for the due performance of its undertakings hereunder;
- (8) As a result of discussions between representatives of the Government and XYZ Company(ies) on the proposal of XYZ Company(ies), the Government has agreed to enter into this Contract with XYZ company(ies) with respect to the said area referred to in paragraph (4) above on the terms and conditions herein set forth.

ARTICLE 1

DEFINITIONS

In this Contract, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them hereunder:

- 1.1 "Accounting Procedure" means the principles and procedures of accounting set out in Appendix C.
- 1.2 "Act" means Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 as amended from time to time.
- 1.3 "Affiliate" means a company or a body;
- a) Which directly or indirectly controls or is controlled by a Company which is a Party to this Contract; or
 - b) Which directly or indirectly controls or is controlled by a company which directly or indirectly controls or is controlled by a Company which is a Party to this Contract.
- For the purpose of this definition it is understood that "control" means:
- i) ownership by one company of more than fifty percent(50%) of the voting securities of the other company; or
 - ii) The power to direct, administer and dictate policies of the other company even where the voting securities held by such company exercising such effective control in that other company is less than fifty percent(50%) and the term "controlled" shall have a corresponding meaning.
- 1.4 "Appendix" means an Appendix attached to this Contract and made a part thereof.
- 1.5 "Appraisal Programme" means a programme, carried out following a Discovery in the Contract Area for the purpose of appraising Discovery and delineating the Petroleum Reservoirs to which the Discovery relates in terms of thickness and lateral extent and determining the characteristics thereof and the quantity of recoverable Petroleum therein.
- 1.6 "Appraisal Well" means a Well drilled pursuant to an Appraisal Programme.
- 1.7 "Approved Work Programme" and "Approved Budget" means a Work Programme or Budget that has been approved by the Management Committee pursuant to the provisions of this Contract.
- 1.8 "Arms Length Sales" means sales made freely in the open market, in freely convertible currencies, between willing and unrelated sellers and buyers and in which such buyers and sellers have no contractual or other relationship, directly or indirectly, or any common or joint interest as is reasonably likely to influence selling prices and shall, inter alia, exclude sales (whether direct or indirect, through brokers or otherwise) involving Affiliates, sales between Companies which are Parties to this Contract, sales between governments and government-owned entities, counter trades, restricted or distress sales, sales involving barter arrangements and generally any transactions motivated in whole or in part by considerations other than normal commercial practices.
- 1.9 "Article" means an article of this Contract and the term "Articles" means more than one Article.
- 1.10 "Associated Natural Gas" or "ANG" means Natural Gas occurring in association with Crude Oil which by itself can be commercially produced either as free gas or in solution.
- 1.11 "Barrel" means a quantity or unit equal to 158.9074 litres (forty two (42) United States gallons) liquid measure, at a temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit (15.56 degrees Celsius) and under one atmospheric pressure (14.70 p.s.i.a.).
- 1.12 "Basement" means any igneous or metamorphic rock, or rocks or any stratum of such nature, in and below which the geological structure or physical characteristics of the rock sequence do not have the properties necessary for the accumulation of Petroleum in commercial quantities and which reflects the maximum depth at which any such

accumulation can be reasonably expected in accordance with the knowledge generally accepted in the international petroleum industry.

- 1.13 "Budget" means a budget formulated in relation to a work programme.
- 1.14 "Calendar Days" means any of the seven days of a week.
- 1.15 "Calendar Month" means any of the twelve months of the Calendar Year.
- 1.16 "Calendar Quarter" or "Quarter" means a period of three consecutive Calendar Months commencing on the first day of January, April, July and October of each Calendar Year.
- 1.17 "Calendar Year" means a period of twelve consecutive Months according to the Gregorian calendar, commencing with the first day of January and ending with the thirty-first day of December.
- 1.18 "Commercial Discovery" means a Discovery of Petroleum reserves which has been declared as a Commercial Discovery in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 and/or Article 21.
- 1.19 "Commercial Production" means production of Crude Oil or Condensate or Natural Gas or any combination of these from the Contract Area (excluding production for testing purposes) and delivery of the same at the relevant Delivery Point under a programme of regular production and sale.
- 1.20 "Company" for the purpose of this Contract means a company which is a Party to this Contract and, where more than one Company is a Party to the Contract, the term "Companies" shall mean all such Companies collectively, including their respective successors and permitted assigns under Article 28.
- 1.21 "Condensate" means those low vapour pressure hydrocarbons obtained from Natural Gas through condensation or extraction and refers solely to those hydrocarbons that are liquid at normal surface temperature and pressure conditions provided that in the event Condensate is produced from a Development Area and is segregated and transported separately to the Delivery Point, then the provisions of this Contract shall apply to such Condensate as if it were Crude Oil.
- 1.22 "Contract" means this agreement and the Appendices mentioned herein and attached hereto and made an integral part hereof and any amendments made thereto pursuant to the terms hereof (including any additional area as provided under Article 11.2).
- 1.23 "Contract Area" means, on the Effective Date, the area described in Appendix A and delineated on the map attached as Appendix B or any portion of the said area remaining after relinquishment or surrender from time to time pursuant to the terms of this Contract (including any additional area as provided under Article 11.2).
- 1.24 "Contract Costs" means Exploration Costs, Development Costs and Production Costs as provided in Section 2 of the Accounting Procedure and allowed to be cost recoverable in terms of Section 3 of the Accounting Procedure.
- 1.25 "Contract Year" means a period of twelve consecutive months counted from the Effective Date or from the anniversary of the Effective Date.
- 1.26 "Contractor" means the Company(ies).
- 1.27 "Cost Petroleum" means, the portion of the total value of Crude Oil & Condensate and Natural Gas produced and saved from the Contract Area which the Contractor is entitled to take in a particular period, for the recovery of Contract Costs as provided in Article 15.
- 1.28 "Crude Oil" or "Oil" or "Crude" means all kinds of hydrocarbons and bitumen, both in solid and in liquid form, in their natural state or obtained from Natural Gas by condensation or extraction, including distillate and Condensate when commingled with the heavier hydrocarbons and delivered as a blend at the Delivery Point but excluding verified Natural Gas.
- 1.29 "Deepwater Area" means an offshore area beyond 400 metre isobath.
- 1.30 "Delivery Point" means, except as otherwise herein provided or as may be otherwise agreed between the Parties having regard to international practice, the point at which

Petroleum reaches the outlet flange of the delivery facility, either offshore or onshore and different Delivery Point(s) may be established for purposes of sales. Delivery point(s) for the purpose of sale(s) of Petroleum from the Contract Area shall be approved by the Management Committee

- 1.31 "Development Area" means an area within the Contract Area consisting of a single Reservoir or multiple Reservoirs all grouped on or related to the same individual geological structure or stratigraphic conditions, designated with the approval of the Management Committee, subject to Article 11.2, to include the maximum area of potential productivity in the Contract Area in a simple geometric shape, in respect of which a Commercial Discovery has been declared and a Development Plan has been approved. Where circumstances justify, the Development Area may contain more than one Discovery with the approval of Management Committee.
- 1.32 "Development Costs" means those costs and expenditures incurred in carrying out Development Operations, as classified and defined in Section 2 of the Accounting Procedure and allowed to be recovered in terms of Section 3 thereof.
- 1.33 "Development Operations" means operations conducted in accordance with the Development Plan and shall include, but not be limited to the purchase, shipment or storage of equipment and materials used in developing Petroleum accumulations, the drilling, completion and testing of Development Wells, the drilling and completion of Wells for gas or water injection, the laying of gathering lines, the installation of offshore platforms and installations, the installation of separators, tankages, pumps, artificial lift and other producing and injection facilities required to produce, process and transport Petroleum into main oil storage or gas processing facilities, either onshore or offshore, including the laying of pipelines within or outside the Contract Area, storage and Delivery Point(s), the installation of said storage or gas processing facilities, the installation of export and loading facilities and other facilities required for the development and production of the said Petroleum accumulations and for the delivery of Crude Oil and/or Gas at the Delivery Point and also including incidental operations not specifically referred to herein but required for the most efficient and economic development and production of the said Petroleum accumulations in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices.
- 1.34 "Development Plan" means a plan submitted by the Contractor for the development of a Commercial Discovery, which has been approved by the Management Committee or the Government pursuant to Article 10 or Article 21.
- 1.35 "Development Well" means a Well drilled, deepened or completed after the date of approval of the Development Plan pursuant to Development Operations or Production Operations for the purposes of producing Petroleum, increasing production, sustaining production or accelerating extraction of Petroleum including production Wells, injection Wells and dry Wells.
- 1.36 "Discovery" means the finding, during Petroleum Operations, of a deposit of Petroleum not previously known to have existed, which can be recovered at the surface in a flow measurable by conventional petroleum industry testing methods.
- 1.37 "Discovery Area" means that part of the Contract Area about which, based upon Discovery and the results obtained from a Well or Wells drilled in such part, the Contractor is of the opinion that Petroleum exists and is likely to be produced in commercial quantities.
- 1.38 "Effective Date" means the later of the date on which this Contract is executed by the Parties or the date of grant of Petroleum Exploration License by the Central Government or State Government(s) as the case may be.
- 1.39 "Environmental Damage" means soil erosion, removal of vegetation, destruction of wildlife, pollution of groundwater or surface water, land contamination, air pollution, noise pollution, bush fire, disruption to water supplies, to natural drainage or natural flow of rivers or streams, damage to archaeological, palaeontological and cultural sites and shall include any damage or injury to, or destruction of, soil or water in their physical aspects together with vegetation associated therewith, aquatic or terrestrial mammals, fish, avi-fauna or any

plant or animal life whether in the sea or in any other water or on, in or under land.

- 1.40 "Exploration Costs" means those costs and expenditures incurred in carrying out Exploration Operations, as classified and defined in Section 2 of the Accounting Procedure and allowed to be recovered in terms of Section 3 thereof.
- 1.41 "Exploration Operations" means operations conducted in the Contract Area pursuant to this Contract in searching for Petroleum and in the course of an Appraisal Programme and shall include but not be limited to aerial, geological, geophysical, geochemical, palaeontological, palynological, topographical and seismic surveys, analysis, studies and their interpretation, investigations relating to the subsurface geology including structural test drilling, stratigraphic test drilling, drilling of Exploration Wells and Appraisal Wells and other related activities such as surveying, drill site preparation and all work necessarily connected therewith that is conducted in connection with Petroleum exploration.
- 1.42 "Exploration Period" means the period mentioned in Article 3 during which Exploration Operations may be carried out by the Contractor as provided in Article 3 hereof.
- 1.43 "Exploration Phase" means any of the periods specified in Article 3 in which the Contractor is required to complete the Minimum Work Programme specified therein.
- 1.44 "Exploration Well" means a Well drilled for the purpose of searching for undiscovered Petroleum accumulations on any geological entity (be it of structural, stratigraphic, facies or pressure nature) to at least a depth or stratigraphic level specified in the Work Programme.
- 1.45 "Field" means an Oil Field or a Gas Field or combination of both as the case may be.
- 1.46 "Financial Year" means the period from the first day of April to the thirty-first day of March of the following Calendar Year.
- 1.47 "Foreign Company" means a Company within the meaning of Section 591 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- 1.48 "Frontier Area" means any area identified, demarcated and so notified by the Government or its authorised agency(ies) for the purpose of exploration and exploitation of oil and gas, which is logistically and technically difficult and lacks infrastructural and/or marketing facilities, etc.
- 1.49 "Gas" means Natural Gas.
- 1.50 "Gas Field" means, within the Contract Area, a Natural Gas reservoir or a group of Natural Gas reservoirs within a common geological structure or feature.
- 1.51 "Good International Petroleum Industry Practices" or "GIPIP" means those practices, methods, standards, and procedures generally accepted and followed internationally by prudent, diligent, skilled, and experienced operators in Petroleum exploration, development, and production operations and which, at a particular time in question, in the exercise of reasonable judgement and in light of facts then known at the time a decision was made, would be expected to accomplish the desired results and goals established in respect of which the practices, methods, standards, procedures and safety regulations, as the case may be, were followed; provided, however, that "Good International Petroleum Industry Practices" is not intended to be limited to the optimum practices or method to the exclusion of all others, but rather to be a spectrum of reasonable and prudent practices, methods, standards, procedures and safety regulations. What constitutes the GIPIP in a particular circumstance shall be agreed to by the Management Committee and failing which the same shall be decided by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons or its assigns or successor and its decision shall be binding.
- 1.52 "Government" or "Central Government" means Government of India unless otherwise stated.
- 1.53 "Investment" shall have the meaning ascribed to that expression in paragraph 3 of Appendix D.
- 1.54 "Investment Multiple" means, the ratio of accumulated Net Cash Income to accumulated Investment earned by the Company(ies), as determined in accordance with Appendix D.

- 1.55 "Lease" means a petroleum mining lease referred to in the Rules and shall, unless otherwise stated therein exclude right for exploration and exploitation of coal/lignite bed methane(CBM).
- 1.56 "Lessee" means the Contractor to whom a Lease is issued under the Rules for the purpose of carrying out Petroleum Operations in Development Area.
- 1.57 "LIBOR" means the London Inter-Bank Offer Rate for six-month deposits of United States Dollars as quoted by the London office of the Bank of America (or such other Bank as the Parties may agree) for the day or days in question.
- 1.58 "License" means a petroleum exploration license referred to in the Rules.
- 1.59 "Licensee" means the Contractor to whom a licence is issued under the Rules for the purpose of carrying out Petroleum Operations in the Contract Area.
- 1.60 "Minimum Work Programme" means with respect to each Exploration Phase, the Work Programme specified in Art. 5 with respect to such Phase.
- 1.61 "Management Committee" means the committee constituted pursuant to Article 6 hereof.
- 1.62 "Month" means Calendar Month.
- 1.63 "Natural Gas" means wet gas, dry gas, all other gaseous hydrocarbons, and all substances contained therein, including sulphur, carbon dioxide and nitrogen but excluding extraction of helium, which are produced from Oil or Gas Wells, excluding those condensed or extracted liquid hydrocarbons that are liquid at normal temperature and pressure conditions, and including the residue gas remaining after the condensation or extraction of liquid hydrocarbons from Gas.
- 1.64 "Net Cash Income" shall have the meaning assigned in paragraph 2 of Appendix D.
- 1.65 "Non Associated Natural Gas" or "NANG" means Natural Gas which is produced either without association with Crude Oil or in association with such quantities of Crude Oil which by itself cannot be commercially produced.
- 1.66 "Oil Field" means, within the Contract Area, an oil reservoir or a group of oil reservoirs within a common geological structure or feature.
- 1.67 "Operator" means one of the Parties comprising Contractor appointed as the Operator pursuant to Art. 7.
- 1.68 "Operating Agreement" means the operating agreement entered by the constituents of the Contractor in accordance with Article 7, with respect to conduct of Petroleum Operations.
- 1.69 "Operating Committee" means the Committee established by that name in the Operating Agreement pursuant to Article 7.
- 1.70 "Participating Interest" means, in respect of each Party constituting the Contractor, the undivided share expressed as a percentage of such Party's participation in the rights and obligations under this Contract.
- 1.71 "Parties" means the parties signatory to this Contract including their successors and permitted assignee under this Contract and the term "Party" means any of the Parties.
- 1.72 "Petroleum" means Crude Oil and/or Natural Gas existing in their natural condition but excluding helium occurring in association with Petroleum or shale.
- 1.73 "Petroleum Operations" means, as the context may require, Exploration Operations, Development Operations or Production Operations or any combination of two or more of such operations, including construction, operation and maintenance of all necessary facilities, plugging and abandonment of Wells, safety, environmental protection, transportation, storage, sale or disposition of Petroleum to the Delivery Point, Site Restoration and any or all other incidental operations or activities as may be necessary.
- 1.74 "Production Costs" means those costs and expenditures incurred in carrying out Production Operations as classified and defined in Section 2 of the Accounting Procedure and allowed to be recovered in terms of Section 3 thereof.
- 1.75 "Production Operations" means all operations conducted for the purpose of producing Petroleum from the Development Area after the commencement of production from the

Development Area including the operation and maintenance of all necessary facilities therefor.

- 1.76 "Profit Petroleum" means, the total value of Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas produced and saved from the Development Area in a particular period, as reduced by Cost Petroleum and calculated as provided in Article 16.
- 1.77 "Quarter" means Calendar Quarter.
- 1.78 "Recompletion" means an operation whereby a completion in one zone is abandoned in order to attempt a completion in a different zone within an existing Well bore.
- 1.79 "Reservoir" means a naturally occurring discrete accumulation of Petroleum.
- 1.80 "Rules" means the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959 and any amendments made thereto from time to time.
- 1.81 "Section" means a section of the Accounting Procedure.
- 1.82 "Self-sufficiency" means, in relation to any Year, that the volume of Crude Oil and Crude Oil equivalent of Petroleum products exported from India during that Year either equals or exceeds the volume of Crude Oil and Crude Oil equivalent of Petroleum products imported into India during the same Year, as determined by Government.
- 1.83 "Site Restoration" shall mean all activities required to return a site to its state as of the Effective Date pursuant to the Contractors environmental impact study and approved by the Govt. or to render a site compatible with its intended after-use (to the extent reasonable) after cessation of Petroleum Operations in relation thereto and shall include, where appropriate, proper abandonment of Wells or other facilities, removal of equipment, structures and debris, establishment of compatible contours and drainage, replacement of top soil, re-vegetation, slope stabilisation, in-filling of excavations or any other appropriate actions in the circumstances.
- 1.84 "Statement" or "Statements" refers to the statements required to be furnished in accordance with Appendix C of this Contract.
- 1.85 "State Government" means any Government of a state of the Union of India, which has control over the Contract Area for the purpose of grant of Licenses/Leases. In case the Contract Area covers more than one state, the State Government shall include all such Governments of those states.
- 1.86 "Subcontractor " means any company or person contracted by the Contractor or Operator to provide goods or services with respect to Petroleum Operations.
- 1.87 "US \$" or "USD" or "US Dollar" or "United States Dollar" means the currency of the United States of America.
- 1.88 "Well" means a borehole, made by drilling in the course of Petroleum Operations, but does not include a seismic shot hole.
- 1.89 "Work Programme" and "Budget" means a work programme or Budget formulated for the purpose of carrying out Petroleum Operations.
- 1.90 "Year" means a Financial Year.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and covenants and conditions herein contained, IT IS HEREBY AGREED between the Parties as follows:

FOR ONSHORE AREAS

This Contract made this _____ day of _____ 1999/200__ between:

1. The President of India, acting through the _____, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (hereinafter referred to as Government) of the FIRST PART;

AND

XYZ Company, a Company incorporated under the laws of _____ (hereinafter referred to as XYZ) having its registered office at _____ which expression shall include its successors and such assigns as are permitted under Article 28 hereof, of the SECOND PART; (In case of Contractor consisting of more than one Company, this will apply for all such Companies)

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS

- (1) The Oil Fields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 (53 of 1948) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959, made thereunder (hereinafter referred to as "the Rules") make provision, inter alia, for the regulation of Petroleum Operations and grant of licences and leases for exploration, development and production of Petroleum in India;
- (2) The Rules provide for the grant of exploration licences and mining leases in respect of land vested in a State Government by that State Government with the prior approval of the Central Government, and XYZ Company(ies) has/have applied for an exploration license to carry out Exploration Operations in that area onshore identified as Block _____ and more particularly described in Appendix A;
- (3) Rule 5 of the Rules provides for an agreement between the Central Government and the Licensee or Lessee containing additional terms and conditions with respect to the license or lease;
- (4) The Government desires that the Petroleum resources which may exist in India be discovered and exploited with the utmost expedition in the overall interest of India in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices;
- (5) XYZ Company(ies) has/have committed that it has/they have, or will acquire and make available, the necessary financial and technical resources and the technical and industrial competence and experience necessary for proper discharge and/or performance of all obligations required to be performed under this Contract in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices and will provide guarantees as required in Article 29 for the due performance of its obligations hereunder;
- (6) As a result of discussions between representatives of the Government and XYZ Company(ies) on the proposal of XYZ Company(ies), the Government has agreed to enter into this Contract with XYZ Company(ies) with respect to the said area referred to in paragraph (2) above on the terms and conditions herein set forth.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and covenants and conditions herein contained, IT IS HEREBY AGREED between the Parties as follows:

