MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The SAARCLAW

and

SAIEVAC

(The South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children)

Inspired by the spirit of cooperation among Member States, which forms the basis of the foundation and operations of SAARCLAW as well as SAIEVAC;

Founded upon the commonality of aims, goals and concerns, centred upon the realization of child rights, between SAARCLAW and SAIEVAC; and

Realizing that setting up a comprehensive child protection system within the larger domain of enabling legal protection to end violence against children are central to the process of socio-economic development and translation of commitments of the national governments to both national and global obligations;

SAARCLAW and SAIEVAC hereby agree on this Memorandum of Understanding, taking into account the:

• Spirit and the aspirations of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation;
• SAARC Conventions;
• Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols; and
• Charters of SAIEVAC & SAARCLAW

Accordingly, SAARCLAW and SAIEVAC agree to mutually cooperate, as appropriate and possible, and in agreed ways to:

1. Help the Member States to strive towards the goal of Ending Violence Against Children based on the outcome/recommendations of the SAARCLAW SAIEVAC Conference on Child Protection and Constitutionalism, the directives/guidance so contained in the Thimphu Declaration of the 9th SAARC Chief Justices Conference, as well as any other joint decisions so taken within the lifespan of this MoU;
2. Promote mutual learning and cross fertilization among countries for effectively tackling the challenges relating to ending violence against children through enabling legal reform;

Among other mutually agreed possibilities for achieving the aforesaid aims, SAARCLAW and SAIEVAC shall:

(a) Inform each other of their initiatives and plans relevant to the ending violence against children through enabling legal reform and define an annual framework of cooperation, ahead of each year;

(b) Continue to actively cooperate with regard to the legal reform within the larger context of the SAARCLAW and SAIEVAC Workplan and the actualization of commitments relating to promotion and protection of the rights of children as set forth in the SAARC Conventions, the successive SAARC Declarations; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(c) Exchange on a systematic basis, analytical reports, technical publications and other documentation relevant to ending violence against children;

(d) Promote mutual learning, collective analysis and cross regional collaboration on those areas related to the implementation of the SAIEVAC 5 Year Workplan and the SAARCLAW mission and objectives;

(e) Meet on a regular basis as agreed for the purpose of coordination, information exchange and review of cooperation activities as set out under this Memorandum of Cooperation;

(f) This Memorandum will be in force for Five (5) years to be renewed automatically for another Five (5) years unless a party indicates in writing to the other party its intent to terminate it six (6) months before the expiration.

This Memorandum of Understanding enters into force upon signature of the Secretary General of SAARCLAW and the Director General of SAIEVAC, on Thursday the 24th of October, 2013.

For SAARCLAW

For SAIEVAC

Mr. Hemant Batra
SECRETARY GENERAL

Dr. Rinchen Chophel
DIRECTOR GENERAL