

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE COMPETENT BELGIAN AUTHORITIES at FEDERAL and
REGIONAL LEVEL FOR ENERGY

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India and the Competent Belgian government authorities at federal and regional level for Energy (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties");

RECOGNIZING that both India and Belgium have ambitious targets regarding the further application of renewable energy options;

COMMITTED to work jointly to foster the transition to a low carbon and resources efficient economy;

INTENDING to establish a successful cooperation between their respective countries in matters relating to the development and utilization of new and renewable energy, acknowledging their importance in providing for the energy needs of their respective countries and federated entities;

CONVINCED of the necessity of a lasting and effective cooperation in the interest of both countries;

HAVE REACHED the following understanding:

ARTICLE 1: OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on new and renewable energy issues on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity.

ARTICLE 2 : AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. The Parties will, subject to the laws, rules and national policies in force, governing the subject matter in their respective countries, endeavor to take necessary steps to encourage and promote cooperation in renewable energy. The areas of cooperation will focus on development of new and renewable energy technologies in the following fields:

- a) Wind energy
- b) Biomass
- c) Solar (thermal and photovoltaic)
- d) Smart grids
- e) Geothermal energy
- f) Marine energy
- g) Contribution of renewables to diversification of supply and energy security
- h). Any other mutually agreed areas

2. Moreover, emphasis will also be put on the following areas:

- (a) Energy demand management (Relating to renewable energy)
- (b) Efficiency in Renewable Energy Systems and near-zero energy buildings
- (c) Sharing of good practices relating to institutions and policies to foster the development of renewable energy

ARTICLE 3 : MODALITIES OF COOPERATION

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding may take the following modalities:

- a) Exchange and training of scientific and technical personnel
- b) Exchange of scientific and technological available information and data
- c) Organization of workshops, seminars and working groups
- d) Transfer of equipment, know-how and technology on a non-commercial basis
- e) Development of joint research or technical projects on subjects of mutual interest
- f) Other modalities as may be decided upon later by the Parties

ARTICLE 4 : JOINT WORKING GROUP

1. In order to coordinate the above mentioned activities and decide upon project proposals related to design and development of various new and renewable energy technologies, the Parties shall establish a "Joint Working Group" (JWG) with the following functions:

- a) Identifying areas of mutual interest and cooperation for development of new and renewable energy technologies, systems, sub-systems, devices, components etc.
- b) Monitoring and evaluation cooperation activities.

The Joint Working Group shall conduct its work, to the extent possible, by means of electronic communication but meet alternately in India and Belgium, whenever considered necessary. The JWG can co-opt other members from scientific institutions, research centers, universities or any other entity as mutually agreed.

ARTICLE 5 : FINANCING

Each party will bear all the costs of its own participation in all programmes of cooperation and in the meetings contemplated under this memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 6 : SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably by negotiations and mutual consent between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7 : AMENDMENTS

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended, revised or modified by mutual decision of the Parties through exchange of letters between the Parties.

ARTICLE 8 : ENTRY INTO FORCE, DURATION AND TERMINATION

1. The Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature, and shall remain in force for a period of 5 years.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding may be renewed by mutual consent of the Parties.
3. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. Such decision will be communicated in writing to the other Party at least three months prior to its termination. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the validity and duration of any ongoing programme and projects under this Memorandum of Understanding.
4. This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding and does not create any rights of obligations for the Parties under international law.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, The undersigned being duly authorized thereto have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.


Signed at New Delhi on 29th September, 2015 in two originals each, in English Language.

Signature :



Upendra Tripathy
Secretary,
Ministry of New and Renewable
Energy, Government of the
Republic of India

Signature :



Geert MUYLLE,
Ambassador, Director General,
Bilateral Affairs, SPF Foreign
Affairs, Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation,
Government of Belgium