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 2

PARTICIPATING INTERESTS

- 2.1 The initial Participating Interest of the Parties comprising the Contractor shall be as follows:
X Company _____
Y Company _____
Z Company _____
- 2.2 Each Party comprising the Contractor shall contribute its Participating Interest share of all Contract Costs with respect to the Contract Area and assume its Participating Interest share of all rights and obligations from the Effective Date.
- 2.3 Except as provided in this Article or elsewhere in this Contract, such rights and obligations shall include but not be limited to:
- (a) the right to take Cost Petroleum in accordance with the provisions of Article 15;
 - (b) the right to take its Participating Interest share of Profit Petroleum in accordance with the provisions of Article 16;
 - (c) the right to receive its Participating Interest share of any incidental income and receipts arising from Petroleum Operations; and
 - (d) the obligation to contribute its Participating Interest share of costs and expenses.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 3

LICENSE AND EXPLORATION PERIOD

- 3.1 The Exploration Period shall begin on the Effective Date and shall consist of three Exploration Phases, each phase not exceeding 3 contract years for a total period not exceeding seven (7) consecutive Contract Years (eight (8) years in case of deep water areas and frontier areas) unless extended pursuant to the terms of this Contract, except that for Deepwater Areas and Frontier Areas. The first exploration phase may be of 4 years correspondingly. The exploration period may be 8 years.
- 3.2 Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, the term of the first Exploration Phase shall not exceed _____ to be taken from the accepted bid and subject to Article 3.1 consecutive Contract Years (hereinafter referred to as the first Exploration Phase). In case of deep water and frontier areas, the term for first exploration phase may be additional one year (the frontier area will be declared by Government or its designated agency(ies) from time to time, whereas deep water will be defined as area beyond 400 metre iso-bath).
- 3.3 Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, the term of the second Exploration Phase shall not exceed _____ to be taken from the accepted bid and subject to Article 3.1 consecutive Contract Years from the end of the first Exploration Phase (hereinafter referred to as the second Exploration Phase).
- 3.4 Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, the term of the third Exploration Phase shall not exceed _____ to be taken from the accepted bid and subject to Article 3.1 consecutive Contract Years from the end of the second Exploration Phase (hereinafter referred to as the third Exploration Phase).
- 3.5 At the expiry of any Exploration Phase of the Exploration Period, provided that the Contractor has completed the Minimum Work Programme for that Exploration Phase, the Contractor shall have the option, exercisable by giving a written notice to the Government at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiry of the relevant Phase, either:
- (a) to proceed to the next Exploration Phase on presentation of the relevant guarantee as provided for in Article 29; or
 - (b) to relinquish the entire Contract Area except for any Discovery Area and any Development Area and to conduct Development Operations and Production Operations in relation to any Commercial Discovery in accordance with the terms of this Contract, and the Contractor shall have no further obligation in respect of the Minimum Work Programme under Article 4 for any subsequent Exploration Phases of the Exploration Period.
- If neither of the options provided for in paragraphs (a) and (b) a hereof is exercised by the Contractor, this Contract shall terminate at the end of the then current Exploration Phase and the License shall be automatically cancelled.
- 3.6 If at the end of an Exploration Phase the Minimum Work Programme for that Phase is not completed, the time for completion of the said Minimum Work Programme shall be extended for a period necessary to enable completion thereof but not exceeding six (6) months, provided that the Contractor can show technical or other good reasons for non-completion of the Minimum Work Programme and the Management Committee gives its consent to the said extension and provided further that the period of such extension shall be subtracted from the next succeeding Exploration Phase, if any.
- 3.7 If, at the end of an Exploration Phase, execution of any work programme is in progress and which is in addition to the Minimum Work Programme, such Exploration Phase shall be extended for a period not exceeding six (6) months to enable completion thereof provided that the Minimum Work Programme for such Phase has been completed or Management Committee gives its consent to the said extension as provided in the Article 3.6. In the event of an extension as provided for herein, the notice referred to in Article 3.5 shall be given at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiry of the relevant extension.

- 3.8 Where sufficient time is not available prior to the expiry of the Exploration Period to complete the Appraisal Programme, at the request of the Contractor, the Government shall extend the Exploration Period for such period, not exceeding thirty (30) months, as may be mutually agreed between the Parties for the Appraisal Programme to be carried out and for the Contractor and the Management Committee, to comply with the provisions of Article 10 and Article 21.
- 3.9 If no Commercial Discovery has been made in the Contract Area by the end of the Exploration Period, the Contract shall terminate.
- 3.10 If this Contract is terminated in accordance with its terms, the License shall be automatically cancelled.
- 3.11 If at the expiry of the Exploration Period a plan for development of a Commercial Discovery and an application for a Lease is under consideration by Government pursuant to Articles 10,11 and 21 respectively, the Licence shall continue in force with respect to that part of the Contract Area to which the application for the Lease relates, pending a decision on the proposed Development Plan and the application for the Lease, but shall cease to be in force and effect with respect to the remainder of the Contract Area.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 4

RELINQUISHMENT

- 4.1 If at the end of the first Exploration Phase, the Contractor elects, pursuant to Article 3.5, to continue Exploration Operations in the Contract Area in the second Exploration Phase, the Contractor shall retain seventy five percent (75%) of the original Contract Area including any Development Area and Discovery Area in not more than three (3) areas of simple geometrical shapes and relinquish the balance of the Contract Area prior to the commencement of the second Exploration Phase. Notwithstanding the provision of this Article 4.1, in the event the Development Areas and Discovery Areas exceed seventy five percent (75%) of the original Contract Area, the Contractor shall be entitled to retain to the extent of Development Areas and Discovery Areas.
- 4.2 If at the end of the second Exploration Phase, the Contractor elects, pursuant to Article 3.5, to continue Exploration Operations in the Contract Area in the third Exploration Phase, the Contractor shall retain fifty percent (50%) of the original Contract Area, including any Development Area and Discovery Area in not more than three (3) areas of simple geometrical shapes and relinquish the balance of the Contract Area prior to the commencement of the third Exploration Phase. Notwithstanding the provision of this Article 4.2, in the event the Development Areas and Discovery Areas exceed fifty percent (50%) of the original Contract Area, the Contractor shall be entitled to retain to the extent of Development Areas and Discovery Areas.
- 4.3 At the end of the third Exploration Phase, the Contractor shall retain only Development Areas and Discovery Areas.
- 4.4 If the Contractor exercises the option provided for in paragraph (b) of Article 3.5, the Contractor shall, after any Development Area has been designated, relinquish all of the Contract Area not included within the said Development Area.
- 4.5 As and when the Contract is terminated under the provisions of Article 3 or in accordance with any other provisions of this Contract, the entire Contract Area remaining with the Contractor shall be deemed to have been relinquished by the Contractor as on the date on which the Contract is terminated.
- 4.6 Relinquishment of all or part of the Contract Area or termination of the Contract shall not be construed as absolving the Contractor of any liability undertaken or incurred by the Contractor in respect of the Contract Area during the period between the Effective date and the date of such relinquishment or termination.
- 4.7 Subject to Article 14.9, the liability of contractor shall be limited to any liability undertaken or incurred in respect of, relating to or connected with the Contract, and/or any claim arising out of or in relation to the act of negligence, misconduct, commission or omission in carrying out Petroleum Operations during the period between the Effective Date and the Date of relinquishment of the Contract Area or termination or expiry of the Contract, as the case may be.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 5

WORK PROGRAMME

- 5.1 The Contractor shall commence Petroleum Operations not later than six (6) Months from the Effective Date.
- 5.2 During the currency of the first Exploration Phase, as per Article 3.2, the Contractor shall complete the following Work Programme:
- (a) a seismic programme consisting of the acquisition, processing and interpretation of _____ Line kilometres of seismic data in relation to the exploration objectives;
 - (b) _____ Exploration Wells of which one Well at least shall be a deep test Well and shall be drilled to at least one of the following depths:
 - (i) _____ metres and _____ (geological objective);
 - (ii) to Basement;
 - (iii) that point below which further drilling becomes impracticable due to geological conditions encountered and drilling would be abandoned by a reasonable prudent operator in the same or similar circumstances. Abandonment of drilling under this provision by the Contractor, would require unanimous approval of the Management Committee.
- 5.3 During the currency of the second Exploration Phase, as per Article 3.3, the Contractor shall complete the following Work Programme:
- (a) a seismic programme consisting of the acquisition, processing and interpretation of _____ Line kilometres of seismic data in relation to the exploration objectives;
 - (b) _____ Exploration Wells of which at least one Well shall be a deep test Well and shall be drilled to at least one of the following depths:
 - (i) _____ metres and _____ (geological objective);
 - (ii) to Basement;
 - (iii) that point below which further drilling becomes impracticable due to geological conditions encountered and drilling would be abandoned by a reasonable prudent operator in the same or similar circumstances. Abandonment of drilling under this provision by the Contractor, would require unanimous approval of the Management Committee.
- 5.4 During the currency of the third Exploration Phase, as per Article 3.4, the Contractor shall complete the following Work Programme:
- (a) _____ line kilometres of data acquisition.
 - (b) _____ line kilometres of data processing and data interpretation in relation to the exploration objectives.
 - (c) _____ Exploration Wells of which one Well at least shall be a deep test Well and shall be drilled to at least one of the following depths:
 - (i) _____ metres and _____ (geological objective);
 - (ii) to Basement;
 - (iii) that point below which further drilling becomes impracticable due to geological conditions encountered and drilling would be abandoned by a reasonable prudent operator in the same or similar circumstances. Abandonment of drilling under this provision by the Contractor, would require unanimous approval of the Management Committee.
- Note : The details of the work programme to be filled in the Art. 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 shall be as per the bid of Company(ies) accepted by the Government.
- 5.5 The actual depth objective for each of the Wells shall be determined by the Contractor in the light of the advice of the Management Committee before the commencement of the

drilling. Each Well which reaches the geological objective for which the depth objective was determined shall be deemed to have been drilled to the depth objective or to actual total depth, whichever is greater. The Contractor shall ensure that all relevant subsurface, geological, geochemical and geophysical information necessary for the attainment of the exploration objectives in accordance with GIPIP is obtained during exploratory drilling.

- 5.6 If the depth/geological objective of the Well is not achieved for any reason, a substitute Well shall be drilled of the same specifications as stipulated in Articles 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4, as the case may be.
- 5.7 The Contractor undertakes to complete the Minimum Work Programme in accordance with Articles 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 and 5.6, as the case may be subject to Article 31. In the event that the Contractor fails to fulfill the said Minimum Work Programme by the end of the relevant Exploration Phase, each Company constituting the Contractor shall pay to the Government, within sixty (60) days following the end of the relevant Exploration Phase, its Participating Interest share for an amount which, when evaluated in terms of the Minimum Work Programme specified for the relevant Phase, is equal to the amount which will be required to complete the said Minimum Work Programme, in accordance with GIPIP.
- 5.8 If the Minimum Work Programme for the third Exploration Phase has been completed earlier than eighteen months from the end of the Phase, the Contractor shall meet with the Government to discuss the possibility of early relinquishment, unless the Contractor undertakes further work with the approval of the Management Committee.
- 5.9 In the event that the Contractor has carried out work in excess of the Minimum Work Programme in any Exploration Phase, the excess work done shall be set off against the Minimum Work Programme for the following Exploration Phase.
- 5.10 As soon as possible after the Effective Date and thereafter within ninety (90) days before commencement of each following Contract Year, the Contractor shall submit to the Management Committee the Work Programmes and Budgets relating to Petroleum Operations to be carried out during the relevant Contract Year. Work Programme and Budgets for the Exploration Period shall include work sufficient to meet the relevant Minimum Work Programme with respect to each Exploration Phase specified in this Article 5.
- 5.11 The Contractor may propose amendments to the details of an approved Work Programme and Budget in the light of the then existing circumstances and shall submit to the Management Committee modifications or revisions to the Work Programme and Budgets referred to in Article 5.10.
- 5.12 Work Programmes and Budgets and any revisions thereto relating to Exploration Operations shall be submitted to the Management Committee for review and advice as provided in Article 6.5. Work Programmes and Budgets related to Development Operations and Production Operations and any revisions thereto shall be submitted for approval as provided in Article 10 and Article 21.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 6

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 6.1 There shall be constituted a committee to be called the Management Committee with function as stated herein below.
- 6.2 Government shall nominate two (2) members representing Government in the Management Committee, whereas each Company constituting Contractor shall nominate one member each to represent Company in the Management Committee.
- 6.3 Each Party may nominate alternate members with full authority to act in the absence and on behalf of the members nominated under Article 6.2 and may, at any time, nominate another member or alternate member to replace any member nominated earlier by notice to other members of the Management Committee.
- 6.4 One representative of the Government shall be designated as the Chairman of the Management Committee and the second representative of the Government shall be designated as the Deputy Chairman. The member of the Operator in the Management Committee shall be designated as the Secretary of the Committee.
- 6.5 Operator on behalf of Contractor with the approval of Operating Committee shall submit following matters to the Management Committee for review and it shall have advisory functions:
- (a) the annual Work Programmes and Budgets in respect of Exploration Operations and any revisions or modifications thereto,
 - (b) proposals for surrender or relinquishment of any part of the Contract Area by the Contractor;
 - (c) proposals for an Appraisal Programme or revisions or additions thereto and the declaration of a discovery as a Commercial Discovery;
 - (d) any other matter required by the terms of this Contract to be submitted to it for review or advice;
 - (e) any other matter which the Contractor decides to submit for review or advice including matters concerning inter-party relationships;
- 6.6 The following matters shall be submitted by Operator on behalf of Contractor with the approval of Operating Committee to the Management Committee for approval:
- (a) annual Work Programmes and Budgets in respect of and any modifications or revisions thereto, Development Operations and Production Operations;
 - (b) proposals for the approval of Development Plans as may be required under this Contract, or revisions or additions to a Development Plan;
 - (c) determination of a Development Area;
 - (d) appointment of auditors, approval and adoption of audited accounts;
 - (e) collaboration with licensees or contractors of other areas;
 - (f) claims or settlement of claims for or on behalf of or against the Contractor in excess of limits fixed by the Management Committee from time to time;
 - (g) plans for the production of Crude Oil and Natural Gas prior to the date of commencement of Commercial Production.
 - (h) proposal about abandonment plan/site restoration as required to be submitted under Article 14.10;
 - (i) any other matter required by the terms of this Contract to be submitted for the approval of the Management Committee;
 - (j) any other matter which the Contractor decides to submit to it.
 - (k) Any matter, which Government refers to the Management Committee for its consideration and reasoned opinion.
- 6.7 The Management Committee shall not take any decision without obtaining prior approval of the Government where such approval is required under this Contract or any applicable law (including rules and regulations) of India. The Management Committee shall obtain such approval/decision and convey the same to Contractor with utmost expedition.

- 6.8 The Management Committee shall meet at least once every six (6) months during the Exploration Period and thereafter at least once every three (3) months or more frequently at the request of any member. The Secretary, with the approval of the Chairman, shall convene each meeting by notifying the members twenty eight (28) days prior to such a meeting (or a shorter period of notice if the members unanimously so agree) of the time and place of such meeting and the purpose thereof and shall include in such notice a provisional agenda for such meeting. The Chairman shall be responsible for processing the final agenda for such meeting and the agenda shall include all items of business requested by the members to be included, provided such requests are received by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the date fixed for the meeting. The Secretary shall forward the agenda to the members at least nine (9) days prior to the date fixed for the meeting. Matters not included in the agenda may be taken up at the meeting by any member with the unanimous consent of all the members whether present or not present at the meeting.
- 6.9 The Chairman or Deputy Chairman, as may be the case, shall preside over the meetings of the Management Committee and, in their absence, any other member representing Government and shall preside over the meetings.
- 6.10 The Chairman shall appoint the member(s) nominated by the Operator as Secretary to the Management Committee with responsibility, inter alia, for preparation of the minutes of every meeting in the English language and provision to every member of the Management Committee with two copies of the minutes approved by the Chairman not later than fourteen (14) days after the date of the meeting.
- 6.11 Within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the minutes of a meeting, members shall notify the Chairman and the other members of their approval of the minutes by putting their signatures on one copy of the minutes and returning the same to the Chairman or by indicating such approval to the Chairman by telex, cable, or facsimile, with copies to the other members. Any member may suggest any modification, amendment or addition to the minutes by telex, cable or facsimile to the Chairman and other members or by indicating such suggestions when returning the copy of the minutes to the Chairman. If the Chairman or any other member does not agree with the modification, amendment or addition to the minutes suggested by any member, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the other members and resubmitted to the Management Committee at the next meeting and the minutes shall stand approved as to all other matters. If a member fails to appropriately respond within the aforesaid fourteen (14) day period as herein provided, the minutes shall be deemed to be approved by such member.
- 6.12 The meetings of the Management Committee shall be held in India, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the members of the Management Committee. All expenses of the members of the Management Committee attending meetings shall be borne by the respective Party and shall in no event be cost recoverable.
- 6.13 All matters requiring the approval of the Management Committee shall be generally approved by a unanimous vote of the members of the Management Committee present as well as the views of the members received by some other mode of communication as specified elsewhere in this Article. However, in case, unanimity is not achieved in decision making process within a reasonable period as may be required under the circumstances, the decision of the Management Committee may be approved by the majority Participating Interest of 70% or more Government having a positive vote in favour of the decision. There shall be a quorum of the Management Committee for holding a meeting and making decisions with each Party to the Contract represented by at least one of its nominated members in the Management Committee.
- 6.14 Any member shall be entitled, if cable or fascimile either he or his alternate is unable to attend a meeting, to cast his vote by telex, or transmission received by the Chairman prior to the date on which the vote is taken in the course of the meeting. Such vote shall have the same effect as if that member had been present and so voted at the meeting.
- 6.15 A member of the Management Committee who is unable to attend a meeting may by giving prior written notice to all other members appoint a member representing another Party who

consents to such appointment as its proxy to attend a meeting and to exercise the appointing member's right to vote at that meeting whether as directed by the appointing member or otherwise. A member appointed as a proxy and attending a meeting shall be present in two separate capacities and vote accordingly. The position taken by proxy member in the meeting shall be binding on the appointing party.

6.16 Submission in lieu of meeting:

Without prejudice to Article 6.8, where the Operating Committee has agreed that a recommendation be made to the Management Committee, the Chairman may, when in his reasonable opinion it is not practical or appropriate to incur a delay in convening a meeting, submit the recommendation (together with the reasons for the recommendation) for consideration by the Management Committee by giving each member notice by telex or facsimile transmission, receipt of which shall be confirmed by telephone by the Chairman (or, in case of an emergency, by telephone confirmed by telex or facsimile transmission not later than the next Business Day).

6.16.1 In the case of any recommendation submitted to the members for decision pursuant to Article 6.16:

i) Subject to paragraph (ii) of this Article 6.16.1 the members shall vote, by telex or facsimile transmission to the Chairman, with a copy to the other members:

- a) Within 48 hours of service of notice in the case of an emergency or
- b) In any other case, within a time nominated in the notice being reasonable in the circumstances but not less than five (5) business days from the date of service of the notice.

ii) Except in the case of an emergency, a member may, within 48 hours of the service of the notice of the proposal, require by further notice that the proposal be put to a meeting pursuant to Article 6.8.

iii) Any member failing to vote within the time limits set out in Article 6.16.1(i) shall be deemed to have voted in favour of the proposal.

iv) The result of any such vote shall be notified by the Chairman to all the members.

6.17 The Management Committee, if it considers necessary, may appoint legal, financial or technical subcommittees comprised of such representatives as may be agreed by the Management Committee to consider any matter requiring approval or decision of the Management Committee. Such sub-committee expenses shall form part of Contract Cost with relevant cost classification as decided by Management Committee pursuant to the Section 2 of the Accounting Procedure and will be cost recoverable.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 7

OPERATORSHIP, OPERATING AGREEMENT AND OPERATING COMMITTEE

- 7.1 (XYZ) shall be the Operator for the purpose of carrying out Petroleum Operations pursuant to this Contract during the term of the Contract.
- 7.2 No change in the operatorship shall be effected without the consent of the Government and such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 7.3 The functions required of the Contractor under this Contract shall be performed by the Operator on behalf of all constituents of the Contractor subject to, and in accordance with, the terms and provisions of this Contract and generally accepted Good International Petroleum Industry Practice provided, however, that this provision shall not be construed as relieving the Constituent(s) of Contractor from any of its obligations or liability under the Contract.
- 7.4 Within fifteen (15) days of the Effective Date or such longer period as may be agreed to by Government, the Companies constituting Contractor shall execute an Operating Agreement. The said agreement shall be consistent with the provisions of this Contract and shall provide for, among other things:
- (a) The appointment, resignation, removal and responsibilities of the Operator;
 - (b) The establishment of an Operating Committee comprising of an agreed number of representatives of the Companies chaired by a representative of the Operator;
 - (c) Functions of the said Operating Committee taking into account the provisions of the Contract, procedures for decision making, frequency and place of meetings; and
 - (d) Contribution to costs, default, sole risk, disposal of Petroleum and assignment as between the Parties to the Operating Agreement.
- 7.4.1 Operator shall provide to the Government a copy of the duly executed Operating Agreement within thirty (30) days or such longer period as may be agreed to by the Government.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 8

GENERAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

- 8.1 Subject to the provisions of this Contract, the Contractor shall have the following rights:
- (a) subject to the provisions of Article 12, the exclusive right to carry out Petroleum Operations to recover costs and expenses as provided in this Contract. The right shall exclude exploitation of coal/lignite bed methane (CBM) by the Contractor in the Contract Area;
 - (b) the right to use, free of charge, such quantities of Petroleum produced as are reasonably required for conducting Petroleum Operations in the Contract Area in accordance with generally accepted Good International Petroleum Industry Practices;
 - (c) the right to lay pipelines, build roads, construct bridges, ferries, aerodromes, landing fields, radio telephones and related communication and infrastructure facilities and exercise other ancillary rights as may be reasonably necessary for the conduct of Petroleum Operations subject to such approvals as may be required and the applicable laws in force from time to time for the regulation and control thereof;
 - (d) the right to use all available technical data, seismic and well information, maps, samples etc. of the Contract Area as on the Effective Date, free of charge, subject to nominal copying/reproduction costs for further Petroleum Operations. The Contractor shall submit the list of data required by them to DGH and the same, if available and reproducible, shall be made available to the Contractor within 120 days of the Effective Date in the office of Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH).
 - (e) such other rights as are specified in this Contract.
- 8.2 The Government reserves the right to itself, or to grant to others the right, to prospect for and mine minerals or substances other than Petroleum within the Contract Area; provided, however, that if after the Effective Date, others are issued rights, or the Government proceeds directly to prospect for and mine in the Contract Area any minerals or substances other than Petroleum, the Contractor shall use its best efforts to avoid obstruction to or interference with such operations within the Contract Area and the third parties and/or Government, as the case may be, shall use best efforts to ensure that operations carried out do not obstruct or unduly interfere with Petroleum Operations in the Contract Area.
- 8.3 The Contractor shall having due regard to GIPIP:
- (a) except as otherwise expressly provided in this Contract, conduct all Petroleum Operations at its sole risk, cost and expense and provide all funds necessary for the conduct of Petroleum Operations including funds for the purchase or lease of equipment, materials or supplies required for Petroleum Operations as well as for making payments to employees, agents and Subcontractors;
 - (b) conduct all Petroleum Operations within the Contract Area diligently, expeditiously, efficiently and in a safe and workmanlike manner pursuant to the Work Programme formulated in accordance with Contract;
 - (c) ensure provision of all information, data, samples etc. which may be required to furnish under the applicable laws or under this Contract;
 - (d) ensure that all equipment, materials, supplies, plant and installations used by the Contractor, the Operator, and Subcontractors comply with generally accepted standards and are of proper construction and kept in safe and good working order;
 - (e) in the preparation and implementation of Work Programmes and in the conduct of Petroleum Operations, follow Good International Petroleum Industry Practices with such degree of diligence and prudence reasonably and ordinarily exercised by experienced parties engaged in a similar activity under similar circumstances and conditions;
 - (f) establish and submit to the Management Committee for approval appropriate criteria and procedures including tender procedures for the acquisition of goods and services as provided in Article 23.2 and for the purchase, lease or rental of

machinery, equipment, assets and facilities required for Petroleum Operations based on economic considerations and generally accepted practices in the international petroleum industry with the objective of ensuring cost and operational efficiency in the conduct of Petroleum Operations. Notwithstanding provision provided herein, the procedure for acquisition of goods and services, as of the Effective Date, shall be as per the Appendix-F of this Contract. The Appendix-F to this Contract may be modified or changed with the approval of Management Committee when circumstances so justify;

(g) after the designation of a Development Area, pursuant to this Contract, forthwith proceed to take all necessary action for prompt and orderly development of the Development Area and for the production of Petroleum in accordance with the terms of this Contract;

(h) appoint a technically competent and sufficiently experienced representative, and, in his absence, a suitably qualified replacement therefor, who shall be resident in India and who shall have full authority to take such steps as may be necessary to implement this Contract and whose name(s) shall, on appointment within ninety (90) days after commencement of the first Contract Year, be made known to the Government;

(i) provide acceptable working conditions, living accommodation and access to medical attention and nursing care for all personnel employed in Petroleum Operations.

(j) carry out such other obligations as are specified in this Contract, in particular those specified in Article 14; and

(k) be always mindful of the rights and interests of India in the conduct of Petroleum Operations.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 9

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

- 9.1 Upon application in the prescribed manner, and subject to compliance with applicable laws and relevant procedures, the Government will:
- (a) use their good offices to provide the right of ingress and egress from the Contract Area and any facilities used in Petroleum Operations, wherever located, and which may be within their control;
 - (b) use their good offices, when necessary, to assist Contractor in procurement or commissioning of facilities required for execution of Work Programmes including necessary approvals, permits, consents, authorisations, visas, work permits, licences, rights of way, easement, surface rights and security protection at Contractor's Cost, required pursuant to this Contract and which may be available from resources within its control;
 - (c) In the event that onshore facilities are required outside the Contract Area for Petroleum Operations including, but not limited to, storage, loading and processing facilities, pipelines and offices, use their good offices in assisting the Contractor to obtain from the authorities of the State in which such facilities are required, such licenses, permits, authorizations, consents, security protection at Contractor's cost, surface rights and easements as are required for the construction and operation of the said facilities by the Contractor.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 10

DISCOVERY, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION

- 10.1 If and when a Discovery is made within the Contract Area, the Contractor shall:
- (a) forthwith inform the Management Committee and Government of the Discovery;
 - (b) promptly thereafter, but in no event later than a period of thirty (30) days from the date of the Discovery, furnish to the Management Committee and Government particulars, in writing, of the Discovery;
 - (c) promptly run tests to determine whether the Discovery is of potential commercial interest and, within a period of sixty (60) days after completion of such tests, submit a report to the Management Committee containing data obtained from such tests and its analysis and interpretation thereof, together with a written notification of whether, in the Contractor's opinion, such Discovery is of potential commercial interest and merits appraisal.
- 10.2 If the Contractor determines to conduct a drill stem or production test, in open hole or through perforated casing, with regard to the Discovery, it shall notify the Government of the time of such test at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the proposed test, and the Government shall have the right to have a representative present during such test.
- 10.3 If, pursuant to Article 10.1 (c), the Contractor notifies the Management Committee that the Discovery is of potential commercial interest, the Contractor shall prepare and submit to the Management Committee within one hundred and twenty (120) days of such notification, a proposed Appraisal Programme with a Work Programme and Budget to carry out an adequate and effective appraisal of such Discovery designed to achieve both the following objectives: (i) determine without delay, and, in any event, within the period specified in Article 10.5, whether such Discovery is a Commercial Discovery and (ii) determine, with reasonable precision, the boundaries of the area to be delineated as the Development Area.
- 10.4 The proposed Appraisal Programme shall be reviewed by the Management Committee within thirty (30) days after submission thereof pursuant to Article 10.3. The said Appraisal Programme, together with the Work Programme and Budget submitted by the Contractor, revised or modified or amended in light of Management Committee review, shall be adopted as the Appraisal Programme and the Contractor shall promptly commence implementation thereof; and the yearly Budget for the Exploration Period, adopted pursuant to Article 5, shall be revised accordingly.
- 10.5 The Contractor shall in respect of a Discovery of Crude Oil advise the Management Committee by notice in writing within a period of thirty (30) months from the date on which the notice provided for in Article 10.1 was delivered, whether such Discovery should be declared a Commercial Discovery or not. Such notice shall be accompanied by a report on the Discovery setting forth all relevant technical and economic data including estimated recoverable reserves, sustainable production levels, estimated development and production expenditures, prevailing and forecasted prices, and other pertinent technical and economic factors according to Good International Petroleum Industry Practices as well as all evaluations, interpretations and analyses of such data and feasibility studies relating to the Discovery prepared by or for the Contractor, with respect to the Discovery and any other relevant information. If the Contractor is of the opinion that Crude Oil has been discovered in commercial quantities, it shall submit the proposal to the Management Committee for review of Commercial Discovery. In the case of a Discovery of Gas, the provisions of Article 21 shall apply.
- 10.6 The Management Committee shall, within forty five (45) days of the date of the notice referred to in Article 10.5, review the proposal of the Contractor and request any other additional information it may reasonably require so as to complete the review of the proposal made by the Contractor. The review shall be made within the later of (a) ninety (90) days from the date of notice referred to in Article 10.5 or (b) ninety (90) days of

receipt of such other information as may be required under this Article 10.6.

10.7

After declaration of Commercial Discovery by the Contractor, within two hundred (200) days of the declaration of the Discovery as a Commercial Discovery, the Contractor shall submit to the Management Committee a comprehensive plan for the development of the Commercial Discovery which shall:

- (a) relate to the Discovery Area and contain a Reservoir or part thereof and the boundaries of the proposed Development Area;
- (b) be designed to ensure the most efficient, beneficial and timely use of the Petroleum resources discovered;
- (c) be compiled in accordance with sound engineering, economic, safety and environmental principles recognised in the generally accepted GIPIP.

Such plan shall contain detailed proposals by the Contractor for the construction, establishment and operation of all facilities and services for and incidental to the recovery, storage and transportation of the Petroleum from the proposed Development Area to the Delivery Point together with all data and supporting information including but not limited to:

- (i) description of the nature and characteristic of the Reservoir, data, statistics, interpretations and conclusions on all aspects of the geology, reservoir evaluation, petroleum engineering factors, reservoir models, estimates of reserve in place, possible production magnitude, nature and ratio of Petroleum fluids and analysis of producible Petroleum;
- (ii) outlines of the development project and/or alternative development projects, if any, describing the production facilities to be installed and the number of wells to be drilled under such development project and/or alternative development projects, if any;
- (iii) Estimate of the rate of production to be established and projection of the possible sustained rate of production in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice under such development project and/or alternative development projects, if any, which will ensure that the area does not suffer an excessive rate of decline of production or an excessive loss of reservoir pressure;
- (iv) estimates of Development Costs and Production Costs under such development project and/or alternative development projects, if any;
- (v) Contractor's recommendations as to the particular project that it would prefer;
- (vi) Work Programme and Budget for development proposals relating to the proposed Development Area;
- (vii) anticipated adverse impact on the environment and measures to be taken for prevention or minimisation thereof and for general protection of the environment in conduct of operations;
- (viii) measures to be taken for the health and safety of persons employed in Petroleum Operations;
- (ix) the information required in Article 21.

10.8

"A proposed Development Plan" submitted by the Contractor pursuant to Article 10.7 may be approved by the Management Committee within one hundred and twenty (120) days of submission thereof or receipt of any additional information requested by the Management Committee. If, within a period of one hundred and twenty (120) days after submission of a proposed Development Plan or one hundred and twenty (120) days from the receipt of any additional information, where asked by Management Committee, the Contractor shall have option to submit the proposal to the Government. The Government shall respond on the proposed Development Plan submitted by the Contractor within one hundred and twenty (120) days. In case Government refuse to approve the proposed Development Plan, it shall convey the reasons for such refusal and the Contractor shall be given opportunity to make appropriate modifications to meet concerns of Government and the provisions of the foregoing Article.

10.9

A Development Plan approved by Management Committee or Government, as may be the case, from time to time shall commit the Contractor to the obligations stipulated in Articles 10.11 to 10.13

- 10.10 The Management Committee shall obtain such approvals from the Government as may be required under the Contract.
- 10.11 Work Programmes and Budgets for Development and Production Operations shall be submitted to the Management Committee as soon as possible after the designation of a Development Area and thereafter not later than 31st December each Calendar Year in respect of the Calendar Year immediately following.
- 10.12 The Management Committee, when considering any Work Programme and Budget, may require the Contractor to prepare an estimate of potential production to be achieved through the implementation of the said Work Programme and Budget for each of the three (3) Contract Years following the year to which the Work Programme and Budget relate. If major changes in Yearly estimates of potential production are required, these shall be based on concrete evidence necessitating such changes.
- 10.13 Not later than the fifteenth (15th) of January each Calendar Year, in respect of the Year immediately following commencement of Commercial Production, the Contractor shall determine the "Programme Quantity" with the approval of the Management Committee. The Programme Quantity for any Year shall be the maximum quantity of Petroleum based on Contractor's estimates, as approved by the Management Committee, which can be produced from a Development Area consistent with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices and minimising unit production cost, taking into account the capacity of the producing Wells, gathering lines, separators, storage capacity and other production facilities available for use during the relevant Year, as well as the transportation facilities up to the Delivery Point.
- 10.14 Proposed revisions to the details of a Development Plan or an annual Work Programme or Budget in respect of Development and Production Operations shall, for good cause and if the circumstances so justify, be submitted for approval to the Management Committee.
- 10.15 In the event the area encompassing the Commercial Discovery extends beyond the Development Area designated in the development plan, either within the original Contract Area but subsequently relinquished or, outside the original Contract Area, the Management Committee may make recommendations to the Government concerning enlargement of the Development Area, provided the same was not awarded to any other Company by the Government or is not held by any other party or not on offer by the Government and no application for a petroleum exploration license or mining lease is pending with the Government. Government may consider such request for extension at its sole discretion and on terms and conditions, which it may consider fit.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 11

PETROLEUM MINING LEASE

FOR OFFSHORE AREA

- 11.1 On submission of a plan for development of a Commercial Discovery pursuant to Article 10.7, the Contractor shall submit an application to Government for a Lease in respect of the proposed Development Area.
- 11.2 Where a part of a Reservoir in respect of which a Commercial Discovery has been declared extends beyond the Contract Area, such area may be included in the proposed Development Area, in relation to which application for a Lease is made, on terms and conditions as decided by the Government; provided that such area is:
- (a) not subject to a license or lease granted to any other person;
 - (b) not the subject of negotiations/bidding for a license or lease;
 - (c) available for licensing (i.e. is not an area over which Petroleum Operations are excluded).
- 11.3 Where a Development Plan has been approved pursuant to Article 10 and the Contractor has complied with the terms and conditions of the License and this Contract and is not in breach of any of the terms thereof, or the provisions of any law and subject to normal Government clearances/approvals being obtained by the Contractor as applicable before grant/issue of the Mining Lease, the Government shall grant to the Contractor a Lease over the Development Area as agreed, subject to Article 11.4 to enable the Contractor to carry out Petroleum Operations in the Development Area in accordance with the Development Plan.
- 11.4 The Lease shall be granted for an initial period of twenty (20) years from the date of grant thereof subject to:
- (a) cancellation in accordance with its terms or for termination of this Contract in accordance with its terms;
 - (b) extension by mutual agreement between the Parties for five (5) years or such period as may be agreed after taking into account the balance recoverable reserve and balance economic life of the Field/Development Area from the expiry of the initial period provided that in the event of a Commercial production of Non Associated Natural Gas the extension may be for a period of ten (10) years or such period as may be mutually agreed between the Parties after taking into account the balance recoverable reserve and balance economic life of the Field/Development Area from the date of expiry of the initial term;
 - (c) the terms of this Contract and other terms and conditions as set forth in such Lease consistent with this Contract and the relevant legislation.

FOR ONSHORE AREA

- 11.1 On submission of a plan for development of a Commercial Discovery pursuant to Article 10.7, the Contractor shall submit an application for a Lease in respect of the proposed Development Area to the relevant State Government(s).
- 11.2 Where a part of a Reservoir in respect of which a Commercial Discovery has been declared extends beyond the Contract Area, such area may be included in the proposed Development Area, in relation to which application for a Lease is made, on terms and conditions as decided by the Central Government; provided that such area is:
- (a) not subject to a license or lease granted to any other person;
 - (b) not the subject of negotiations/bidding or contract awarded for a license or lease;
 - (c) available for licensing (i.e. is not an area over which Petroleum Operations are excluded).
- 11.3 Where a Development Plan has been approved pursuant to Article 10 and the Contractor

has complied with the terms and conditions of the License and this Contract and is not in breach of any of the terms thereof, or the provisions of any law and subject to normal Government clearances/approvals being obtained by the Contractor as applicable before grant/issue of the Mining Lease, the Central Government will assist Contractor in obtaining the Mining Lease from the relevant State Government(s) over the Development Area as agreed, subject to Article 11.4 to enable the Contractor to carry out Petroleum Operations in the Development Area in accordance with the Development Plan.

11.4 The Lease shall be granted for an initial period of twenty (20) years from the date of grant thereof subject to:

- (a) cancellation in accordance with its terms or for termination of this Contract in accordance with its terms;
- (b) extension by mutual agreement between the Parties for five (5) years or such period as may be agreed after taking into account the balance recoverable reserve and balance economic life of the Field/Development Area from the expiry of the initial period provided that in the event of a Commercial production of Non Associated Natural Gas the extension may be for a period of ten (10) years or such period as may be mutually agreed between the Parties after taking into account the balance recoverable reserve and balance economic life of the Field/Development Area from the date of expiry of the initial term;
- (c) the terms of this Contract and other terms and conditions as set forth in such Lease be consistent with this Contract and the relevant legislation.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 12

UNIT DEVELOPMENT

- 12.1 If a Reservoir in a Discovery Area is situated partly within the Contract Area and partly in an area in India over which other parties have a contract to conduct petroleum operations and both parts of the Reservoir can be more efficiently developed together on a commercial basis, the Government may, for securing the more effective recovery of Petroleum from such Reservoir, by notice in writing to the Contractor, require that the Contractor:
- (a) collaborate and agree with such other parties on the joint development of the Reservoir ;
 - (b) submit such agreement between the Contractor and such other parties to the Government for approval; and
 - (c) prepare a plan for such joint development of the said Reservoir, within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the approval of the agreement referred to in (b) above.
- 12.2 If no plan is submitted within the period specified in Article 12.1 (c) or such longer period as the Government and the Contractor and the other parties referred to in Article 12.1 may agree, or, if such plan as submitted is not acceptable to the Government and the Parties cannot agree on amendments to the proposed joint development plan, the Government may cause to be prepared, at the expense of the Contractor and such other parties a plan for such joint development consistent with generally accepted Good International Petroleum Industry Practices which shall take into consideration any plans and presentations made by the Contractor and the aforementioned other parties.
- 12.3 If the Parties are unable to agree on the proposed plan for joint development, the Government may call for a joint development plan from an independent agency, which agency, may make such a proposal after taking into account the position of the parties in this regard. Such a development plan, if approved by Government, shall be binding on the parties, notwithstanding their disagreement with the plan. However, the Contractor may in case of any disagreement on the issue of joint development or the proposed joint development plan, prepared in accordance with Article 12.2 or within thirty (30) days of the plan approved as aforesaid in this Article, notify the Government that it elects to surrender its rights in the Reservoir/Discovery in lieu of participation in a joint development.
- 12.4 If a proposed joint development plan is agreed and adopted by the Parties, or adopted following determination by the Government, the plan as finally adopted shall be the approved joint development plan and the Contractor shall comply with the terms of the said Development Plan as if the Commercial Discovery is established.
- 12.5 The provisions of Articles 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 shall apply **mutatis mutandis** to a Discovery of a Reservoir located partly within the Contract Area, which, although not equivalent to a Commercial Discovery if developed alone, would be a Commercial Discovery if developed together with that part of the Reservoir which extends outside the Contract Area to the areas subject to contract for Petroleum Operations by other parties.

