MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel

and

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kingdom of Bahrain

on

Bilateral Cooperation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Parties" and individually as "Party")

Guided by the principles enshrined in the "*Declaration of Peace, Cooperation and Constructive Diplomatic and Friendly Relations*" signed by the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Israel on 15 September 2020;

Reaffirming the principles enshrined in the "*Abraham Accords Declaration*" signed by the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America on 15 September 2020;

Further to the "*Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic, Peaceful and Friendly Relations*" signed by the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Israel in Manama, on 18 October 2020;

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation between the Parties, and to enhance cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs for the benefit of both States and the region as a whole;

Recognizing the importance of consultations and exchange of opinions at different levels on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest, and the critical role of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in this regard;

Have reached the following understandings:

Article 1

a. The Parties hereby establish the Israel-Bahrain Political Dialogue to be chaired by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of each State.

b. The Political Dialogue will convene on annual basis, or as otherwise agreed by the Parties, alternately in Israel and in Bahrain, to review bilateral relations, address bilateral, regional and international issues of common interest, and discuss ways to further promote bilateral and regional peace, prosperity and stability.

c. A Steering Committee for the Political Dialogue is hereby established, to be chaired by the Director-General / Undersecretary of each Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in order to prepare the agenda for the Dialogue and provide a regular channel for addressing all relevant issues between the Parties.

Article 2

a. The Parties will work to promote and advance the new era of diplomatic, peaceful and friendly relations between them, inter alia, through regular dialogues, joint initiatives, coordinated engagement with different sectors in each other's societies, coordinated public diplomacy, social media collaboration and other measures.

b. As part of these efforts, the Parties will work to ensure high level participation of their respective officials at leading conferences and events held in their territory. They will also explore the possibility of joint initiatives with agreed third parties, joint missions to third States and to academic, cultural and other institutions in order to promote positive exposure for their bilateral relations and their potential to advance peace, prosperity and stability for both their peoples, and for the region as a whole.

Article 3

Further to the "*Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic, Peaceful and Friendly Relations*" signed by the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Israel in Manama, on 18 October 2020, and in particular Article 5 thereof, the Parties will devote special efforts and attention to promoting a culture of peace, mutual understanding and mutual respect between their peoples, and regionally, in the spirit of their common ancestor, Abraham. In this spirit, they will actively promote initiatives to further dialogue, exchange and people-to-people programs between their societies, as well as work together to counter extremism, terrorism, incitement, discrimination and radicalization.

Article 4

The Parties agree that the Embassies of each State to be established in each other's territory pursuant to the Joint Communiqué will serve as the points of contact for coordinating dialogue, consultations and the exchange of views and information between them.

Article 5

a. The meetings and consultations held within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding will take place alternately in Bahrain and Israel, or elsewhere as may be agreed.

b. The Parties will determine the level of the delegations, dates and the agenda of the meetings, in advance, through diplomatic channels and in coordination with their respective Embassies.

Article 6

The Parties, may, upon mutual consent, establish working groups, commissions and group of experts for the examination of issues of mutual cooperation.

Article 7

a. The Parties will encourage cooperation, consultations, and direct contact between their Permanent Missions in third countries.

b. The Parties will facilitate cooperation, consultations, and direct contact between diplomatic and consular missions of the Parties in third countries.

Article 8

Each Party will keep the confidential information received from the other Party in the course of implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and will not disclose the same to any third party without a joint written consent of both Parties.

Article 9

Any differences that may arise out of or in relation to the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably through consultations or negotiations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 10

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual written consent of the Parties. Such modifications will come into effect on the date agreed upon between the Parties.

Article 11

a. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into effect on the date of its signature and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years. It will automatically be renewed for successive periods of five (5) years, provided neither Party notifies the other in writing of its intention to terminate it at least (6) months prior to the desired date of termination.

b. In event of termination, all ongoing projects and/or activities initiated by the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding, that have not been completed at the date of termination, will remain valid and effective until the date of its completion, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Done at Manama on 18 October 2020, which corresponds to 1 Rabi al-Awwal, 1442, 30 Tishrei 5781, in two original copies, in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

