No: 10/ 02 /2018-ISA  
Secretariat  
International Solar Alliance (ISA)  

Dated the 09th March, 2018  
Surya Bhawan,  
National Institute of Solar Energy Campus,  
Faridabad-Gurugram Road,  
Gwal Pahari, Gurugram 122003, India

Office Memorandum

Subject: Constitution of an International Committee of Chambers of Industry and Business (ICCIB).

Preamble:

In order to fully contribute to and help ISA member countries and corporates in a concrete and action oriented manner the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, (FICCI), the International branch of the French Business Federation (MEDEF International), the French Renewable Energy Business Association (SER) have contemplated constituting the above committee by the ISA, open to all their counterparts from ISA member countries, with clear and measurable terms of reference, so that the Corporate sector can contribute effectively to translate the aspirations enshrined in the Paris Declaration of 30th November, 2015 and the ISA Framework Agreement.

Justification for setting the committee:

The Secretariat notes that there are more than one Billion people without access to energy. More than two Billion people need access to clean cooking fuel. It is also of the firm belief that the solar energy has promise and potential to address these global challenges. Interestingly, countries lying fully or partially between the Tropics suffer from energy deficit and require maximum energy infrastructure and access to cheap and affordable energy. Demand aggregation, harmonization and mutualization of demand across these countries hold key to connect their needs with the immense available resources. Also in particular mobilizing the affordable finance and technology for the first time will make it possible to gainfully tap this abundant solar resource into cheap, affordable and universal energy. This will open a new chapter in the economic history of the world, by enabling equitable exploitation of solar resources by ISA member countries, which will make clean solar energy accessible to the energy deficient people. The Secretariat recognises that these stakeholders are of critical importance and play a fundamental role in the solar revolution.

2. Also, Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi’s visionary speech on 30th November, 2015 emphasizes strong and coordinated actions. To quote: "We will discuss regulatory issues and promote common standards. We will attract investment, encourage joint ventures and develop innovative financing mechanisms". The International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement has been insightfully designed to serve this purpose and promotes and values collective responsibility and ensures common interest in addressing climate issues enshrined in the Paris Declaration and Paris Agreement.
3. The Framework Agreement of ISA has come into force on the 6th of December, 2017. Fifty-eight countries have signed the treaty so far and twenty-eight countries have ratified. The solar summit as the Founding Day of ISA is scheduled shortly. The ISC in its last meeting has resolved to consult the UN to observe 6th of December every year as the Universal Energy Access Day.

4. ISA has also launched three programmes and plans to launch two more on the 11th of March, 2018. In order to promote the implementation of the programmes, goals and objectives, ISA has so far constituted Three Task Forces: One to promote a mitigation Fund, called Paris Fund, chaired by TWI; one on mobilization of resources under Article V.3 and article VI.2 of the ISA Framework Agreement, chaired by the Confederation of Indian Industries; and one on Innovation chaired by the Softbank.

5. In realising the aspirations in the Paris declaration to mobilise more than one Trillion US $, the role of the Industry Chambers and Business Confederations is extremely important. They represent corporate members. Their feedback and support are critical to usher in the solar revolution.

6. Therefore, an International Committee of Chambers of Industry and Business (ICCIIB), such as CII, FICCI, MEDEF, SER and Business Association dedicated to the solar sector form ISA members etc. can open up innovative ways for cross country collaboration and give a fillip to the scale and speed of implementation of the ISA programmes.

Order of Constitution:

7. In view of the above, the following International Committee of Chambers of Industry and Business (ICCIIB) is hereby constituted for a duration of three years with the following member organizations, subject to any other OM being issued by the ISA Secretariat:

1. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
2. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
3. French Renewable Energy Business Association (SER)
4. The French Business Federation (MEDEF International)

8. Committee can take help of any organisation / institution / experts while discharging of its duties with prior approval of IDG / DG of ISA. The membership of the committee will be open to similar national and supra national chambers of Trade and Industry.

9. The above members will select a chair from among themselves through consensus and must meet at least once every quarter.

10. The International Committee of Chambers of Industry and Business (ICCIIB) stands constituted herewith, subject to Terms of Reference (ToR) at Appendix-1. There will be no financial implication for ISA.

(Agrim Kaushal)
Economic Adviser
Email: agrim@isolaralliance.org
Appendix-1

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The following will be the terms of reference of the International Committee of Chambers of Industry and Business (ICCIB) for ISA:

1. Recommend measures to (a) address regulatory issues (b) promote common standards (c) attract investments (d) encourage joint ventures and (e) develop innovative financing mechanisms.

2. At the national level of each member country, the ICCIB will strive to gather inputs from a wide array of national businesses directly involved in financing and development of solar projects and will act to assist the ISA National Focal Points, in preparation of implementable work plans in areas of aggregation of demand, risk and resources; harmonization of procedures and documents, and in relation to solar finance, solar technologies, innovation, research and development and capacity building; thus enabling each member country to realize their solar resource potential and implement simple, measurable, and mobilizing targets mentioned under Article III of the ISA Framework Agreement.

3. ICCIB will study and list out concrete measures for action to allow the lifting of barriers that block or slow down the implementation of projects, based on a feedback system from the private actors and the grassroots level. The ICCIB will strive to initiate and ensure close interaction between national business federations in ISA countries, and will also complement interactions within and between governments of member countries. ICCIB will also promote close interaction with the network of focal points for ISA matters on the business side in allied countries, through the INFO PEDIA network; as well as by other means; ICCIB will also ensure a close coordination with R&D public institutions active in the field of quality control and demonstration, technological choice, innovation and development of local industrial solar sectors.

4. ICCIB will strive contribute to prepare and communicate to all National Focal Points, via the Secretariat, best practice manuals, industry user manuals, product guidelines, and such other publications which will help the NFPs as policy makers to take best decisions to promote and implement their respective National Solar Road Maps, to accelerate the creation of the Common Market.

5. ICCIB, in coordination with the Secretariat of ISA and the NFPs, will strive to utilise its own expertise and expertise from outside to formulate guidelines and policy manuals to guide NFPs achieve aggregate objectives, as well as the harmonization measures and mutualized instruments that will make these objectives become reality within a given time line;

6. ICCIB will contribute to provide inputs on existing ISA programs, ensure the relevance of the proposed deliverables in the framework of current programs; and propose new programs where appropriate on the basis of common obstacles which could more easily be lifted through a supranational action.
7. ICCIB will strive to prepare plans for collective action, if found necessary both country and cross country wise, and in consultation and concurrence with NFPs, so that many obstacles (market fragmentation, high transaction costs, inadequate regulatory framework, lack of clear policy, context-specific solutions, dumping of products with no post commissioning services, high foreign exchange fluctuations risks etc. guarantee mechanism to ensure quality and compliance) which call for collective action, are effectively addressed with cost optimization. These plans will also focus to implement solar road maps evolved by each member Country that reflect strong demand growth, high efficiency and competitiveness of solar energy, conducive context of decentralization and digitalization of systems and attempt to make meaningful connections between resources and needs in member countries.

8. ICCIB will strive to organise contact programmes with policy makers if there is a need to convince some, that Corporates, although have a business model, promote greatest good of the greatest number, as well as innovation and latest technologies in these countries to encourage R&D transfer and high level training program.

9. ICCIB will have a corporate cell in each member country where it can take up problem solving for Corporates vis-a-vis their problems and risks.

10. ICCIB will have a corporate cell in each member country where it can guide its investors and help in ease of doing business and also work in unison with other multilateral agency and bilateral agencies to optimise benefits from used resources.

11. ICCIB will help member countries in showcasing their investment potential in the solar space in the Country counter embedded in the INFOPEDIA by the ISA. ICCIB will also use the INFOPEDIA, free of cost to reach out to the policy makers and corporates.

12. ICCIB will actively sensitize its corporate members on cases of harassment and bribery from which its members may suffer. And actively educate its members on legal and ethical best practices of doing business in various member countries.

13. ICCIB will strive to contribute some Experts to the 24x7 site in Infopedia and may put some officers on secondment basis in ISA HQ to coordinate work for problem solving for its members. ICCIB may develop a concrete plan of action for each ISA member country to promote accelerated awareness and training of the people and policy makers concerned through targeted training and programs for which it may spend finance from its corporate social responsibility sources.

14. ICCIB will help ISA NFPs and Member countries, on their request, to prepare detailed solar projects for communities and Industries; to share information on needs to develop recommendations for actions.

15. ICCIB will strive to contribute to the strengthening or structuring of professional associations in the member countries of the alliance with a transfer of skills and good practice.

16. ICCIB will strive to persuade member countries through outreach activities on benefits of standardization of purchasing contracts, harmonization of demands,
capacity building etc. which will have direct impact on the implementation of the Alliance’s objectives. It is therefore crucial to ensure these programs are developed on the basis of a proper consultation of the private actors in the member countries in order to meet their real needs. It is important to note that Actors from the private sector will ultimately be the ones installing or financing the 1000 GW of solar energy using workable business models and project finance.

17. ICCIB will respect ISA as an international and intergovernmental organization of sovereign member countries with UN registration and affiliation. It will not do anything that damages the reputation or credibility of ISA. Nor it will do anything that will hurt the sovereign status of member countries and its representatives who are NFPs.

18. ICCIB will make concrete two-year action plans, in consultation with ISA and avoid duplication of works and wastage of resources. ICCIB will adopt all positive measures so that countries or NFPs appreciate its acts and intentions for which ICCIB may also conduct some outreach activities, keeping the Secretariat in the loop.

19. ICCIB will help ISA in ranking the member countries on solar indices, so that member countries have a better strategy and concerted efforts to achieve the set targets for deploying solar energy. ICCIB will also help ISA in mobilising resources for solar awards to encourage women scientists in the field of solar entrepreneurships and start-ups.

20. The ICCIB will strive to submit its annual and half yearly report of activities for perusal by the ISA Secretariat