ARTICLE 13

MEASUREMENT OF PETROLEUM

- 13.1 Petroleum used for internal consumption for Petroleum Operations, flared, saved and sold from the Contract Area shall be measured by methods and appliances generally accepted and customarily used in Good International Petroleum Industry Practice and approved by the Management Committee and the Government.
- 13.2 The Government may, at all reasonable times, inspect and test the appliances used for measuring the volume and determining the quality of Petroleum, provided that any such inspection or testing shall be carried out in such a manner so as not to unduly interfere with Petroleum Operations.
- 13.3 Before commencement of production from the Contract Area, the Parties shall mutually agree on:
- (a) methods to be employed for measurement of volumes of Petroleum production;
 - (b) the point or points at which Petroleum shall be measured and the respective shares allocated to the Parties in accordance with the terms of this Contract;
 - (c) the frequency of inspections and testing of measurement appliances and relevant procedures relating thereto; and
 - (d) the consequences of a determination of an error in measurement.
- 13.4 The Contractor shall undertake to measure the volume and quality of the Petroleum produced and saved from the Contract Area at the agreed measurement point consistent with generally accepted GIPIP, with the frequency and according to procedures agreed pursuant to Article 13.3. The Contractor shall not make any alteration in the agreed method or procedures for measurement or to any of the approved appliances used for that purpose without the written consent of the Management Committee and the Government .
- 13.5 The Contractor shall give the Government timely notice of its intention to conduct measuring operations or any agreed alteration for such operations and the Government shall have the right to be present at and supervise, either directly or through authorised representatives, such operations.
- 13.6 The Contractor shall keep all the records of analysis and measurement of hydrocarbons calibrations and proving of measurement system and make available to Government or its authorized agency such records on request.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 14

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- 14.1 The Government and the Contractor recognise that Petroleum Operations will cause some impact on the environment in the Contract Area. Accordingly, in performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall conduct its Petroleum Operations with due regard to concerns with respect to protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources and shall in particular;
- (a) employ GIPIP standards including advanced techniques, practices and methods of operation for the prevention of Environmental Damage in conducting its Petroleum Operations;
 - (b) take necessary and adequate steps to:
 - (i) prevent Environmental Damage and, where some adverse impact on the environment is unavoidable, to minimise such damage and the consequential effects thereof on property and people;
 - (ii) ensure adequate compensation for injury to persons or damage to property caused by the effect of Petroleum Operations.
 - (c) comply with the requirements of applicable laws and the reasonable requirements of the Government from time to time.
- 14.2 If the Contractor fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph (b)(i) of Article 14.1 or contravenes any relevant law, and such failure or contravention results in any Environmental Damage, the Contractor shall forthwith take all necessary and reasonable measures to remedy the failure and the effects thereof.
- 14.3 If the Government in accordance with the laws has good reason to believe that any works or installations erected by the Contractor or any operations conducted by the Contractor are endangering or may endanger persons or any property of any person, or are causing or may cause pollution, or are harming or may harm fauna or flora or the environment to a degree which the Government deems unacceptable, the Government may require the Contractor to take remedial measures within such reasonable period as may be determined by the Government and to repair any damage to the environment. If the Government deems it necessary, it may also require the Contractor to discontinue Petroleum Operations in whole or in part until the Contractor has taken such remedial measures or has repaired any damage caused.
- 14.4 The measures and methods to be used by the Contractor for the purpose of complying with the terms of paragraph (b)(i) of Article 14.1 shall be determined in timely consultation with the Government upon the commencement of Petroleum Operations or whenever there is a significant change in the scope or method of conducting Petroleum Operations and shall take into account the international standards applicable in similar circumstances and the relevant environmental impact study carried out in accordance with Article 14.5 below.
- The Contractor shall notify the Government, in writing, of the measures and methods finally determined by the Contractor and shall cause such measures and methods to be reviewed from time to time in the light of prevailing circumstances.
- 14.5 The Contractor shall cause a person or persons with special knowledge on environmental matters to carry out two environmental impact studies in order:
- (a) to determine at the time of the studies the prevailing situation relating to the environment, human beings and local communities, the flora and fauna in the Contract Area and in the adjoining or neighbouring areas; and
 - (b) to establish the likely effect on the environment, human beings and local communities, the flora and fauna in the Contract Area and in the adjoining or neighbouring areas in consequence of the relevant phase of Petroleum Operations to be conducted under this Contract, and to submit, for consideration by the Parties, methods and measures contemplated in Article 14.4 for minimising Environmental

Damage and carrying out Site Restoration activities.

- 14.5.1 The first of the aforementioned studies shall be carried out in two parts, namely, a preliminary part which must be concluded before commencement of any field work relating to a seismographic or other survey, and a final part relating to drilling in the Exploration Period. The part of the study relating to drilling operations in the Exploration Period shall be approved by Government before the commencement of such drilling operations, it being understood that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 14.5.2 The second of the aforementioned studies shall be completed before commencement of Development Operations and shall be submitted by the Contractor as part of the Development Plan, with specific approval of Government being obtained before commencement of Development Operations, it being understood that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 14.5.3 The studies mentioned in Article 14.5 above shall contain proposed environmental guidelines to be followed in order to minimize Environmental Damage and shall include, but not be limited to, the following, to the extent appropriate to the respective study taking into account the phase of operations to which the study relates.
- (a) proposed access cutting;
 - (b) clearing and timber salvage;
 - (c) wildlife and habitat protection;
 - (d) fuel storage and handling;
 - (e) use of explosives;
 - (f) camps and staging;
 - (g) liquid and solid waste disposal;
 - (h) cultural and archaeological sites;
 - (i) selection of drilling sites;
 - (j) terrain stabilization;
 - (k) protection of freshwater horizons;
 - (l) blowout prevention plan;
 - (m) flaring during completion and testing of Gas and Oil Wells;
 - (n) abandonment of Wells;
 - (o) rig dismantling and site completion;
 - (p) reclamation for abandonment;
 - (q) noise control;
 - (r) debris disposal; and
 - (s) protection of natural drainage and water flow.
- 14.5.4 Government shall convey its decision regarding any proposal for environmental clearances submitted by the Contractor pursuant to the provisions of this Article or Contract or required under any laws of India within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of submission of application by Contractor seeking such clearance. Any clarifications/additional informations required by the Government shall be asked by it within sixty (60) days from the date of submission of the application by Contractor. The final decision by the Government shall be conveyed within sixty (60) days from the receipt of such clarifications/additional information from the Contractor. In case Government fails to convey any decision to the Contractor, such application for the clearance by the Contractor shall be deemed to have been approved by the Government.
- 14.6 The Contractor shall ensure that:
- (a) Petroleum Operations are conducted in an environmentally acceptable and safe manner consistent with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice and that such Petroleum Operations are properly monitored;
 - (b) the pertinent completed environmental impact studies are made available to its employees and to its contractors and Subcontractors to develop adequate and proper awareness of the measures and methods of environmental protection to be used in carrying out the Petroleum Operations; and
 - (c) the contracts entered into between the Contractor and its contractors and Subcontractors relating to its Petroleum Operations shall include the provisions

stipulated herein and any established measures and methods for the implementation of the Contractor's obligations in relation to the environment under this Contract.

- 14.7 The Contractor shall, prior to conducting any drilling activities, prepare and submit for review by the Government contingency plans for dealing with oil spills, fires, accidents and emergencies, designed to achieve rapid and effective emergency response. The plans referred to above shall be discussed with the Government and concerns expressed shall be taken into account.
- 14.7.1 In the event of an emergency, accident, oil spill or fire arising from Petroleum Operations affecting the environment, the Contractor shall forthwith notify the Government and shall promptly implement the relevant contingency plan and perform such Site Restoration as may be necessary in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice.
- 14.7.2 In the event of any other emergency or accident arising from the Petroleum Operations affecting the environment, the Contractor shall take such action as may be prudent and necessary in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice in such circumstances.
- 14.8 In the event that the Contractor fails to comply with any of the terms contained in Article 14.7 within a period specified by the Government, the Government, after giving the Contractor reasonable notice in the circumstances, may take any action which may be necessary to ensure compliance with such terms and to recover from the Contractor, immediately after having taken such action, all costs and expenditures incurred in connection with such action together with such interest as may be determined in accordance with Section 1.7 of Appendix C of this Contract.
- 14.9 On expiry or termination of this Contract or relinquishment of part of the Contract Area, the Contractor shall:
- (a) subject to Article 27, remove all equipment and installations from the relinquished area or former Contract Area in a manner agreed with the Government pursuant to an abandonment plan; and
 - (b) perform all necessary Site Restoration in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice and take all other action necessary to prevent hazards to human life or to the property of others or the environment.
- 14.10 The Contractor shall prepare a proposal for the restoration of site including abandonment plan and requirement of funds for this and any annual contribution in accordance with the scheme framed by Government to the site restoration fund. This will be submitted along with the annual budget for the consideration and approval of the Management Committee.
- 14.11 Subject to Section 3.2 of Accounting Procedure, any site restoration fund scheme formulated by Government and subject to provisions of this Contract, any and all costs incurred by Contractor pursuant to this Article shall be cost recoverable including but not limited to sinking funds established for abandonment and restoration of Contract Area.
- 14.12 In this Article, a reference to Government includes the State Government.
- 14.13 Where the Contract Area is partly located on areas forming part of certain national parks, sanctuaries, mangroves, wetlands of national importance, biosphere reserves and other biologically sensitive areas. passage through these areas shall generally not be permitted. However, if there is no passage, other than through these areas to reach a particular point beyond these areas, permission of the appropriate authorities shall be obtained.
- 14.14 The obligations and liability of the Contractor for the environment hereunder shall be limited to damage to the environment which:
- (a) occurs after the Effective Date; and
 - (b) results from an act or omission of the Contractor.

ARTICLE 15

RECOVERY OF COST PETROLEUM

- 15.1 The Contractor shall be entitled to recover Contract Costs out of a percentage of the total value of Petroleum produced and saved from the Contract Area in the Year in accordance with the provisions of this Article.
- 15.2 Exploration Costs incurred by the Contractor in the Contract Area upto the date of first Commercial Production shall be aggregated, and the Contractor shall be entitled to recover the aggregate of such Exploration Costs out of the Cost Petroleum at the rate of one hundred percent (100%) per annum of such Exploration Costs beginning from the date of such Commercial Production.
- 15.3 The Contractor shall be entitled to recover out of the Cost Petroleum from the Contract Area the Exploration Costs which it has incurred in any Year after the date of Commercial Production at the rate of one hundred percent (100%) per annum of such Exploration Costs beginning from the date such Exploration Costs are incurred.
- 15.4 Development Costs incurred by the Contractor in the Contract Area upto the date of first Commercial Production shall be aggregated, and the Contractor shall be entitled to recover out of the Cost Petroleum the aggregate of such Development Costs at the rate of one hundred percent (100%) per annum of such Development Costs beginning from the date of such Commercial Production.
- 15.5 The Contractor shall be entitled to recover out of the Cost Petroleum from the Development Costs which it has incurred after the date of first Commercial Production at the rate of one hundred percent (100%) per annum of such Development Costs beginning from the date such Development Costs are incurred.
- 15.6 The Contractor shall be entitled to recover in full during any Year the Production Costs incurred in that Year out of the Cost Petroleum.
- 15.7 The Contractor shall be entitled to recover in full during any year the royalty payments to the Government/State Government(s) in that year out of the Cost Petroleum.
- 15.8 If during any Year the Cost Petroleum is not sufficient to enable the Contractor to recover in full the Contract Costs due for recovery in that Year in accordance with the provisions of Articles 15.1 to 15.6 then, subject to the provisions of Article 15.11:
- (a) recovery shall first be made of Royalty payment; and
 - (b) recovery shall next be made of the Production Costs; and
 - (c) recovery shall next be made of the Exploration Costs; and
 - (d) recovery shall then be made of the Development Costs.
- The unrecovered portions of Contract Costs shall be carried forward to the following Year and the Contractor shall be entitled to recover such Costs in such Year or the subsequent Years as if such Costs were due for recovery in that Year, or the succeeding Years, until the unrecovered Costs have been fully recovered out of Cost Petroleum from the Contract Area.
- 15.9 The maximum amount of Cost Petroleum to which the Contractor shall be entitled, in accordance with the provisions of this Article, shall be taken from the accepted bid (X%) of the total value of the Petroleum produced and saved from the Contract Area.
- 15.10 For the purposes of this Article, as well as Article 16, costs, receipts and income shall be converted into production unit equivalents, and vice versa, using the relevant prices established pursuant to Article 19 for Crude Oil and Article 21 for Natural Gas.
- 15.11 Pending completion of the calculations required to establish definitively the Contractor's entitlement to Cost Petroleum from the Contract Area in any Year, the Contractor shall take delivery, provisionally, of volumes of Crude Oil or Natural Gas representing its estimated Cost Petroleum entitlement calculated with reference to estimated production quantities, costs and prices as established by the Contractor and approved by the Management Committee. Such provisional determination of Cost Petroleum shall be made

every Quarter on an accumulative basis. Within sixty days of the end of each Year, a final calculation of the Contractor's entitlement to Cost Petroleum, based on actual production quantities, costs and prices for the entire Year, shall be undertaken and any necessary adjustments to the Cost Petroleum entitlement shall be agreed upon between the Government and the Contractor within thirty (30) days and made within thirty (30) days thereafter.

15.12

Where more than one Party constitutes the Contractor, the percentage of the total Cost Petroleum from the Contract Area which shall be available to each such Party in any Year for recovery of its share of Contract Costs shall be determined on the basis of the respective Participating Interest of each such Party.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 16

PRODUCTION SHARING OF PETROLEUM

- 16.1 The Parties to this Contract shall share in the Profit Petroleum in each Year in accordance with the provisions of this Article. A Party's share of Profit Petroleum in any Year, shall be calculated on the basis of the Investment Multiple actually achieved by the Contractor at the end of the preceding Year for the Contract Area as provided in Appendix D.
- 16.2.1 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is less than one and one half (1.5), the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] per cent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] per cent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- 16.2.2 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is equal to or more than one and one half (1.5) but is less than two (2.0) the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- 16.2.3 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is equal to or more than two (2.0) but is less than two and one half (2.5), the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- 16.2.4 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is equal to or more than two and one half (2.5) but is less than three (3.0), the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- 16.2.5 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is equal to or more than three (3.0) but is less than three and one half (3.5), the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- 16.2.6 When the Investment Multiple of the Contractor at the end of any Year is equal to or more than three and one half (3.5), the Government shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) and the Contractor shall be entitled to take and receive [] percent (%) of the total Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area with effect from the start of the succeeding Year.
- Note : These figures shall be as per the bid of Contractor and accepted by Government.
- 16.3 Any balance left to the credit of the Party in any site restoration account, opened pursuant to the provision of Article 14.10, after Site Restoration has been done by the Contractor in accordance with the provisions of this Contract and the laws in this regard, shall be shared between Government and Contractor as per the Investment Multiple reached at the time of ceasing of production from the Contract Area.
- 16.4 The Government shall have the option to take its entitlement to Profit Petroleum either in cash or in kind in any Year. Such option shall be exercised by notification to the Contractor no later than 30th June in each Year preceding the Year in which the entitlement is due. Where the Government has notified the Contractor of its intention to take its share in kind, the parties shall meet to agree on a procedure for delivery of the Government's share of Profit Petroleum and, where relevant, the composition of the Petroleum which is to be delivered.
- 16.5 The value of the Contractor's Investment Multiple at the end of any Year in respect of the Contract Area shall be calculated in the manner provided for, and on the basis of the net cash flows specified, in Appendix D to this Contract. However, the amount of Profit

Petroleum to be shared between the Government and the Contractor shall be determined for each Quarter on an accumulative basis. Pending finalisation of accounts, where the Government has elected to take its Profit Petroleum in kind, Profit Petroleum shall be shared between the Government and the Contractor on the basis of provisional estimated figures of Contract Costs, production, prices, receipts, income and any other income or allowable deductions and on the basis of the value of the Investment Multiple achieved at the end of the preceding Year. All such provisional estimates shall be approved by the Management Committee. When it is necessary to convert monetary units into physical units of production equivalents or vice versa, the price or prices determined pursuant to Articles 19 and 21 for Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas respectively shall be used. Within sixty (60) days of the end of each Year, a final calculation of Profit Petroleum based on actual costs, quantities, prices and income for the entire Year shall be completed and any necessary adjustments to the sharing of Petroleum shall be agreed upon between the Government and the Contractor within thirty (30) days and made within thirty (30) days thereafter.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 17

TAXES, ROYALTIES, RENTALS, DUTIES ETC.

- 17.1 Companies, their employees, persons providing any materials, supplies, services or facilities or supplying any ship, aircraft, machinery, equipment or plant (whether by way of sale or hire) to the Companies for Petroleum Operations or for any other purpose and the employees of such persons shall be subject to all fiscal legislation in India except where, pursuant to any authority granted under any applicable law, they are exempted wholly or partly from the application of the provisions of a particular law or as otherwise provided herein.
- 17.2 Pursuant to the provisions of section 42 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, the allowances specified herein shall apply in computing income tax payable by a Company on its profits and gains from the business of Petroleum Operations in lieu of (and not in addition to) corresponding allowances provided for under the heading "Profits and Gains of Business or Profession" in the Income-Tax Act, 1961. Any other allowance, which are not specified herein, shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of Income Tax Act , 1961.
- 17.2.1 Subject to the provisions herein below, deductions at the rate of one hundred percent (100%) per annum shall be allowed for all expenditures, both capital and revenue expenditures, incurred in respect of Exploration Operations and drilling operations. The expenditure incurred in respect of Development Operations, other than drilling operations, and Production Operations will be allowable as per the provisions of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. The expenses so incurred are subject to the following:
- (a) where any expenditure is not solely incurred on Petroleum Operations or is incurred as part of or in conjunction with any other business, only that proportion of the total expenditure which can be proved to the assessing officer to represent a fair proportionate part thereof, having regard to all relevant facts and circumstances, shall be allowed;
 - (b) sections 40A and 44C of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, shall apply.
- 17.2.2 A Company shall be entitled, for income tax purposes only, to deduct all its unsuccessful Exploration Costs in contract areas covered by other contracts from the aggregate value of Petroleum allocable to the Company from any Field(s) in the Contract Area in the manner as follows:
- (a) Unsuccessful Exploration Costs incurred in contract areas other than the Contract Area where a Commercial Discovery has been made up to the date of commencement of Commercial Production shall be aggregated and the Company shall be entitled to deduct such costs at the rate of one hundred per cent (100%) per annum;
 - (b) Unsuccessful Exploration Costs incurred in contract areas other than the Contract Area where a Commercial Discovery has been made, after the commencement of Commercial Production, shall be deductible at the rate of one hundred per cent (100%) per annum of such costs beginning from the Year such costs are incurred.
- 17.2.3 All allowable expenditure incurred prior to the Year in which Commercial Production commences shall be aggregated and the assessed loss for that Year as well as the assessed loss, if any, incurred in the assessment year relevant to the Year in which Commercial Production commences, or in any subsequent assessment year, shall be carried forward to succeeding assessment years and set off as provided in the Income-Tax Act, 1961.
- 17.2.4 For any or all accumulated expenditures incurred in respect of Exploration Operations and drilling operations prior to the date of commercial production, Company(ies) shall have option to amortize such expenditures over a period of ten (10) years from the date of first commercial production.
- 17.2.5 The profits and gains of the business of the Parties comprising Contractor consisting of Petroleum Operations shall, for the purpose of levy of income tax under the Income-Tax

Act, 1961, be computed on the basis of the value, determined in accordance with Article 19, of its Participating Interest share of Crude Oil produced and saved and sold, or otherwise disposed of, from the Contract Area and from any revenue realised on the sale of Associated or Non Associated Natural Gas referred to in Article 21 as well as any other gains or receipts from Petroleum Operations as reduced by the deductions as specified herein, and, except as herein provided, all the provisions of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, shall apply.

