

Press Release
International Solar Alliance

New Delhi, 5 October 2016 – India and France jointly proposed a draft Framework Agreement of International Solar Alliance (ISA) in the 4th Meeting of International Steering Committee (ISC) of the ISA. The International Solar Alliance aims at accelerating the massive deployment of solar energy through targeted programmes.

The proposed Framework strives to make ISA an innovative, implementation-oriented alliance of solar-rich countries that will possess a simple, light and efficient structure. It provides a platform to bring together countries with rich solar potential to aggregate demand for solar energy, thereby reducing prices; promoting collaborative solar R&D and capacity; and facilitating the deployment of existing solar technologies at scale. All relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and financial institutions, will be closely associated to the programmes of the Alliance.

While introducing the Framework Agreement, Mr Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Chair of ISC thanked the prospective ISA member countries who have been of great help in ensuring speed, skill and scale in the process. He informed that within 10 months, ISA activities have increased significantly, and many initiatives are under implementation. With legal framework in place ISA will be a major international body headquartered in India. He thanked Government of France for its continued support. He mentioned about the progress under the two programmes launched under the ISA “*Affordable finance at scale*” and “*Scaling solar applications for agricultural use*”.

The Co-Chair, H.E. Ms Brigitte Collet, Co-chair of the ISC Ambassador for renewable energy of France recalled the continuous support of France to the ISA, launched in Paris on 30th November by Prime Minister Modi and President Hollande. Ambassador Collet stated that coordinated actions undertaken in the context of the Alliance should focus on realizing the objectives enshrined in the Paris Declaration.

Representatives from 60 prospective ISA member countries participated in the 4th ISC meeting. ISC had earlier met on 1 December 2015, in Paris, France, 18 January 2016 at Abu Dhabi, UAE and 21 April 2016 at New York, USA. ISC was established under the mandate of the Paris Declaration of ISA to provide the guidance and direction to establish the ISA. The ISA Headquarters will be in India. India has offered a contribution of Rs 175 crore (around US \$27 million) for creating ISA corpus fund and for meeting the cost of ISA secretariat for initial five years.