



Memorandum of Understanding

This agreement is signed between

**Federation of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
hereinafter called FISME**

And

**COMESA Leather and Leather Products Institute
hereinafter called COMESA/LLPI**

The two parties agreed on the following points

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS/ACRONYMS

1. "FISME" means Federation of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
2. "COMESA/LLPI" means the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa – Leather and Leather Products institute
3. "COMESA Member States" are Burundi, Comoros, D.R. Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
4. "IP" means Intellectual Property
5. "MoU" means Memorandum of Understanding
6. "Party" or "Parties" refer to the FISME and/or COMESA/LLPI and other institutions that mutually agreed to by both parties

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding establishes the guidelines for collaboration between FISME and the COMESA/LLPI in the development of the leather industry both in India and the COMESA Region.

ARTICLE III

OBJECTIVES

It is envisioned that the Parties will work together to develop the mechanisms that will promote and sustain the value adding activities along the leather value chain, in India and in the COMESA Region. The MoU shall serve as the basis for the various leather and leather products activities to be undertaken jointly by FISME and COMESA/LLPI.

ARTICLE IV

AREAS OF COOPERATION

The parties shall cooperate in the following fields:

1. FISME and COMESA/LLPI agree to cooperate with each other through their appropriate organs with respect to all matters of common interest that arise in the field of leather and leather products in general.
2. FISME shall give due consideration to COMESA/LLPI requests for technical support for the goals and objectives of COMESA/LLPI in the development of leather industry in the COMESA Region.
3. COMESA/LLPI shall endeavor to build capacity for African countries at various levels within the leather value chain.
4. Both parties shall cooperate in the areas of technology transfer, consultancy, exchange of programs, development of SMEs, and other regional and international programs, preferably with written protocols and agreements.
5. The two Institutes will give due consideration to consultancy and extension services in the leather sector and other cross-cutting issues as follows:
 - i. Advice on quality assurance on the leather value chain eg. Standards compliance and certification for the purpose of growth and development
 - ii. Advice on issues of technology transfer
 - iii. Promote and sustain development of SMEs in both regions



- iv. Promote investments in the leather sector in both regions
 - v. Promote adoption of cleaner technology and appropriate waste management for sustainable development
 - vi. Standardization, quality grading and certification of leather and leather products
 - vii. Benchmarking
6. FISME and COMESA/LLPI will concert and coordinate their efforts in the areas of information collection, analysis and dissemination of activities in the following fields:
- i. Market Information
 - ii. Human Resource
 - iii. New and Indigenous Technology
 - iv. Research and Development
 - v. Any other areas of interest in the leather sector

ARTICLE V
MUTUAL CONSULTATIONS

1. When circumstances so require, FISME and COMESA/LLPI shall engage in consultations with a view to selecting the best means of ensuring that their activities in matters of common interest are fully effective.

ARTICLE VI
RECIPROCAL REPRESENTATION

1. Both parties shall be represented at special sessions organized by either party and at technical conference or meetings, related to the leather sector, at which questions of mutual interest are presented.

ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS

1. FISME and COMESA/LLPI may, in appropriate cases, agree to convene, under their auspices, according to arrangements to be made in each particular case, joint meetings concerning matters of mutual interest. The manner in which measures proposed by such joint meetings may be put into effect will be determined by the two Parties.