- 17.2.6 Company(ies) shall be eligible for benefits available under Section 80 IA of the Income Tax Act, 1961 as applicable from time to time.
- 17.3 For the purposes of Article 17.2 and section 42 of the Income-Tax Act,1961:
- 17.3.1 The following terms used in section 42 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961, shall have the meanings corresponding to the terms used in this Contract and defined in Article 1 as follows:
- (a) "agreement" means this Contract as defined in Article 1;
 - (b) "commercial production" shall have the meaning assigned in Article 1.
- 17.3.2 The terms "assessing officer", "assessed loss", and "assessment year" shall have the meaning as defined in the Income-Tax Act, 1961.
- 17.3.3 The other terms used herein and defined in Article 1 shall have the meaning therein ascribed.
- 17.4 Companies (Lessee) shall be required to pay royalty to the Government (Lessor) for offshore areas at the rate of ten percent (10%) of the well-head value of crude oil and natural gas. In case of an onshore area, Companies shall be required to pay to the State Government(s) (Lessor) at the rate of twelve point five zero percent (12.5%) of the well-head value of crude oil and ten percent (10%) of the well-head value of natural gas. In case of an offshore area falling beyond four hundred (400) metre isobath, the rate of royalty payable by Companies (Lessee) to the Government (Lessor) shall be at the rate of five percent (5%) of the well-head value of crude oil and natural gas for the first seven years from the date of commencement of Commercial Production in the Field. The valuation of crude oil and natural gas shall be as per the Article 19 and Article 21 respectively. The royalty amount due to Government/State Government(s) shall be payable latest by the end of the month of the succeeding month.
- 17.5 Machinery, plant, equipment, materials and supplies imported by the Contractor and its Sub-contractors solely and exclusively for use in Petroleum Operations under this contract or similar contracts with Government where customs duty has been exempted by the Government shall be exempt from customs duties, export duties or other charges on re-exportation of the said items in accordance with applicable legislation.
- 17.6 The Government shall have the right to inspect the records and documents of the physical item or items for which an exemption has been provided pursuant to Article 17.5 to determine that such item or items are being or have been imported solely and exclusively for the purpose for which the exemption was granted. The Government shall also be entitled to inspect such physical items wherever located to ensure that such items are being used for the purpose herein specified and any item not being so used shall immediately become liable to payment of the applicable customs duties.
- 17.7 Subject to Article 27.I, the Contractor and its Sub contractors may sell or otherwise transfer in India all imported items which are no longer required for Petroleum Operations, subject to applicable laws including rules, regulations, procedures, notifications etc. governing customs duties and sale or disposal of such items.
- 17.8 Any sales tax or tax of similar nature payable on the sale(s) of Petroleum under this Contract shall be borne/reimbursed by the buyer(s).
- 17.9 Subject to the provisions herein above provided, Contractor shall be liable for payment of:
- (a) annual license charges and rental fees and other charges under the Rules;
 - (b) charges payable by specified industries or in connection with Petroleum Operations under applicable legislation;

- (c) payments for purchase, lease or rental of land or land rights in connection with Petroleum Operations;
- (d) taxes, fees or charges for specific services rendered on request or to the public generally;
- (e) customs duties, except for those items subject to exemption as provided in Article 17, applicable at the rates specified from time to time;
- (f) stamp duties, registration fees, licence fees, taxes such as taxes on property or assets (not calculated by reference to income or otherwise exempted) or other levies, fees or charges of a non-discriminatory nature and generally applicable in India or in the State where Petroleum Operations are being conducted.

17.10

If any change in or to any Indian law, rule or regulation dealing with income tax or other corporate tax, export/import tax, excise, customs duty or any other levies, duties or taxes imposed on Petroleum or dependent upon the value of Petroleum results in a material change to the expected economic benefits accruing to any of the Parties after the effective date of execution of the Contract, the Parties shall consult promptly in good faith to make necessary revisions and adjustments to the Contract in order to maintain such expected economic benefits to each of the Parties, provided, however, that the expected economic benefits to the Parties shall not be reduced as a result of the operation of this Article.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 18

DOMESTIC SUPPLY, SALE, DISPOSAL AND EXPORT OF CRUDE OIL AND CONDENSATE

- 18.1 Until such time as the total availability to the Government of Crude Oil and Condensate from all Petroleum production activities in India meets the total national demand, each Company comprising the Contractor, shall be required to sell in the Indian domestic market in India all of the Company's entitlement to Crude Oil and Condensate from the Contract Area in order to assist in satisfying the national demand.
- 18.2 If, during any Year, India attains Self-sufficiency, the Government shall promptly thereafter, but in no event later than the end of the first Quarter of the following Year, so advise the Company(ies) by written notice. In such event, as from the end of the second Quarter of the following Year, or such earlier date as the Parties may mutually agree, domestic sale obligation shall be suspended and the Company shall have the right to lift and export its Participating Interest share of Crude Oil and Condensate until such time, if any, as Self-sufficiency shall have ceased to exist. If Self-sufficiency ceases to exist during a Year, the Government shall recover its position to ask Company(ies) under Article 18.1 in respect of the following Year by giving 90 days notice thereof to the Company(ies) to sell Crude Oil and Condensate in the Indian domestic market.
- 18.3 Upon India achieving Self-sufficiency, the Company(ies) shall be entitled to freely lift and export any Crude Oil and Condensate pursuant to this Article 18, subject to Government's generally applicable destination restrictions to countries with which the Government, for policy reasons, has severed or restricted trade.
- 18.4 No later than sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of production in a Field, and thereafter no less than sixty (60) days before the commencement of each Year, the Contractor shall cause to be prepared and submitted to the Parties a production forecast setting out the total quantity of Crude Oil that it estimates can be produced from a Field during the succeeding Year, based on a maximum efficient rate of recovery of Crude Oil from that Field in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practice. No later than thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of each Quarter, the Contractor shall advise its estimate of production for the succeeding Quarter and shall endeavour to produce the forecast quantity for each Quarter.
- 18.5 Each Company comprising the Contractor shall, throughout the term of this Contract, have the right to separately take in kind and dispose of all its share of Cost Petroleum and Profit Petroleum and shall have the obligation to lift the said Crude Oil and Profit Petroleum on a current basis and in such quantities so as not to cause a restriction of production or inconvenience to the other Company(ies).
- 18.6 The Government shall, throughout the term of this Contract, have the right to separately take in kind and dispose of its share of Crude Oil and shall have the obligation to lift the said Oil on a current basis and in such quantities so as not to cause a restriction of production or inconvenience to the Contractor.
- 18.7 For the purpose of implementing the provisions of this Article, a Crude Oil lifting procedure and crude sales agreement based on generally acceptable international terms shall be agreed upon by the Contractor with buyer(s) no later than six (6) months or such shorter period as may be mutually agreed between the Contractor and buyer(s) with the consent of Government prior to the commencement of production in a Field. Such lifting procedure shall be made available to all the Parties to this Contract.

ARTICLE 19

VALUATION OF PETROLEUM

- 19.1 For the purpose of this Contract, the value of Crude Oil, Condensate and Natural Gas (refer Article 21) shall be based on the price determined as provided herein.
- 19.2 A price for Crude Oil shall be determined for each Month or such other period as the Parties may agree (hereinafter referred to as "the Delivery Period") in terms of United States Dollars per Barrel, on import parity basis (with marine freight be determined on the basis of nearest port to the Contract Area) for Crude Oil produced and sold or otherwise disposed of from each Development Area, for each Delivery Period, in accordance with the appropriate basis for that type of sale or disposal specified below. Subject to the provisions of this Article 19, it is clearly understood that the actual prices received by the Company(ies) from the sales will form the basis for the purposes of Cost Recovery, Profit Petroleum sharing and payment of royalty as provided in the Articles 15, 16 and 17 respectively. The basis of valuation given in this Article for the purpose of Article 15, 16 and 17 shall apply only where Government is of the view that sale prices realised by the Company(ies) are not consistent with the price realisable at Arms Length Sales.
- 19.3 In the event that some or all of a Company's or Contractor's total sales of Crude Oil during a Delivery Period are made to third parties at Arms Length Sales, all sales so made shall be valued at the weighted average of the prices actually received by a Company, calculated by dividing the total receipts from all such sales at the Delivery Point by the total number of Barrels of the Crude Oil sold in such sales.
- 19.3.1 Each Company constituting Contractor shall separately submit to the designated nominee of the Government, within fifteen (15) days of the end of each Delivery Period, a report containing the actual prices obtained in their respective Arms Length Sales for any Crude Oil. Such reports shall distinguish between term sales and spot sales and itemize volumes, customers, prices received and credit terms, and a Company shall allow the designated nominee(s) of the Government to examine the relevant sales contracts.
- 19.4 For the purpose of determining price at Arms Length Sales, the price of the Crude Oil at which sale takes place will generally be based on per Barrel of one or more crude oils which, at the time of calculation, are being freely and actively traded in the international market and are similar in characteristics and quality to the Crude Oil in respect of which the price is being determined, selling price to be ascertained from Platt's Crude Oil Market Wire daily publication ("Platt's"), or the spot market for the same crude oils ascertained in the same manner, whichever price more truly reflects the current value of such crude oils. For any Delivery Period in which sales take place, the price shall be the arithmetic average price per Barrel determined by calculating the average for such Delivery Period of the mean of the high and low FOB prices for each day of the crude oils selected for comparison adjusted for differences in the Crude Oil and the crude oils being compared for quality, transportation costs, delivery time, quantity, payment terms and other contract terms to the extent known and other relevant factors. In the event that Platt's ceases to be published or is not published for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days, the Parties shall agree on an alternative daily publication. Contractor shall make available all the data pertaining to pricing of Crude to enable Government. to decide that the proposed sale price by the Contractor/each constituents of the Contractor reflects a fair market price for the Crude.
- 19.4.1 In the event that, at the relevant time, no crude oils of similar quality to the Crude Oil to be sold are being actively traded in the international markets where prices can be ascertained by international publication, or the official FOB selling prices and the international spot market price vary widely between producers, the Parties shall meet in good faith to determine an appropriate pricing basis.
- 19.5 A Contractor Party shall determine the relevant prices in accordance with this Article and the calculation, basis of calculation and the price determined shall be supplied to the Government and shall be subject to agreement by the Government.

- 19.6 In the event that the Parties fail to reach agreement on any matter concerning selection of the crude oils for comparison, the calculation, the basis of, or mechanism for the calculation of the prices, the prices arrived at, the adjustment of any price or generally about the manner in which the prices are determined according to the provisions of this Article within thirty (30) days, or such longer period as may be mutually agreed between the Parties, from the date of commencement of Commercial Production or the end of each Delivery Period thereafter, any Party may refer the matter or matters in issue for final determination by a sole expert appointed as provided in Article 33.
- 19.6.1 Within ten (10) days of the said appointment, the Parties shall provide the expert with all information they deem necessary or as the expert may reasonably require.
- 19.6.2 Within fifteen (15) days from the date of his appointment, the expert shall report to the Parties on the issue(s) referred to him for determination, applying the criteria or mechanism set forth herein and indicate his decision thereon to be applicable for the relevant Delivery Period for Crude Oil and such decision shall be accepted as final and binding by the Parties.
- 19.6.3 Any price or pricing mechanism agreed by the Parties pursuant to the provisions of this Article shall not be changed retroactively.
- 19.7 In the event that all sales of Crude Oil in a Delivery Period by a Company constituting Contractor are to be made to an Affiliate , the Parties may agree on an alternative method of valuing the Crude Oil for the purposes of this Contract, provided that such alternative method results in an internationally competitive fair market valuation for that Period. The decision of the Government on determining a Crude price in case of sales to an Affiliate shall be final and binding.
- 19.8 In the event that in any Delivery Period there is more than one type of sales referred to in Articles 19.3 and 19.7, then, for the purpose of calculating Cost Petroleum and Profit Petroleum entitlement and royalty payments pursuant to Articles 15 , 16 and 17 respectively, a single price per Barrel of Crude Oil for all the sales for the relevant Delivery Period shall be used. Such single price shall be the weighted average of the prices determined for each type of sale, weighted by the respective volumes of Crude Oil sold in each type of sale in the relevant Delivery Period.
- 19.9 The provisions specified above for the determination of the price of sales of Crude Oil shall apply **mutatis mutandis** to Condensates.
- 19.10 The price of Natural Gas shall be determined as provided in Article 21.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 20

CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE CONTROL PROVISIONS

- 20.1 Subject to the provisions herein, and to compliance with the relevant provisions of the laws of general application in India governing currency and foreign exchange and related administrative instructions and procedures issued thereunder on a non-discriminatory basis, each Foreign Company comprising the Contractor shall, during the term of this Contract, have the right to:
- (a) repatriate abroad, in United States Dollars or any other freely convertible currency acceptable to the Government and the Foreign Company, the net proceeds of sales of Petroleum in India;
 - (b) receive, retain and use abroad the proceeds of any export sales of Petroleum under the Contract;
 - (c) open, maintain and operate bank accounts with reputable banks, both inside and outside India, for the purpose of this Contract;
 - (d) freely import, through normal banking channels, funds necessary for carrying out the Petroleum Operations;
 - (e) convert into foreign exchange and repatriate sums imported pursuant to (d) above in excess (if any) of its requirements; and
 - (f) make payments outside of India for purchases, services and loans obtained abroad without the requirement that funds used in making such payments must come from or originate in India.
- Provided, however, that repatriation pursuant to subparagraphs (a) and (e) and payments pursuant to subparagraph (f) shall be subject to the provisions of any treaties and bilateral arrangements between the Government and any country with respect to payments to or from that country.
- 20.2 The rates of exchange for the purchase and sale of currency by the Companies shall be the prevailing rates of general application determined by the Reserve Bank of India or such other financial body as may be mutually agreed by the Parties and, for accounting purposes under this Contract, these rates shall apply as provided in Section 1.6 of Appendix C.
- 20.3. A Party other than a Foreign Company comprising the Contractor shall be governed by the relevant currency and foreign exchange laws and related administrative instructions and procedures issued thereunder.
- 20.4 Indian Companies shall have right to remit their portion of expenditure in foreign currency(ies) in accordance with the exchange control provisions.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 21

NATURAL GAS

- 21.1 Subject to Article 21.2, the Indian domestic market shall have the first call on the utilisation of Natural Gas discovered and produced from the Contract Area. Accordingly, any proposal by the Contractor relating to Discovery and production of Natural Gas from the Contract Area shall be made in the context of the Government's policy for the utilisation of Natural Gas and shall take into account the objectives of the Government to develop its resources in the most efficient manner and to promote conservation measures.
- 21.2 Contractor shall have the right to use Natural Gas produced from the Contract Area for the purpose of Petroleum Operations including reinjection for pressure maintenance in Oil Fields, gas lifting and captive power generation required for Petroleum Operations.
- 21.3 For the purpose of sales in the domestic market in India pursuant to this Article 21, the Contractor shall have freedom to market the gas.
- 21.4 **Associated Natural Gas (ANG)**
- 21.4.1 In the event that a Discovery of Crude Oil contains ANG, Contractor shall declare in the proposal for the declaration of the said Discovery as a Commercial Discovery as specified in Article 10, whether (and by what amount) the estimated production of ANG is anticipated to exceed the quantities of ANG which will be used in accordance with Article 21.2 (such excess being hereinafter referred to as "the Excess ANG"). In such an event the Contractor shall indicate whether, on the basis of the available data and information, it has reasonable grounds for believing that the Excess ANG could be commercially exploited in accordance with the terms of this Contract along with the commercial production of the Crude Oil from Development Area, and whether the Contractor intends to so exploit the Excess ANG.
- 21.4.2 Based on the principle of full utilisation and minimum flaring of ANG, a proposed Development Plan for an Oil Discovery shall, to the extent practicable, include a plan for utilisation of the ANG including estimated quantities to be flared, reinjected, and to be used for Petroleum Operations; and, if the Contractor proposes to commercially exploit the Excess ANG for sale in the domestic market in accordance with Government's policy, or elsewhere, the proposed plans for such exploitation.
- 21.4.3 If the Contractor wishes to exploit the Excess ANG, subject to Article 21.1, the Contractor shall be free to explore markets for the commercial exploitation of the said Excess ANG and submit its proposals for such exploitation to the Government in accordance with Article 21.4.2.
- 21.4.4 Where the Contractor is of the view that Excess ANG cannot be commercially exploited and chooses not to exploit the said ANG, or is unable to find a market for the Excess ANG pursuant to Article 21.4.3, the Government shall be entitled to take and utilise such Excess ANG free of any costs/charge.
- 21.4.5 If the Government elects to take the Excess ANG as provided in Article 21.4.4:
- (a) the Contractor shall deliver such Excess ANG to the Government (or its nominee) free of any cost/charge, at the downstream flange of the gas/oil separation facilities;
 - (b) the Contractor shall, based on sound petroleum engineering practices, install such facilities as would facilitate, insofar as practicable, uninterrupted delivery of such Excess ANG to the Government or its nominee;
 - (c) the cost of all facilities installed pursuant to paragraph (b) above shall be borne by the Government (or its nominee);
 - (d) the Government or its nominee shall bear all costs including gathering, treating, processing and transporting costs beyond the downstream flange of the gas/oil separation facilities; and
 - (e) the delivery of such Excess ANG shall be subject to procedures to be agreed between the Government or its nominee and the Contractor prior to such delivery, such procedures to include matters relating to timing of off-take of such Excess ANG.

