Joint Declaration
between
The International Solar Alliance
and
the African Development Bank
for
for the Promotion of Solar Energy in Africa
March 10, 2018

On the occasion of the visit of the African Development Bank Vice President for Power, Energy, Climate Change and Green Growth mission to India, within the context of the International Solar Alliance Founding Conference on 11 March 2018, the International Solar Alliance (hereinafter referred to as the “ISA”) and the African Development Bank (hereinafter referred to as the “AfDB”) jointly declare:

ISA and AfDB are referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as “the Parties.”

Recalling that International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a treaty based international inter-governmental organization which was launched on 30 November 2015, in Paris, France, with Headquarters in India (UN Registration No. 54949). The Alliance is established to collectively address key common challenges to the scaling up of solar energy and to take coordinated action to aggregate demand for finance, technologies, innovation, R&D and capacity building;

Recognizing the AfDB’s New Deal on Energy for Africa with the aspirational goal of achieving universal access to energy in Africa by 2025, its energy policy and its leadership in working with governments, the private sector, and bilateral and multilateral energy sector initiatives to develop a Transformative Partnership on Energy for Africa.

Noting that AfDB and ISA both recognize that affordable, reliable and sustainable solar energy is crucial for economic growth and recognize the need for mobilizing more than US $1000 billion in investment that will be needed by 2030 to meet ISA’s goals for the massive deployment of affordable solar energy.

And, wanting to deepen cooperation to promote solar energy, inter-alia in the following areas:

i) Develop a roadmap to mobilize financing for promotion of solar energy in prospective African ISA member countries;

ii) Develop financing instruments which support solar energy development, including but not limited to:

   a. Risk management in solar by reducing due diligence costs and risks perception
   b. Innovative de-risking instruments including insurance
   c. Increase flow of finance to solar - optimal terms and conditions for investment flows
   d. Innovative mechanisms to reduce cost of finance including hedging
   e. Financing and advisory support for bond raising in locally denominated currencies to provide capital for solar energy projects and programs
   f. Leveraging international climate finance
   g. Innovative financing structure to leverage commercial co-financing
iii) Support ISA’s plans for Solar energy development and deployment through technical assistance and knowledge transfer;

iv) Support the African Development Bank’s transformative Desert to Power initiative in the Sahel and Sahara regions of Africa, which envisages 10 GW of solar power generation and providing clean energy to 90 million people;

v) Work on mobilization of concessional financing through existing, notably the Bank’s Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa and the Facility for Energy Inclusion or, if needed new trust funds / special funds/Financing Partnership Fund administered by the AfDB to support investments, technical assistance, risk-sharing mechanisms and knowledge transfer;

vi) Engaging key stakeholders in relevant global and regional renewable energy events and fora;

vii) Develop finance instruments for off-grid solar projects and solar IPPs for African ISA member countries; and

viii) Any other areas of collaboration which might be mutually agreed.

The Parties enter into this Joint Declaration while intending to maintain their own separate and unique missions and mandates, and their own accountabilities. The cooperation among the Parties as outlined in this Joint Declaration shall not be construed as a partnership or other type of legal entity or personality. Any activity undertaken by the parties hereunder shall follow their respective rules, regulations, policies and procedures. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, this Joint Declaration shall not be construed as an obligation of funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment by any Party or create any rights in any third Party. Any such legally binding commitment shall be set out in a separate document between the Parties.

Signed in 2 (two) original copies, both of them in the English language:

For and on behalf of International Solar Alliance:

(Upendra Tripathy)
Interim Director General

For and on behalf of African Development Bank:

(Amadou Hott)
Vice President for Power, Energy, Climate Change and Green Growth

In the august presence of:

Shri Arun Jaitley
Hon’ble Finance Minister
Government of India

Shri Raj Kumar Singh
Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy