CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON MISSING PERSONS (ICMP)

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION - INTERPOL
Preamble

The International Criminal Police Organization-INTERPOL
(hereinafter referred to as INTERPOL)

And

The International Commission on Missing Persons (hereinafter referred to as ICMP)

Wishing to co-ordinate their efforts within the framework of the competencies assigned to them,

Recognizing that INTERPOL is an independent intergovernmental organization responsible for ensuring the promotion of the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and for the establishment and development of all institutions likely to contribute effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes in accordance with its Constitution,

Having in mind that under its Constitution it is strictly forbidden for INTERPOL to undertake any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character,

Recognizing that the ICMP is an intergovernmental organization which endeavours to secure the co-operation of governments and other authorities in locating and identifying persons missing as a result of armed conflicts, other hostilities or violations of human rights and to assist them through the use of forensic archaeology, anthropology and DNA techniques, as well as providing assistance where requested in cases of large-scale disasters, whether natural, mechanical or terrorist,

Recognizing the need to foster and co-ordinate international co-operation in the field of locating and identifying missing persons in time of disasters and where appropriate, in respect to assistance to justice as related to war crimes and crimes against humanity,
Have agreed on the following:

**Article 1**

**Purpose**

The purpose of the present Co-operation Agreement is to establish a framework for co-operation between the Parties, within their respective competencies and subject to their respective rules and regulations, thus facilitating closer co-operation between the parties in the field of Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) as well as in other respects as may be agreed under separate instruments.

In particular, INTERPOL and the ICMP will co-operate:

(a) to extend assistance to each other in the implementation of their respective mandates in the field of Disaster Victim Identification;

(b) to exchange lessons learned and contribute to updating each other on developments relevant to the implementation of their respective mandates through participation in training activities, workshops and conferences;

(c) to notify each other of relevant aspects of their disaster response plans and activities; each party will give consideration to proposing the participation of the other party in its DVI plans and activities;

(d) to inform each other about the progress of work related to activities of common interest.

**Article 2**

**Mutual consultation**

1. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall consult regularly on policy issues and matters of common interest for the purpose of realizing their objectives and co-ordinating their respective activities.

2. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall exchange information on developments in any of their fields and projects that are of mutual interest and shall take each other's observations concerning such
activities into consideration with a view to promoting effective co-operation.

3. When appropriate, consultation shall be arranged at the required level between representatives of the ICMP and INTERPOL to agree upon the most effective way in which to organize particular activities and to optimize the use of their resources in compliance with their respective mandates.

Article 3

Exchange of Information

1. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall combine their efforts to achieve the best use of all available information related to Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) and, where appropriate, missing persons generally.

2. Subject to such arrangements as may be necessary for the safeguarding of the security and confidentiality of information, INTERPOL and the ICMP shall ensure full and prompt exchange of information and documents concerning matters of common interest.

3. Information communicated by INTERPOL to ICMP may be used by ICMP, provided such use contributes to ensuring and promoting the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to establish and develop all institutions likely to contribute effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.

4. If an item of information communicated by INTERPOL to the ICMP is modified or deleted, INTERPOL shall inform the ICMP so that the latter may keep its own archives up to date. INTERPOL shall not be liable in the event that the use by the ICMP of an item of information is prejudicial to an individual's or entity's interests, if INTERPOL has informed the ICMP that that item of information has been modified or deleted.
5. Unless otherwise specified, the ICMP shall keep information communicated by INTERPOL confidential. It may use information, which was specified as non-confidential, and provided that INTERPOL agrees, exclusively for the purposes of raising awareness, education and training, with due respect for national laws and international law.

6. Communication of information by INTERPOL to the ICMP shall be subject to INTERPOL’s regulations. Communication of information by the ICMP to INTERPOL shall be subject to the ICMP’s regulations.

**Article 4**

**Reciprocal representation**

1. Arrangements shall be made for reciprocal representation at INTERPOL and the ICMP meetings convened under their respective auspices and which consider matters in which the other Party has an interest or technical competence.

2. The Director General of the ICMP and the Secretary General of INTERPOL shall each designate a person to act as a focal point with a view to ensuring the implementation of the provisions of the present Co-operation Agreement.

**Article 5**

**Technical co-operation**

1. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall, in the interest of their respective activities, seek each other's expertise to optimize the effects of such activities. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall encourage their respective experts to share their experience and efforts on a case-by-case basis, particularly when related to DVI.

2. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall exchange lessons learned and contribute to updating each other on developments relevant to the implementation of their respective mandates through participation in training exchange programmes, workshops and conferences.
3. The ICMP shall review, at INTERPOL's request, projects at national, regional and global levels in order to provide comments and suggestions appropriate to its domain of expertise.

4. By mutual agreement, the ICMP shall associate itself in the development and execution of programmes, projects and activities relating particularly to DVI.

5. Joint activities to be conducted under the present Co-operation Agreement shall be subject to the approval of individual project documents by both Parties and shall be monitored under an agreed mechanism.

6. INTERPOL and the ICMP shall co-operate in evaluating such programmes, projects and activities as have common interest, subject to mutual agreement on a case-by-case basis.

**Article 6**

**Financial aspects**

The means of financing all activities of common interest will be jointly defined on a project-by-project basis by the Parties.

**Article 7**

**Personnel arrangements**

Subject to their relevant internal regulations, INTERPOL and the ICMP shall examine the possibility of organizing the exchange of personnel on a temporary basis. They will enter into special arrangements, if necessary, for that purpose.

**Article 8**

**Entry into force, modification and duration**

The present Co-operation Agreement shall enter into force sixty days after its signature by the Secretary General of INTERPOL and the Director General of the ICMP, subject to the approval of INTERPOL's General Assembly and approval by the Commissioners of the ICMP.
The present Co-operation Agreement may be modified by mutual consent expressed in writing. It may also be revoked by either Party by giving six months' notice to the other Party.

In witness whereof, the Secretary General of INTERPOL and the Director General of the ICMP have signed the present Co-operation Agreement in two original copies, in English, on the dates appearing under their respective signatures.

For the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)  
Ronald K. Noble  
Secretary General

For the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)  
Kathryne Bonberger  
Director General

On 7 November 2007  
At Marrakech, Morocco

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