- 21.4.6 Excess ANG which is not commercially exploited by the Contractor, or taken by the Government or its nominee pursuant to this Article 21, shall be returned to the subsurface structure or flared or otherwise disposed of as approved by the Government in the context of the Development Plan, provided that flaring will be resorted to only for small quantities and as a last resort.
- 21.4.7 As soon as practicable after the submission of the proposed Development Plan, the Contractor and the Government or its nominee shall meet to discuss the sale and/or disposal of any ANG discovered with a view to giving effect to the provisions of this Article 21 in a timely manner.
- 21.5 **Non Associated Natural Gas (NANG)**
- 21.5.1 In the event of a Discovery of NANG in the Contract Area, the Contractor shall promptly report such Discovery to the Management Committee and the Government and the provisions of Articles 10.1 and 10.2 shall apply. The remaining provisions of Article 10 would apply to the Discovery and development of NANG only insofar as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Article. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3, the Contractor shall be entitled to retain the Discovery Area subject to the provisions of this Article 21.
- 21.5.2 If, pursuant to Article 10.1, the Contractor gives notification that the Discovery is of potential commercial interest, the Contractor shall submit to the Management Committee, within one (1) Calendar Year from the date of notification of the above said Discovery, the proposed Appraisal Programme, including a Work Programme and Budget to carry out an adequate and effective appraisal of such Discovery, to determine (i) without delay, whether such Discovery is a Commercial Discovery and (ii) with reasonable precision, the boundaries of the area to be delineated as the Development Area. Such proposed Appraisal programme shall be supported by all relevant data such as Well data, Contractor's best estimate of reserve range and production potential, and shall indicate the date of commencement of the proposed Appraisal Programme.
- 21.5.3 The proposed Appraisal Programme together with the Work Programme and Budget referred to in Article 21.5.2 shall be considered by the Management Committee within one hundred and twenty (120) days of its submission by the Contractor. Management Committee shall review the Appraisal Programme of the Contractor and offer its comments within said period. The said Appraisal Programme together with the Work Programme and Budget submitted by the Contractor as revised or modified or amended in light of Management Committee review and advice, shall be adopted as the Appraisal Programme and the Contractor shall promptly proceed with implementation of the said programme.
- 21.5.4 If on the basis of the results of the Appraisal Programme, the Contractor is of the opinion that NANG has been discovered in commercial quantities, it shall submit to the Management Committee as soon as practicable but not later than three (3) years from the date of notification of the aforementioned Discovery, a proposal for the declaration of the Discovery as a Commercial Discovery. Such Proposal shall take into account the Government's policies on gas utilization and propose alternative options, if any for use or consumption of the NANG and be accompanied by a report on the Discovery supported by, inter alia, technical and economic data, evaluations, interpretations and analyses of such data and feasibility studies relating to the Discovery prepared by or on behalf of the Contractor, and other relevant information. If no proposal is submitted to the Management Committee by the Contractor within three (3) years from the said Discovery, the Contractor shall relinquish its rights to develop such Discovery and the area relating to such Discovery shall be excluded from the Contract Area.
- 21.5.5 Where the Contractor has submitted a proposal for the declaration of a Discovery as a Commercial Discovery, the Management Committee shall consider the proposal of the Contractor with reference to commercial utilization or commercial development of the NANG in the domestic market or elsewhere and in the context of Government's policy on gas utilization and the chain of activities required to bring the NANG from the Delivery Point to potential consumers in the domestic market or elsewhere. The Management Committee may, within ninety (90) days of the submission of the said proposal, request the Contractor

to submit any additional information on the Discovery, the anticipated markets or any other related matter, that may reasonably be required to facilitate a review. The Management Committee will advise the Contractor of its review within one hundred and fifty (150) days from the submission of proposal or within sixty (60) days from the receipt of additional information, as the case may be, on the proposal made by Contractor to declare the Discovery as a Commercial Discovery.

- 21.5.6 If the Contractor declares the Discovery a Commercial Discovery after taking into account the advice of Management Committee as referred to in the Article 21.5.5, Contractor shall, within one (1) Calendar Year of the declaration of the Discovery as a Commercial Discovery, submit a Development Plan for the development of the Discovery to the Management Committee for approval. Such Plan shall be supported by all relevant information including, inter alia, the information required in Article 10.7.
- 21.5.7 The Management Committee shall consider the proposed Development Plan and give their approval within one hundred and eighty (180) days of submission thereof by the Contractor. The Management Committee shall ask for any clarification/additional information required necessary to consider the Development Plan within ninety (90) days of receipt of the proposal from the Contractor. If the Management Committee fails to convey its decision within one hundred and eighty (180) days from the submission of the Development Plan or ninety (90) days from the receipt of the clarifications/additional information, whichever is later, the Contractor may submit the Development Plan for the approval of the Government. Also, where, Management Committee rejects the Development Plan of the Contractor, Contractor can submit the Development Plan for the approval of the Government.
- 21.5.8 Where the Development Plan is submitted to the Government for approval pursuant to Article 21.5.7, the Government shall convey its decision within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of receipt of the proposal from the Contractor. Government, where it considers necessary, may ask clarifications/additional information from the Contractor within ninety (90) days and shall convey its decision within (60) days from the date of receipt of such clarifications/additional information.
- 21.5.9 If the Government has failed to approve or disapproves the Contractor's proposed Development Plan, within one hundred and twenty (120) days from receipt or within sixty (60) days from the receipt of clarifications/ information from the Contractor as mentioned in the Article 21.5.8, the Government shall advise the Contractor, in writing, of the reasons for such failure or disapproval and the Government and the Contractor shall meet to discuss the said Development Plan and the reasons for the said failure to approve or disapproval, and use their best efforts to agree on appropriate modifications thereto to meet the Government's concerns or objections. Thereafter, the Contractor shall have the right to resubmit, within ninety (90) days of communication from the Government, the proposed Development Plan duly amended to meet the Government's concerns. Such right of resubmission of the proposed Development Plan shall be exercisable by the Contractor only once. If no such Plan is submitted to the Government within the above specified period, the Contractor shall relinquish its right to develop such Gas Discovery and such Discovery shall be excluded from the Contract Area.
- 21.5.10 In the event that the Management Committee or Government, as may be the case, approves the Contractor's Development Plan for the development of such Commercial Discovery, with such modifications and amendments as the Management Committee or Government, as may be the case, may approve, the said Gas Discovery shall be promptly developed by the Contractor in accordance with the approved plan which shall be the Development Plan.
- 21.5.11 The Contractor will have a two (2) years period, from the date of approval of the Development Plan by the Management Committee or Government, to tie-up the market(s) for sale of Non-associated Natural Gas.
- 21.5.12 In the event the Contractor does not commence development of such Discovery within ten (10) years from the date of the first discovery well, the Contractor shall relinquish its right to develop such Discovery and the area relating to such Discovery shall be excluded from

the Contract Area.

21.6 **Valuation of Natural Gas**

21.6.1 The Contractor shall endeavour to sell all Natural Gas produced and saved from the Contract Area at arms-length prices to the benefits of Parties to the Contract.

21.6.2 Notwithstanding the provision of Article 21.6.1, Natural Gas produced from the Contract Area shall be valued for the purposes of this Contract as follows :

(a) Gas which is used as per Article 21.2 or flared with the approval of the Govt. or re-injected or sold to the Government pursuant to Article 21.4.5 shall be ascribed a zero value;

(b) Gas which is sold to the Government or any other Government nominee shall be valued at the prices actually obtained; and

(c) Gas which is sold or disposed of otherwise than in accordance with paragraph (a) or (b) shall be valued on the basis of competitive arms length sales in the region for similar sales under similar conditions.

21.6.3 The formula or basis on which the prices shall be determined pursuant to Articles 21.6.2 (b) or (c) shall be approved by the Government prior to the sale of Natural Gas to the consumers/buyers. For granting this approval, Government shall take into account the prevailing policy , if any ,on pricing of Natural Gas including any linkages with traded liquid fuels, and it may delegate or assign this function to a regulatory authority as and when such an authority is in existence.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 22

EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

- 22.1 Without prejudice to the right of the Contractor to select and employ such number of personnel as, in the opinion of the Contractor, are required for carrying out Petroleum Operations in a safe, cost effective and efficient manner, the Contractor shall, to the maximum extent possible, employ, and require the Operator and Subcontractors to employ, citizens of India having appropriate qualifications and experience, taking into account experience required in the level and nature of the Petroleum Operations.
- 22.2 The Contractor shall offer a mutually agreed number of Indian nationals the opportunity for on-the-job training and practical experience in Petroleum Operations during the Exploration Period. Not later than six (6) months after approval of the Development Plan, the Contractor shall, in consultation with the Government, establish and implement training programmes for staff positions in each phase and level of Petroleum Operations including skilled, technical, executive and management positions, with a view to ensuring employment of nationals of India and gradual and progressive reduction of foreign personnel.
- 22.3 At the request of the Government, the Foreign Companies shall separately endeavour to negotiate, in good faith, technical assistance agreements with the Government or a company nominated by Govt. for this purpose setting forth the terms by which each Foreign Company constituting the Contractor may render technical assistance and make available commercially proven technical information of a proprietary nature for use in India by the Government or the company nominated by Govt. The issues to be addressed in negotiating such technical assistance agreements shall include, but not be limited to, licensing issues, royalty conditions, confidentiality restrictions, liabilities, costs and method of payment.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 23

LOCAL GOODS AND SERVICES

- 23.1 In the conduct of Petroleum Operations, the Contractor shall:
- (a) give preference to the purchase and use of goods manufactured, produced or supplied in India provided that such goods are available on terms equal to or better than imported goods with respect to timing of delivery, quality and quantity required, price and other terms;
 - (b) employ Indian Subcontractors having the required skills or expertise, to the maximum extent possible, insofar as their services are available on comparable standards with those obtained elsewhere and at competitive prices and on competitive terms; provided that where no such Subcontractors are available, preference shall be given to non-Indian Subcontractors who utilise Indian goods to the maximum extent possible, subject, however, to the proviso in paragraph (a) above;
 - (c) ensure that provisions in terms of paragraphs (a) to (b) above are contained in contracts between the Operator and its Subcontractors.
- 23.2 Subject to Article 8.3(f), the Contractor shall establish appropriate procedures, including tender procedures, for the acquisition of goods and services which shall ensure that suppliers and Subcontractors in India are given adequate opportunity to compete for the supply of goods and services. The tender procedures shall include, inter alia, the financial amounts or value of contracts which will be awarded on the basis of selective bidding or open competitive bidding, the procedures for such bidding, and the exceptions to bidding in cases of emergency, and shall be subject to the approval of the Management Committee.
- 23.3 Within sixty (60) days after the end of each Calendar Year, the Contractor shall provide the Government with a report outlining its achievements in utilising Indian resources during that Calendar Year in accordance with Section 10 of Appendix C to this Contract.
- 23.4 In this Article "goods" means equipment, materials and supplies.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 24

INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION

24.1 Insurance

24.1.1 The Contractor shall, during the term of this Contract, maintain and obtain insurance coverage for and in relation to Petroleum Operations for such amounts and against such risks as are customarily or prudently insured in the international petroleum industry in accordance with Good International Petroleum Industry Practices, and shall furnish to the Government certificates evidencing that such coverage is in effect. Such insurance policies shall include the Government as additional insured and shall waive subrogation against the Government. The said insurance shall, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, cover:

- (a) Loss or damage to all installations, equipment and other assets for so long as they are used in or in connection with Petroleum Operations; provided, however, that if for any reason the Contractor fails to insure any such installation, equipment or assets, it shall replace any loss thereof or repair any damage caused thereto;
- (b) Loss, damage or injury caused by pollution in the course of or as a result of Petroleum Operations;
- (c) Loss of property or damage or bodily injury suffered by any third party in the course of or as a result of Petroleum Operations for which the Contractor may be liable;
- (d) Any claim for which the Government may be liable relating to the loss of property or damage or bodily injury suffered by any third party in the course of or as a result of Petroleum Operations for which the Contractor is liable to indemnify the Government, or the State Government;
- (e) With respect to Petroleum Operations offshore, the cost of removing wrecks and cleaning up operations following any accident in the course of or as a result of Petroleum Operations;
- (f) The Contractor's and/or the Operator's liability to its employees engaged in Petroleum Operations.

24.1.2 The Contractor shall require its Subcontractors to obtain and maintain insurance against the risks referred to in Article 24.1.1. relating **mutatis mutandis** to such Subcontractors.

24.2 Indemnity

Subject to Article 4.7, the Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold the Government, and the State Government harmless against all claims, losses and damages of any nature whatsoever, including, without limitation, claims for loss or damage to property or injury or death to persons caused by or resulting from any Petroleum Operations conducted by or on behalf of the Contractor.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 25

RECORDS, REPORTS, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

- 25.1 The Contractor shall prepare and maintain at an office in India accurate and current books, records, reports and accounts of its activities for and in connection with Petroleum Operations so as to present a fair, clear and accurate record of all its activities, expenditures and receipts.
- 25.2 Based on generally accepted and recognised accounting principles and modern petroleum industry practices, record, books, accounts and accounting procedures in respect of Petroleum Operations shall be maintained on behalf of the Contractor by the operator, at its business office in India, in accordance with the Accounting Procedure to this Contract.
- 25.3 The Contractor shall submit to the Government regular Statements and reports relating to Petroleum Operations as provided in Annexure C.
- 25.4 The annual audit of accounts shall be carried out on behalf of the Contractor by a qualified, independent firm of recognised chartered accountants, registered in India and selected by the Contractor with the approval of the Management Committee and a copy of the audited accounts shall be submitted to Government within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.
- 25.5 The Government shall have the right to audit the accounting records of the Contractor in respect of Petroleum Operations as provided in the Accounting Procedure.
- 25.6 The accounting and auditing provisions and procedures specified in this Contract are without prejudice to any other requirements imposed by any statute in India, including, without limitation, any specific requirements of the statutes relating to taxation of Companies.
- 25.7 For the purpose of any audit referred to in Articles 25.5, the Contractor shall make available to the auditor all such books, records, accounts and other documents and information as may be reasonably required by the auditor.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 26

INFORMATION, DATA, CONFIDENTIALITY, INSPECTION AND SECURITY

- 26.1 The Contractor shall, promptly after they become available in India, provide the Government, free of cost with all data obtained as a result of Petroleum Operations under the Contract including, but not limited to, geological, geophysical, geochemical, petrophysical, engineering, Well logs, maps, magnetic tapes, cores, cuttings and production data as well as all interpretative and derivative data, including reports, analyses, interpretations and evaluation prepared in respect of Petroleum Operations (hereinafter referred to as "Data"). Data shall be the property of the Government, provided, however, that the Contractor shall have the right to make use of such Data, free of cost, for the purpose of Petroleum Operations under this Contract as provided herein.
- 26.2 Contractor may, for use in Petroleum Operations, retain copies or samples of material or information constituting the Data and, with the approval of the Government, original material, except that where such material is capable of reproduction and copies have been supplied to the Government, Contractor may, subject to the right of inspection by the Government, export subject to any applicable regulations samples or other original Data for processing or laboratory examination or analysis, provided that representative samples equivalent in quality, size and quantity, or, where such material is capable of reproduction, copies of equivalent quality, have first been delivered to the Government.
- 26.3 Contractor shall keep the Government currently advised of all developments taking place during the course of Petroleum Operations and shall furnish the Government with full and accurate information and progress reports relating to Petroleum Operations (on a daily, monthly, yearly or other periodic basis) as Government may reasonably require, provided that this obligation shall not extend to proprietary technology. Contractor shall meet with the Government at a mutually convenient location in India to present the results of all geological and geophysical work carried out as well as the results of all engineering and drilling operations as soon as such Data becomes available to the Contractor.
- 26.4 All Data, information and reports obtained or prepared by, for or on behalf of, the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be treated as confidential and, subject to the provisions herein below, the Parties shall not disclose the contents thereof to any third party without the consent in writing of the other Parties.
- 26.5 The obligation specified in Article 26.4 shall not operate so as to prevent disclosure:
- (a) to Affiliates, contractors, or Subcontractors for the purpose of Petroleum Operations;
 - (b) to employees, professional consultants, advisers, data processing centres and laboratories, where required, for the performance of functions in connection with Petroleum Operations for any Party comprising the Contractor;
 - (c) to banks or other financial institutions, in connection with Petroleum Operations;
 - (d) to bonafide intending assignees or transferees of a Participating Interest of a Party comprising the Contractor or in connection with a sale of the stock or shares of a Party comprising the Contractor;
 - (e) to the extent required by any applicable law or in connection with any legal proceedings or by the regulations of any stock exchange upon which the shares of a Party comprising Contractor are quoted;
 - (f) to Government departments for, or in connection with, the preparation by or on behalf of the Government of statistical reports with respect to Petroleum Operations, or in connection with the administration of this Contract or any relevant law or for any purpose connected with Petroleum Operations;
 - (g) by a Party with respect to any Data or information which, without disclosure by such Party, is generally known to the public.
- 26.6 Any Data, information or reports disclosed by the Parties comprising the Contractor to any other person pursuant to Article 26.5 (a) to (d) shall be disclosed on the terms that such Data, information or reports shall be treated as confidential by the recipient. Prompt notice

of disclosures made by Companies pursuant to Article 26.5 shall be given to the Government.

- 26.7 Any Data, information and reports relating to the Contract Area which, in the opinion of the Government, might have significance in connection with offers by the Government of open acreage or an exploration programme to be conducted by a third party in another area, may be disclosed by the Government for such purposes.
- 26.8 Where an area ceases to be part of the Contract Area, the Contractor shall continue to treat Data and information with respect to the said area as confidential for a period of one (1) year and shall deliver to the Government copies or originals of all Data and information in its possession with respect to the said area. The Government shall, however, have the right to freely use the said Data and information thereafter.
- 26.9 The Government shall, at all reasonable times, through duly authorised representatives, be entitled to observe Petroleum Operations and to inspect all assets, books, records, reports, accounts, contracts, samples and Data kept by the Contractor or the Operator in respect of Petroleum Operations in the Contract Area, provided, however, that the Contractor shall not be required to disclose any proprietary technology. The duly authorised representatives shall be given reasonable assistance by the Contractor for such functions and the Contractor shall afford such representatives reasonable use of all facilities and privileges afforded to its own personnel in the field including the use of office space and housing for a period not exceeding 30 mandays in a Year and thereafter at the cost of Government. The said representatives shall be entitled to make a reasonable number of surveys, measurements, drawings, tests and copies of documents, take samples, and make reasonable use of the equipment and instruments of the Contractor provided that such functions shall not unduly interfere with the Contractor's Petroleum Operations.
- 26.10 Contractor shall give reasonable advance notice to the Government, or to any other authority designated by the Government for such purpose, of its programme of conducting surveys by aircraft or by ships, indicating, inter alia, the name of the survey to be conducted, approximate extent of the area to be covered, the duration of the survey, the commencement date, and the name of the airport or port from which the survey aircraft or ship will commence its voyage.
- 26.11 The Government, or the authority designated by the Government for such purpose, shall have the right to inspect any aircraft or ship used by the Contractor or a Subcontractor carrying out any survey or other operations in the Contract Area and shall have the right to put on board such aircraft or ship Government officers in such number as may reasonably be necessary to ensure compliance by the Contractor or the Subcontractor with the security requirements of India.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 27

TITLE TO PETROLEUM, DATA AND ASSETS

- 27.1 The Government is the sole owner of Petroleum underlying the Contract Area and shall remain the sole owner of Petroleum produced pursuant to the provisions of this Contract except as regards that part of Crude Oil, Condensate or Gas the title whereof has passed to the Contractor or any other person in accordance with the provisions of this Contract.
- 27.2 Title to Petroleum to which Contractor is entitled under this Contract, and title to Petroleum sold by the Companies shall pass to the relevant Party at the Delivery Point. Contractor shall be responsible for all costs and risks prior to the Delivery Point and each Party shall be responsible for all costs and risks associated with such Party's share after the Delivery Point.
- 27.3 Title to all Data specified in Article 26 shall be vested in the Government and the Contractor shall have the right to use thereof as therein provided.
- 27.4 Assets purchased by the Contractor for use in Petroleum Operations shall be owned by the Parties comprising Contractor in proportion to their Participating Interest provided that the Government shall have the right to require vesting of full title and ownership in it, free of charge and encumbrances, of any or all assets, whether fixed or movable, acquired and owned by the Contractor for use in Petroleum Operations inside or outside the Contract Area, such right to be exercisable at the Government's option upon expiry or earlier termination of the Contract.
- 27.5 Contractor shall be responsible for proper maintenance, insurance and safety of all assets acquired for Petroleum Operations and for keeping them in good repair, order and working condition at all times, and the costs thereof shall be recoverable as Contract Costs in accordance with Appendix C.
- 27.6 So long as this Contract remains in force, subject to Article 27.5, the Contractor shall, free of any charge for the purpose of carrying out Petroleum Operations hereunder, have the exclusive use of assets which have become the Property of Government.
- 27.7 Equipment and assets no longer required for Petroleum Operations during the term of the Contract shall be sold, exchanged or otherwise disposed of by the Contractor, provided however that the proceeds of sale shall be credited to Petroleum Operations as provided in Appendix C, provided that prior written consent of the Management Committee shall be obtained for each transaction in excess of US\$ 50,000 (Fifty thousand United States Dollars) or such other value as may be agreed from time to time by the Management Committee. The consent of the Management Committee shall not be unreasonably withheld.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 28

