

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY**  
**AND**  
**THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR**  
**ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

The International Renewable Energy Agency (hereinafter referred to as “IRENA”) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as “ESCAP”) reaffirm their desire to work together in areas of mutual interest through this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

**WHEREAS** IRENA is the global intergovernmental organisation mandated to promote the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy and to support countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future;

**WHEREAS** ESCAP serves as the United Nations’ regional hub mandated to promote cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development and *inter alia* to carry out a programme of work with a view to ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, in line with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

**WHEREAS** IRENA and ESCAP share common objectives to increase the uptake of renewable energy in the Asia-Pacific region, support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, and contribute to the achievement of SDG 7 by 2030; and

**WHEREAS** it is in the mutual interest of IRENA and ESCAP to enhance and reinforce their cooperation and to draw on their respective and complementary strengths while avoiding duplication of efforts and maximising output;

**NOW THEREFORE**, IRENA and ESCAP (hereinafter referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”), based on mutual trust and in a spirit of cooperation, hereby agree as follows:

**Article I**  
**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to provide a framework for cooperation between the Parties for the implementation of activities of mutual interest.

**Article II**  
**AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Parties agree to cooperate in the following areas:

- (a) Supporting regional, subregional and national level dialogue in the Asia-Pacific region on challenges, gaps, and opportunities for scaling up renewable energy deployments;
- (b) Hosting regional platforms and events to undertake joint outreach and engagement with renewable energy stakeholders from governments, the private sector and civil society, particularly in the context of raising awareness on IRENA and/or ESCAP initiatives and activities;
- (c) In line with regional initiatives being implemented by IRENA and ESCAP in the Asia-Pacific region, supporting the process of cross-border power grid interconnection and market integration to facilitate deployment of renewable energy at scale;
- (d) Capacity-building and exchanging of knowledge and best practices on financing mechanisms, policy and regulatory support, energy system analysis, modelling, and roadmaps to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy as a means of sustainable development and climate change mitigation and resilience; and
- (e) Any other area as may be identified and agreed to between the Parties.

**Article III**  
**IMPLEMENTATION**

3.1 The Parties will maintain a close working relationship to implement the cooperation envisaged under this MOU. The Parties will keep each other informed of relevant activities pertaining to their cooperation and will hold regular consultations to monitor and review progress in the implementation of this MOU.

3.2 The Parties recognize that appropriate representation is important for the purpose of joint positioning and advocacy. They agree that reciprocal invitations will be extended to attend their main legislative body sessions and other meetings, conferences, seminars and workshops relevant to cooperation in the priority areas set out in Article II of this MoU. The invitations will be subject to the procedures applicable to such legislative body sessions, meetings or conferences.

3.3 Any joint projects or other activities generated from this MOU that involve the commitment of funds or other resources will be the subject of separate written agreements, which will address, *inter alia*, the financial arrangements, liability, dispute settlement, intellectual property rights related to the activities.

3.4 This MOU sets out a general framework for cooperation between the Parties and does not commit either Party to provide funds for the other Party or for any project or activity.

3.5 All activities in pursuance of the objectives of this MOU are subject to the availability of funding.

#### **Article IV**

##### **FOCAL POINTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE MOU**

4.1 Any notice, request or other communication contemplated under this MOU must be in writing and will be deemed duly and properly given if and when sent by hand, certified mail, overnight courier, or email to the addresses of the following focal points, or at such other addresses as the Parties will specify in writing. The Parties hereby designate the following focal points who will serve as primary contact points under this MOU:

- (a) For IRENA: Director, Country Support and Partnerships
- (b) For ESCAP: Director, Energy Division

4.2 A notice delivered by email, when related to the amendment, renewal or termination of this MOU, will be deemed to have been received when the recipient acknowledges receipt of such notice by an email or other form of written notice to the sender in accordance with paragraph 4.1 of this Article.

## **Article V**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND USE OF INSTITUTIONAL NAME AND EMBLEMS**

5.1 Neither Party will use the name or any abbreviation thereof, or the emblem, insignia or trademarks of the other Party, its subsidiaries, and/or affiliates, in connection with its business or otherwise without the express prior written approval of the other Party in each case.

5.2 The Parties will consult with each other in advance concerning any press release or public statement relating to this MOU or its implementation.

## **Article VI**

### **PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES**

Nothing in this MOU will be deemed to be a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of IRENA, or of ESCAP.

## **Article VII**

### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

The Parties will endeavour to settle amicably any dispute between them concerning the interpretation or application of this MOU.

## **Article VIII**

### **LIABILITY**

Each Party will be responsible for its acts and omissions in connection with this MOU and its implementation unless agreed otherwise by either Party under a separate agreement concluded pursuant to Article III, paragraph 3.3 hereof.

## **Article IX**

### **ENTRY INTO EFFECT**

This MOU enters into effect upon signature by the duly authorized representatives of both Parties and will continue until **31 January 2025**. The MOU may be extended through an exchange of letters between IRENA and ESCAP.

**Article X**  
**TERMINATION**

This MOU may be terminated by mutual written agreement of the Parties or by either Party giving the other Party three months' prior notice in writing.

**Article XI**  
**AMENDMENTS**

This MOU may only be modified by a written amendment hereto signed by duly authorized representatives of the Parties.

Signed in two original copies in English on 12 January 2020 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

**For the United Nations Economic and  
Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**



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**Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**

Under-Secretary-General of the United  
Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP

**For the International Renewable Energy  
Agency**



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**Mr. Francesco La Camera**

Director-General  
International Renewable Energy Agency