ASSIGNMENT OF INTEREST

- 28.1 Subject to the terms of this Article and other terms of this Contract, any Party comprising the Contractor may assign, or transfer, a part or all of its Participating Interest, with the prior written consent of the Government, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, provided that the Government is satisfied that:
- (a) the prospective assignee or transferee is of good standing, has the capacity and ability to meet its obligations hereunder, and is willing to provide an unconditional undertaking to the Government to assume its Participating Interest share of obligations and to provide guarantees in respect thereof as provided in the Contract;
 - (b) the prospective assignee or transferee is not a company incorporated in a country with which the Government, for policy reasons, has restricted trade or business;
 - (c) the prospective assignor or transferor and assignee or transferee respectively are willing to comply with any reasonable conditions of the Government as may be necessary in the circumstances with a view to ensuring performance under the Contract; and
 - (d) the assignment or transfer will not adversely affect the performance or obligations under this Contract or be contrary to the interests of India.
- 28.2 In case of any material change in the status of Companies or their shareholding or the relationship with any guarantor of the Companies, the Company(ies) shall seek the consent of the Government for assigning the participating interest under the changed circumstances.
- 28.3 An application for consent to assign or transfer shall be accompanied by all relevant information concerning the proposed assignment or transfer including detailed information on the proposed assignee or transferee and its shareholding and corporate structure, as was earlier required from the Companies constituting the Contractor, the terms of the proposed assignment or transfer and the unconditional undertaking referred to in Article.
- 28.4 The applicant shall also submit such information relating to the prospective assignee or transferee of the assignment or transfer as the Government may reasonably require to enable proper consideration and disposal of the application.
- 28.5 No assignment or transfer shall be effective until the approval of the Government is received or deemed to have been received. Approval may be given by the Government on such terms and conditions as it may deem fit. Provided that such terms and conditions may not increase the obligations of the Parties comprising the Contractor. Upon assignment or transfer of its interest in this Contract, the assignor or transferor shall be released and discharged from its obligations hereunder only to the extent that such obligations are assumed by the assignee or transferee with the approval of the Government.
- 28.6 In the event that the Government does not give its consent or does not respond to a request for assignment or transfer by a Party comprising the Contractor within one hundred and twenty (120) days of such request and receipt of all information referred to in Article 28.3 above, consent shall be deemed to have been given by the Government.
- 28.7 An assignment or transfer shall not be made where the Participating Interest to be retained by the proposed assignor or the percentage interest of assignee shall be less than ten per cent (10%) of the total Participating Interest of all the constituents of the Contractor, except where the Government, on the recommendations of the Management Committee may, in special circumstances, so permit.
- 28.8 Nothing contained in this Article 28, shall prevent a Party comprising Contractor from mortgaging, pledging, charging or otherwise encumbering at its own risk and cost all or part of its Participating Interest for the purposes of security relating to finance to the extent required for performing its obligation under the Contract, provided that:
- (i) such Party shall remain solely liable for all its obligations relating to its

Participating Interest to the exclusion of the other participants thereto;

(ii) the encumbrance shall be expressly subordinated to the rights of the other Parties under this Contract. The obligations occurring from the said encumbrance shall be the sole responsibility of the original Party and shall in no manner compromise the rights of other Parties to the Contract;

(iii) such Party has given reasonable notice of such encumbrance and furnishes to all other Parties (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the Government) a certified copy of the executed instrument(s) evidencing the encumbrances; and

(iv) keeping in view the national interest of India, prior consent of the Government shall be required (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld) of the list of potential lenders with whom such Party can consider hypothecation.

(v) the Party creating the charge shall ensure that such charge shall not in any way affect the interest of other Parties or result in interference with joint operations. In the event of any claims or liabilities imposed on other Parties because of the creation of such charges, the Party having created charge on its Participating Interest shall indemnify the other Parties.

(vi) in case of foreclosure or default by a borrowing Party, the mortgagee shall not be deemed to have acquired a right to carry on either by itself or through an agent, the Petroleum Operation, without the written consent of the Government of India.

28.8.1 The Parties acknowledge that to obtain financing a Party ("Borrower") will be required to secure for a permitted chargee the right to receive a copy of any notice served on the Borrower and the Parties agree that they shall serve a copy of any such notice on any such permitted chargee in accordance with the provisions of Article 36 at the same time as such notice is served on the Borrower. For the purposes of Article 36 the address for service of notices of the permitted chargee shall be that specified in the instrument or instruments referred to in Article 28.8(iii).

28.8.2 The financing arrangement referred to above, shall be subject to the rights of Government as contained in Article 28.1 of Contract and the pre-emptive rights of the Parties as may be contained in Operating Agreement. Any Party which wishes to exercise the said pre-emptive rights will explicitly assume the obligation on the same terms and conditions as the Borrower.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 29

GUARANTEES

- 29.1 Subject to Article 29.1 (d), each of the Companies constituting the Contractor shall procure and deliver to the Government on the Effective Date of this Contract:
- (a) an irrevocable, unconditional bank guarantee from a reputable bank of good standing in India, acceptable to the Government, in favour of the Government, for the amount specified in Article 29.2, in a form provided at Appendix-G;
 - (b) performance guarantee, in favour of the Government from a parent company of good financial standing acceptable to the Government, in the form and substance set out in Appendix E, or, where there is no such parent company from an insurance company or financial institution of good financial standing acceptable to the Government.
 - (c) a legal opinion from its legal advisors, in a form satisfactory to the Government, to the effect that the aforesaid guarantees have been duly signed and delivered on behalf of the guarantors with due authority and is legally valid and enforceable and binding upon them.
 - (d) Public sector enterprises, as defined in the Companies Act and the Companies having a net worth of US\$ 1 billion or more (as per the latest audited account) shall not be required to furnish bank guarantee towards its minimum work obligations as specified in Article 5 of this Contract.
- 29.2 The amount of the guarantee referred to in Article 29.1 (a) above shall be an amount equal to a Company's Participating Interest share and shall be thirty five percent (35%) of the total estimated expenditure in respect of the Work Programme to be undertaken by the Contractor in the Contract Area during each Contract Year of a Phase, subject to Article 29.3
- 29.3 The guarantee referred to in Article 29.2 shall provide that;
- (a) at the end of each Contract Year it shall be automatically renewed for an amount equal to a Company's Participating Interest share of 35% per cent of the total estimated expenditure in respect of the Work Programme to be undertaken for the following Contract Year of an Exploration Phase, unless the Contractor has terminated the Contract in accordance with the terms thereof. The guarantee shall be renewed at the end of each Contract Year positively thirty (30) days before the expiry of the guarantee period.
 - (b) at the end of the Exploration Phase, the guarantee will be released in favour of the Company on presentation to the bank of a certificate from the Government that the obligation of the Contractor has been fulfilled and the guarantee may be released, subject to Article 29.4.
- 29.4 If the Contractor elects to proceed to the second and third Exploration Phase respectively of the Exploration Period, a bank guarantee for the succeeding Exploration Phase in terms of Articles 29.1 (a), 29.2 and 29.3 shall be delivered to the Government with the notice of such election and if such guarantee is not so delivered, the provisions of Article 29.5 shall apply.
- 29.5 If any of the documents referred to in Article 29.1 is not delivered within the period specified herein, this Contract may be cancelled by the Government upon ninety (90) days written notice of its intention to do so.
- 29.6 Notwithstanding any change in the composition or shareholding of the parent company furnishing a performance guarantee as provided herein, it shall, not under any circumstances, be absolved of its obligations contained in the guarantees provided pursuant to Article 29.1(b).

ARTICLE 30

TERM AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

- 30.1 The term of this Contract shall be for the period of the License and any Lease granted thereunder, unless the Contract is terminated earlier in accordance with its terms, and shall be deemed to have been terminated, if for any reason, the Contractor ceases to hold such License or Lease.
- 30.2 Subject to the provision of Articles 5, 14 and 30.6 and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 30.7 or any other provisions of this Contract, the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Contract:
- (a) with respect to any part of the Contract Area other than a Development Area then producing, or that prior thereto had produced Petroleum, upon giving ninety (90) days written notice of its intention to do so; and
 - (b) with respect to any Development Area in which Petroleum is being produced , or that prior thereto had produced Petroleum, upon giving at least one hundred and eighty (180) days written notice of its intention to do so.}
- 30.3 This Contract may, subject to the provisions herein below and Article 31, be terminated by the Government upon giving ninety (90) days written notice of to the other Parties of its intention to do so in the following circumstances, namely, that the Contractor or a Party comprising the Contractor ("the Defaulting Party")
- (a) has knowingly submitted any false statement to the Government in any manner which was a material consideration in the execution of this Contract; or
 - (b) has intentionally and knowingly extracted or authorised the extraction of hydrocarbon not authorized to be extracted by the Contract or without the authority of the Government except such extractions as may be unavoidable as a result of operations conducted hereunder in accordance with generally accepted Good International Petroleum Industry Practice which, when so extracted, were immediately notified to the Government or
 - (c) is adjudged bankrupt by a competent court or enters into or scheme of composition with its creditors or takes advantage of any law for the benefit of debtors; or
 - (d) has passed a resolution to apply to a competent court for liquidation of the Company unless the liquidation is for the purpose of amalgamation or reconstruction of which the Government has been given notice and the Government is satisfied that the Company's performance under this Contract would not be adversely affected thereby and has given its approval thereto; or
 - (e) has assigned any interest in the Contract without the prior consent of the Government as provided in Article 28; or
 - (f) has failed to make any monetary payment required by law or under this Contract by the due date or within such further period after the due date as may thereafter be specified by the Government; or
 - (g) has failed to comply with or has contravened the provisions of this Contract in a material particular; or
 - (h) has failed to comply with any final determination or award made by a sole expert or arbitrators subject to Article 33; or
 - (i) has failed to carry out or observe any of the terms and conditions of the License or lease or the provisions of the Acts or Rules in force thereunder, subject however, to Article 31.
 - (j) on notice of cancellation as provided in Article 29.5.

PROVIDED THAT

where the Contractor comprises two or more Parties, the Government shall not exercise its rights of termination pursuant to Article 30.3, on the occurrence, in relation to one or more, but not all, of the Parties comprising Contractor, of an event entitling the Government to terminate the Contract,

- (a) if any other Party or Parties constituting the Contractor (the Non-Defaulting

Party or Parties) satisfies the Government that it, or they, is/are willing and would be able to carry out the obligations of the Contractor.

(b) where the Non Defaulting Party or Parties with the consent of the Government has/have acquired the Participating Interest of the Defaulting Party pursuant to the provisions of the Operating Agreement and has/have procured and delivered to the Government a guarantee or guarantees as referred to in Article 29.1 in respect of the Participating Interest of the Defaulting Party acquired by the Non Defaulting Party or Parties.

30.4 This Contract may also be terminated by the Government on giving the requisite notice specified above if the events specified in Article 30.3 (c) and (d) occur with respect to a company which has given a performance guarantee pursuant to Article 29 subject however to Article 30.5.

30.5 If the circumstance or circumstances that give rise to the right of termination under Article 30.3(f) or (g) or (i) or Article 30.4 are remedied (whether by the Defaulting Company or by another Party or Parties in its behalf) within the ninety (90) day period, or such extended period as may be granted by the Government, following the notice of the Government's intention to terminate the Contract as aforesaid, such termination shall not become effective.

30.6 If the circumstance or circumstances that would otherwise result in termination are the subject matter of proceedings under Article 33, then termination shall not take place so long as such proceedings continue and thereafter may only take place when and if consistent with the arbitral award.

30.7 On termination of this Contract, for any reason whatsoever, the rights and obligations of the Contractor shall cease but such termination shall not affect any rights of any Party which may have accrued or any obligations undertaken or incurred by the Contractor or any Party comprising the contractor and not discharged prior to the date of termination.

30.8 In the event of termination pursuant to Articles 30.2, 30.3 or 30.4:

(a) the Government may require the Contractor, for a period not exceeding one eighty (180) days from the date of termination, to continue, for the account and at the cost of the Government, Crude Oil or Natural Gas production activities until the right to continue such production has been transferred to another entity;

(b) a Foreign Company, which is a constituent of the Contractor, shall have to remove and export all its property subject to Article 27 and the provisions hereof provided that in the event that ownership of any property is in doubt, or disputed, such property shall not be exported unless and until the doubt or dispute has been settled in favour of the Foreign Company.

30.9 Within ninety (90) days after the termination of this Contract, pursuant to Article 30.2, 30.3, or 30.4, or such longer period as the Government may agree, the Contractor shall comply with Article 14.9 and any reasonably necessary action as directed by the Government to avoid Environmental Damage or hazards to human life or to the property of others.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 31

FORCE MAJEURE

- 31.1 Any non-performance or delay in performance by any Party hereto of any of its obligations under this Contract, or in fulfilling any condition of any Licence or Lease granted to such Party, or in meeting any requirement of the Act, the Rules or any Licence or Lease, shall, except for the payment of monies due under this Contract or under the Act and the Rules or any law, be excused if, and to the extent that, such non-performance or delay in performance under this Contract is caused by Force Majeure as defined in this Article.
- 31.2 For the purpose of this Contract, the term Force Majeure means any cause or event, other than the unavailability of funds, whether similar to or different from those enumerated herein, lying beyond the reasonable control of, and unanticipated or unforeseeable by, and not brought about at the instance of, the Party claiming to be affected by such event, or which, if anticipated or foreseeable, could not be avoided or provided for, and which has caused the non-performance or delay in performance. Without limitation to the generality of the foregoing, the term Force Majeure shall include natural phenomena or calamities, earthquakes, typhoons, fires, wars declared or undeclared, hostilities, invasions, blockades, riots, strikes, insurrection and civil disturbances but shall not include the unavailability of funds.
- 31.3 Where a Party is claiming suspension of its obligations on account of Force Majeure, it shall promptly, but in no case later than seven (7) days after the occurrence of the event of Force Majeure, notify the other Parties in writing giving full particulars of the Force Majeure, the estimated duration thereof, the obligations affected and the reasons for its suspension.
- 31.4 A Party claiming Force Majeure shall exercise reasonable diligence to seek to overcome the Force Majeure event and to mitigate the effects thereof on the performance of its obligations under this Contract. The Party affected shall promptly notify the other Parties as soon as the Force Majeure event has been removed and no longer prevents it from complying with the obligations which have been suspended and shall thereafter resume compliance with such obligations as soon as possible.
- 31.5 The Party asserting the claim of Force Majeure shall have the burden of proving that the circumstances constitute valid grounds of Force Majeure under this Article and that such Party has exercised reasonable diligence and efforts to remedy the cause of any alleged Force Majeure.
- 31.6 Where a Party is prevented from exercising any rights or performing any obligations under this Contract due to Force Majeure, the time for the performance of the obligations affected thereby and for performance of any obligation or the exercise of any right dependent thereon, and the term of any Exploration Phase of the Exploration Period or this Contract, may be extended to the extent of Force Majeure period or by such period as may be agreed between the Parties.
- 31.7 Notwithstanding anything contained herein above, if an event of Force Majeure occurs and is likely to continue for a period in excess of thirty days, the Parties shall meet to discuss the consequences of the Force Majeure and the course of action to be taken to mitigate the effects thereof or to be adopted in the circumstances.

ARTICLE 32

APPLICABLE LAW AND LANGUAGE OF THE CONTRACT

- 32.1 This Contract shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of India.
- 32.2 Nothing in this Contract shall entitle the Contractor to exercise the rights, privileges and powers conferred upon it by this Contract in a manner which will contravene the laws of India.
- 32.3 The English language shall be the language of this Contract and shall be used in arbitral proceedings. All communications, hearing or visual materials or documents relating to this Contract shall be written or prepared in English.
- 32.4 The laws will also include amendments, revisions, modifications etc.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 33

SOLE EXPERT, CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

- 33.1 The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes, differences or claims arising out of or in connection with any of the terms and conditions of this Contract or concerning the interpretation or performance thereof.
- 33.2 Matters which, by the terms of this Contract, the Parties have agreed to refer to a sole expert and any other matters which the Parties may agree to so refer, may be referred to a sole expert who shall be an independent and impartial person of international standing with relevant qualifications and experience, appointed by agreement between the Parties and who shall not, by virtue of nationality, personal connection or commercial interest, have a conflict between his/her own interest and his/her duty as a sole expert. In the event that the Parties fail or are unable, to agree on a sole expert, the sole expert shall be appointed by the Chief Justice of India pursuant to this Article. Any sole expert appointed shall be acting as an expert and not as an arbitrator and the decision of the sole expert on matters referred to him/her shall be final and binding on the Parties and not subject to arbitration.
- 33.3 Subject to the provisions of this Contract, the Parties hereby agree that any controversy difference, disagreement or claim for damages, compensation or otherwise (hereinafter in this Clause referred to as a "dispute") arising between the Parties, which cannot be settled amicably within ninety (90) days after the dispute arises, may (except for those referred to in Article 33.2, which may be referred to a sole expert) be submitted to an arbitral tribunal for final decision as hereinafter provided.
- 33.4 The arbitral tribunal shall consist of three arbitrators. Each Party to the dispute shall appoint one arbitrator and the Party or Parties shall so advise the other Parties. The two arbitrators appointed by the Parties shall appoint the third arbitrator.
- 33.5 Any Party may, after appointing an arbitrator, request the other Party(ies) in writing to appoint the second arbitrator. If such other Party fails to appoint an arbitrator within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written request to do so, such arbitrator may, at the request of the first Party, be appointed by the Chief Justice of India or by a person authorised by him or within thirty (30) days of the date of receipt of such request, from amongst persons who are not nationals of the country of any of the Parties to the arbitration proceedings.
- 33.6 If the two arbitrators appointed by on behalf of the Parties fail to agree on the appointment of the third arbitrator within thirty (30) days of the appointment of the second arbitrator and if the Parties do not otherwise agree, at the request of either Party, the third arbitrator shall be appointed in accordance with Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1996.
- 33.7 If any of the arbitrators fails or is unable to act, his successor shall be appointed by the Party or person who originally appointed such in the manner set out in this Article as if he was the first appointment.
- 33.8 The decision of the arbitral tribunal, and, in the case of difference among the arbitrators, the decision of the majority, shall be final and binding upon the Parties.
- 33.9 The arbitration agreement contained in this Article 33 shall be governed by the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (Arbitration Act). Arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules for arbitration provided in Arbitration Act and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) rules may apply to the extent where corresponding rules are not provided in the Act. In case of any conflict between the Arbitration Act and the provisions of this Article 33, the provisions of the Arbitration Act shall prevail.
- 33.10 The right to arbitrate disputes under this Contract shall survive expiry or the termination of this Contract.
- 33.11 Prior to submitting a dispute to arbitration, the Parties may by mutual agreement submit the matter for conciliation in accordance with Part III of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. No arbitration proceedings shall be instituted while conciliation proceedings are pending provided that a Party may initiate arbitration proceedings in the event that dispute


has not been resolved by conciliation within twenty one (21) days of the date of agreement by the Parties to submit such dispute to conciliation.

33.12 The venue of the sole expert, conciliation or arbitration proceedings pursuant to this Article, unless the Parties agree otherwise, shall be _____, India and shall be conducted in the English language. Insofar as practicable, the Parties shall continue to implement the terms of this Contract notwithstanding the initiation of arbitral proceedings before a sole expert, conciliator or arbitral tribunal and any pending claim or dispute.

33.13 The fees and expenses of a Sole Expert or Conciliator appointed by the Parties shall be borne equally by the Parties. The cost and expenses of arbitrator appointed by a Party in accordance with the provision of this Article shall be borne by the respective Party and the cost and expenses of third arbitrator and liability thereof shall be at the discretion of the arbitrators.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 34

CHANGE OF STATUS OF COMPANIES

- 34.1 The Parties comprising the Contractor shall notify the Government of any material change in their status, shareholding or relationship of that of any guarantor of the Companies, in particular, where such change would impact on performance of obligations under this Contract.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



ARTICLE 35

ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AMENDMENTS, WAIVER AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 35.1 This Contract supersedes and replaces any previous agreement or understanding between the Parties, whether oral or written, on the subject matter hereof, prior to the execution date of this Contract.
- 35.2 This Contract shall not be amended, modified, varied or supplemented in any respect except by an instrument in writing signed by all the Parties, which shall state the date upon which the amendment or modification shall become effective.
- 35.3 No waiver by any Party of any one or more obligations or defaults by any other Party in the performance of this Contract shall operate or be construed as a waiver of any other obligations or defaults whether of a like or of a different character.
- 35.4 The provisions of this Contract shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Parties and their permitted assigns and successors in interest.
- 35.5 In the event of any conflict between any provisions in the main body of this Contract and any provision in the Appendices, the provision in the main body shall prevail.
- 35.6 The headings of this Contract are for convenience of reference only and shall not be taken into account in interpreting the terms of this Contract.
- 35.7 Reference to any law or regulation having the force of law includes a reference to that law or regulation as from time to time may be amended, extended or re-enacted.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 36

CERTIFICATES

- 36.1 A Company shall furnish, prior to execution of this Contract, a duly authorised copy of a resolution properly and legally passed by the Board of Directors of the Company authorising its President or any Vice-President or any other representative to execute this Contract along with a certificate duly signed by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Company under its seal in this regard and to the effect that the Company has the power and authority to enter into this Contract and to perform its obligations thereunder and has taken all necessary action to authorise the execution, delivery and performance of the Contract.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

ARTICLE 37

NOTICES

37.1 All notices, statements, and other communications to be given, submitted or made hereunder by any Party to another shall be sufficiently given if given in writing in the English language and sent by registered post, postage paid, or by telegram, telex, facsimile, radio or cable, to the address or addresses of the other Party or Parties as follows:

(a) If to the Government:
Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
Shastri Bhavan
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Marg,
New Delhi- 110001, INDIA
Grams:
Facsimile No.:
Telephone No. :

(b) XYZ Company(ies)....
.....
.....
Facsimile No.:
Telephone No. :

37.2 Notices when given in terms of Article 37.1 shall be effective when delivered if offered at the address of the other Parties as under Article 37.1 during business hours on working days and, if received outside business hours, on the next following working day.

37.3 Any Party may, by reasonable notice as provided hereunder to the other Parties, change its address and other particulars for notice purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the Parties to this Contract being duly authorised have hereunto set their hands and have executed these presents this day of,1999/200---.

Signed for and on behalf of the President of India

By: _____

Signed for and on behalf of XYZ Company

By: _____

in the presence of:

APPENDIX A

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT AREA

The area comprising approximately Sq. Km. [Offshore] [Onshore] India identified as Block described herein and shown on the map attached as Appendix B.

Longitude and Latitude measurements commencing at point are and respectively.



APPENDIX B

MAP OF CONTRACT AREA



[Index](#)

[Back](#)

APPENDIX C

ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE TO PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

AND

XYZ COMPANY (IES)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sections	Content
<u>Section 1:</u>	<u>General Provisions</u>
	1.1 Purpose
	1.2 Definitions
	1.3 Inconsistency
	1.4 Documentation and Statements to be submitted by the Contractor
	1.5 Language and units of account
	1.6 Currency exchange rates
	1.7 Payments
	1.8 Arms length transactions
	1.9 Audit and inspection rights of the Government
	1.10 Sole Risk Accounts
	1.11 Revision of Accounting Procedure
<u>Section 2:</u>	<u>Classification, Definition and Allocation of Costs and Expenditures</u>
	2.1 Segregation of Costs
	2.2 Exploration Costs
	2.3 Development Costs
	2.4 Production Costs
	2.5 Service Costs
	2.6 General and Administrative Costs
<u>Section 3:</u>	<u>Costs, Expenses, Expenditures and Incidental Income of the Contractor</u>
	3.1 Costs recoverable and allowable without further approval of the Government:
	3.1.1 Surface Rights
	3.1.2 Labour and Associated Costs
	3.1.3 Transportation
	3.1.4 Charges for Services - (i) Third party Contracts (ii) Affiliated Company Contracts
	3.1.5 Communications
	3.1.6 Office, Bases and Miscellaneous facilities
	3.1.7 Environmental studies

- 3.1.8 Materials -
 - (i) General
 - (ii) Warranty
 - (iii) Value of Materials
- 3.1.9 Duties, fees and other charges
- 3.1.10 Insurance and Losses
- 3.1.11 Legal expenses
- 3.1.12 Training costs
- 3.1.13 General and Administrative Costs
- 3.2 Costs not recoverable and not allowable under the Contract
- 3.3 Other Costs recoverable and allowable only with Government approval
- 3.4 Incidental income
- 3.5 Non-duplication of charges and credits

Section 4: Records and Valuation of Assets

- 4.1 Records
- 4.2 Inventories

Section 5: Production Statement

Section 6: Value of Production and Pricing Statement

Section 7: Statement of Costs, Expenditures and Receipts

Section 8: Cost Recovery Statement

Section 9: Profit Sharing Statement

Section 10: Local Procurement Statement

Section 11: End of Year Statement

Section 12: Budget Statement

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

APPENDIX D

CALCULATION OF THE INVESTMENT MULTIPLE FOR PRODUCTION SHARING PURPOSES

1. In accordance with the provisions of Article 16, the share of the Government and the Contractor respectively of Profit Petroleum from Contract Area in any Year shall be determined by the Investment Multiple earned by the Contractor from the then Petroleum Operations at the end of the preceding Year. These measures of profitability shall be calculated on the basis of the appropriate net cash flows as specified in this Appendix D.
2. The "Net Cash Income" of the Contractor from their Petroleum Operations in any particular Year is the aggregate value for the Year of the following:
 - (i) Cost Petroleum entitlement of the Contractor as provided in Article 15;
plus
 - (ii) Profit Petroleum entitlement of the Contractor as provided in Article 16;
plus
 - (iii) the Contractor's all incidental income (of the type specified in section 3.4 of the Accounting Procedure) arising from Petroleum Operations;
less
 - (iv) the Contractor's Production Costs and royalty payments (Article 17) incurred on or in Contract Area;
3. The "Investment" made by the Contractor in the Contract Area in any particular Year is the aggregate value for the Year of:
 - (i) the Contractor's Exploration Costs incurred on or in Contract Area pursuant to Article 15.
plus
 - (ii) The Contractor's Development Costs incurred on or in Contract Area.
4. For the purposes of the calculation of the Investment Multiple, costs or expenditures which are not allowable as provided in the Accounting Procedure shall be excluded from Contract Costs and be disregarded.
5. The Investment Multiple ratio earned by the Contractor as at the end of any Year shall be calculated by dividing the aggregate value of the addition of each of the annual Net Cash Incomes (accumulated, without interest, up to and including that Year starting from the Year in which Production Costs were first incurred or Production first arose) by the aggregate value of the addition of each of the annual Investments (accumulated, without interest, up to and including that Year starting from the Year in which Exploration and Development Costs were first incurred).
6. Profit Petroleum from the Contract Area in any Year shall be shared between the Government and the Contractor in accordance with the value of the Investment Multiple earned by the Contractor as at the end of the previous Year pursuant to Articles 16.2-16.7.

APPENDIX E

FORM OF PARENT FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

(to be furnished pursuant to Article 29 of the Contract)

WHEREAS _____ a company duly organised and existing under the laws of _____ having its registered office at _____ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Guarantor' which expression shall include its successors and assigns) is [the indirect owner of 100% of the capital stock of XYZ Company and direct owner of its parent company;] and

WHEREAS XYZ Company is signatory to a Production Sharing Contract of even date of this guarantee in respect of an (offshore) (onshore) area identified as Block _____ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Contract') made between the Government of India (hereinafter referred to as 'the Government'), and XYZ Company (hereinafter referred to as XYZ which expression shall include its successors and permitted assigns); and

WHEREAS the Guarantor wishes to guarantee the performance of XYZ Company or its Affiliate Assignee under the Contract as required by the terms of the Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE this Deed hereby provides as follows:

1. The Guarantor hereby unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees to the Government that it will make available, or cause to be made available, to XYZ Company or any other directly or indirectly owned Affiliate of XYZ Company to which any part or all of XYZ Company's rights or interest under the Contract may subsequently be assigned ('Affiliate Assignee'), financial, technical and other resources required to ensure that XYZ Company or any Affiliate Assignee can carry out its obligations as set forth in the Contract.
2. The Guarantor further unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees to the Government the due and punctual compliance by XYZ Company or any Affiliate Assignee, of any obligations of XYZ Company or any Affiliate Assignee under the Contract.
3. The Guarantor hereby undertakes to the Government that if XYZ Company, or any Affiliate Assignee, shall, in any respect, fail to perform its obligations under the Contract or commit any breach of such obligations, then the Guarantor shall fulfil or cause to be fulfilled the said obligations in place of XYZ Company or any Affiliate Assignee, and will indemnify the Government against all losses, damages, costs, expenses or otherwise which may result directly from such failure to perform or breach on the part of XYZ Company.
4. This guarantee shall take effect from the Effective Date and shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the said Contract and thereafter until no sum remains payable by XYZ Company, or its Affiliate Assignee, under the Contract or as a result of any decision or award made by any expert or arbitral tribunal thereunder.
5. This guarantee shall not be affected by any change in the Articles of Association and bye-laws of XYZ Company or the Guarantor or in any instrument establishing the Company or Guarantor.
6. The liabilities of the Guarantor shall not be discharged or affected by (a) any time indulgence, waiver or consent given to XYZ Company; (b) any amendment to the Contract or to any security or other guarantee or indemnity to which XYZ Company has agreed; (c) the enforcement or waiver of any terms of the Contract or of any security, other guarantee or indemnity; or (d) the dissolution, amalgamation, reconstruction or reorganisation of XYZ Company.
7. This guarantee shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of India.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Guarantor, through its duly authorised representatives, has caused its seal to be duly affixed hereto and this guarantee to be duly executed the

_____ day of _____ 199__.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)



APPENDIX F

PROCEDURE FOR ACQUISITION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

I OBJECTIVES

The objectives of these procedures are to:

- (a) ensure the goods and services acquired by the Operator for the carrying out of the Petroleum Operations are acquired at the optimum cost taking into consideration all relevant factors including price, quality, delivery times and the reliability of potential suppliers.
- (b) ensure that goods and services are delivered in a timely manner taking into consideration the consequences of delays in the acquisition of these goods and services on the project as a whole.
- (c) ensure that the provisions of Article 23 of the Contract are implemented.

II PRINCIPLES

The principles upon which these procedures are based are:

- (a) The parties must be satisfied that the Operator is working to an agreed procedure for acquiring goods and services which is auditable and in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.
- (b) The Operator must have the ability to acquire goods and services expeditiously so that the project schedules in respect of Approved Work Programmes are maintained.

III PROCEDURES

The procedures to be adopted by the Operator for the acquisition of goods and services shall be as follows:

	Procedure A	Procedure B	Procedure C
Applicable to Explore, Appraise, Development and Production Operations	\$ 50,000 to \$ 200,000	\$ 200,000 to \$ 500,000	more than or equal to \$500,000

For Contracts valued at less than US\$ 50,000

The Operator will be at liberty to determine the preferred method of acquiring goods and services valued at less than US\$ 50,000 with the understanding that at least three (3) quotations from selected suppliers (including at least one (1) Indian supplier) will be obtained. For items valued at greater than US\$ 20,000, Operator is required to report to the Operating Committee if the quote accepted exceed the lowest quote by more than 20 percent. Operator will promptly report to the Operating Committee the Operator's reasons for not selecting the lowest quote.

Procedure A:

Operator shall:

- (1) Provide the Constituents of Contractor with a list of all the entities approved by the Operating Committee as per Appendix F (V) for the applicable category of the Contract along with other entities if any from whom the Operator proposes to invite tender;

- (2) Add to such list the entities whom other Party requests for adding within five (5) Business Days on receipt of such lists;
- (3) If and when any Party so requests, Operator shall evaluate any entity listed in (1) and (2) above to assure that entity is qualified as based on the qualification criteria agreed in accordance with Appendix F(IV) to perform under the contract;
- (4) Complete the tendering process within a reasonable period of time;
- (5) Circulate to all Constituents of Contractor a comparative bid analysis stating Operator's choice of the entity for award of contract. Provide also reasons for such choice in case entity chosen is not the lowest bidder;
- (6) Inform all the Constituents of Contractor of the entities to whom the contract has been awarded; and
- (7) Upon the request of a Company, provide such Company with a copy of the final version of the contract awarded.

Procedure B:

- (1) Provide the Party with a list of all the entities approved by the Operating Committee as per Appendix F (V) for the applicable category of the contract, along with other entities, if any, from whom the Operator proposes to invite tender;
- (2) Add to such list the entities whom a Party requests for adding within five (5) Business Days on receipt of such list;
- (3) If and when any Party so requests, Operator shall evaluate any entity listed in (1) and (2) above to assure that entity is qualified as based on the qualification criteria agreed in accordance with Appendix F(IV), to perform under the contract;
- (4) Complete the tendering procedure within a reasonable period of time;
- (5) Circulate to all Constituents of Contractor a comparative bid analysis stating Operator's choice of the entity for award of contract. Provide also reasons for such choice in case the entity chosen is not the lowest bidder. If the bid selected is not the lowest bid, obtain prior approval of the Operating Committee for award of contract;
- (6) Award the contract accordingly and inform all the members of Management Committee of the entities to whom the contract has been awarded; and
- (7) Upon the request of a Party, provide such Company with a copy of the final version of the contract awarded.

Procedure C:

Operator shall:

- (1) Publish invitations for parties to pre-qualify for the proposed contract in at least three (3) daily national Indian newspaper. Provide to Non-Operating Companies, a list of responding parties and an analysis of their qualifications for the contract being contemplated to be awarded. Include those who qualify, as per the prequalification criteria approved as per Appendix F (IV) in the list of entities from whom Operator proposes to invite tender for the said contract;
- (2) Provide the members of Management Committee with a total list of all the entities selected as (1) above and all the entities approved by the Operating Committee as per Appendix F(V) for the applicable category of the contract, along with other entities, if any, from whom the Operator proposes to invite tender;
- (3) Add to such entities whom a Party requests for adding within five (5) Business

Days on receipt of such list;

- (4) If and when any Party so requests, Operator shall evaluate any entity listed in (2) and (3) above to assure that entity is qualified as based on the qualification criteria agreed in accordance with Appendix F(IV), to perform under the Contract;
- (5) Prepare and dispatch the tender documents to the entities as finally listed and to Non-Operators;
- (6) After the expiration of the period allowed for tendering, consider and analyse the details of all bids received;
- (7) Prepare and circulate to the Constituents of Contractor a comparative bid analysis stating Operator's recommendation as to the entity to whom the contract should be awarded, the reasons therefor, and the technical, commercial and contractual terms to be agreed upon;
- (8) Obtain the approval of the Operating Committee to the recommended bid. However, failing Operating Committee approval any Company may refer the issue to the Management Committee for decision; and
- (9) Award the contract accordingly and upon the request of a Company, provide such Company with a copy of the final version of the contract;

IV A set of vendor qualifications criteria for each major category contract/supply shall be proposed by the Operator and approved by the Operating Committee service within thirty (30) days of its submission. In the event the Operating Committee fails to approve vendor qualification criteria within (30) days of the date the same is first submitted by the Operator, the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for decision. The Operating Committee may revise the qualification criteria.

V It is anticipated that, in order to expedite Joint Operations, contracts will be awarded to qualified vendors/contractors who are identified as approved vendors for the specified activities. A list of such approved vendors shall first be established as follows:

Operator shall:

- (1) Provide the Constituents of Contractor with a list of the entities from whom Operator proposes to invite tender for contracts; and
- (2) Add to such list entities whom a Company requests for adding within fourteen (14) days on receipt of such list; and

obtain approval of the Operating Committee by the Operator. Such list shall thereafter be maintained by the Operator. The Operating Committee may add to or delete vendors from such list.

[Index](#)

[Back](#)

APPENDIX G

PERFORMA OF BANK GUARANTEE TO BE PROVIDED

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 29

1. In consideration of Government of India (hereinafter referred to as "Government") having entered into a production sharing contract for the block _____ dated _____ (hereinafter called "Contract", which expression shall include all the amendments agreed to between the Government and Contractor, thereto), with M/s _____ having its registered office at _____ (hereinafter referred to as _____, which expression unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof include all its successors, administrators, executors and assigns), which is a constituent of Contractor, and the Government have agreed that the _____ Company shall furnish to Government a bank guarantee (hereinafter referred to as "Guarantee") towards its obligations as provided in the Contract for US\$(for foreign companies)/US\$ equivalent in Indian Rupees (for Indian companies) for the performance of its obligations under the Contract.

2. We _____(name of the Bank)registered under the Law of _____ and having its registered office at _____ (hereinafter referred to as "the bank", which expression shall unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof includes all its successors, administrators, executors and assigns) do hereby guarantee and undertake to pay immediately on the first demand in writing and any/all money(s) to the extent of Indian Rupees/US\$ _____(in figures) and (Indian Rupees/US\$ _____ in words) without any demur, reservation, contest or protest and/or without any reference to the company. Any such demand made by Government on the Bank by serving a written notice shall be conclusive and binding, without any proof, on the Bank as regards the amount due and payable, notwithstanding any dispute(s) pending before any Court, Tribunal, Arbitrator, Sole Expert, Conciliator or any other authority and/or any other matter or thing whatsoever, as liability under these presents being absolute and unequivocal. We agree that the guarantee herein contained shall be irrevocable and shall continue to be enforceable until it is discharged by Government in writing. This guarantee shall not be determined, discharged or affected by the liquidation, winding up, dissolution or insolvency of the Contractor and shall remain valid, binding and operative against the Bank.

3. The Bank also agree that Government at its option shall be entitled to enforce this Guarantee against the Bank as a principal debtor, in the first instance, without proceeding against the _____ Company and notwithstanding any security or other guarantee that Government may have in relation to the _____ Company's liabilities.

4. The Bank further agree that Government shall have fullest liberty without our consent and without affecting in any manner our obligations hereunder to vary any of the terms and conditions of the said Company or to extend time of performance by the said _____ Company from time to time or to postpone for any time or from time to time exercise of any of the powers vested in Government against the said _____ Company and to forebear or enforce any of the terms and conditions relating to the said agreement and we shall not be relieved from our liability by reason of any such variation, or extension being granted to the said _____ Company or for any forbearance, act or omission on the part of Government or any indulgence by Government to the said _____ Company or any such matter or thing whatsoever which under the law relating to sureties would, but

for this provision, have effect of so relieving us.

5. The Bank further agree that the Guarantee herein contained shall remain in full force during the period that is taken for the performance of the Contract and all dues of Government under or by virtue of this Contract have been fully paid and its claim satisfied or discharged or till Government discharges this guarantee in writing, whichever is earlier.

6. This Guarantee shall not be discharged by any change in our constitution, in the constitution of _____ Company or that of the Contractor.

7. The Bank confirm that this Guarantee has been issued with observance of appropriate laws of the country of issue.

8. The Bank also agree that this Guarantee shall be governed and construed in accordance with Indian Laws and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of Indian courts at _____, India.

9. Notwithstanding any thing contained herein above, our liabilities under this Guarantee is limited to Indian Rupees/US\$ _____(in figures) Indian Rupees/US\$ _____ (in words) and our Guarantee shall remain in force upto and including 60 days after the expiry date/extended date. Any claim under this Guarantee must be received before the expiry of 60 days or before the expiry of 60 days from the extended date if any. If no such claim has been received by us within 60 days after the said date/extended date the Government's right under this will cease. However, if such a claim has been received by us within & upto 60 days after the said date/extended date, all the Government's rights under this Guarantee shall be valid and shall not cease until we have satisfied that claim.

In witness whereof, the Bank through its authorised officers has set its hand and stamp on this _____ day of _____ 199__ at _____.

The seal of _____ was hereto duly affixed by _____ this _____ day of _____ 199__ in accordance with its bye-laws and this guarantee was duly signed by _____ and _____ as required by the said bye-laws.

Secretary

President & Director

Witness:

[Index](#)

[Back](#)