

Report of the First meeting of the Interim Administrative Cell of the International Solar Alliance

The Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), held its first meeting on 10 February 2016 in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE chaired the meeting. The list of participants is enclosed at Appendix-I.

2. Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE and Ex-Officio Chairman, IAC welcomed the participants and informed the member that IAC has been set up as a sequel to the discussions in the 1st International Steering Committee (ISC) of ISA for undertaking activities to convert ISA from a *de facto* body into a legal inter-governmental organization. In achieving this objective, IAC will interact with governments, missions, agencies, businesses and other stakeholders and seek inputs for firming up ISA institutional framework. He further informed that as per discussions in the 2nd ISC meeting, the mandate of IAC, inter-alia are to: a) finalize Framework Agreement (FA) in consultation with the member countries and explore possibilities for opening the FA for signature, if possible, alongside the COP-21 agreement on 22 April 2016; b) initiate action for implementing activities from India's contribution under Action plan 2016-17; c) engage in discussions with institutions, organizations, international conventions etc. to explore prospects for entering into partnership for undertaking solar energy projects and programmes; and d) engage in discussions with the member countries and firm up plan for organizing Global Investment meet during 2016-17.

3. Chairman, IAC appreciated the role played and support provided by the Government of France in steering the ISA process. He mentioned that the French co-chair to the 2nd ISC meeting suggested to open up Framework Agreement of ISA for signature on 22nd April 2016, along with COP-21 agreement. He also informed about the proposals discussed in the 2nd ISC meeting including the one from United Nations to join hands with ISA as a Strategic Partner. He emphasized upon the need for developing strategy for making ISA a self-reliant organization, including through augmentation of its corpus fund. He apprised members about the discussions held with the corporate sector including with Terra watt initiative, Confederation of India Industry, and FICCI.

4. Chairman, IAC further mentioned that ISA will not duplicate other existing Agencies and will be an action oriented organisation. In this regard, he cited the matrix developed by CEEW, as to how ISA will have unique focus and areas of activities. He informed that ISA objectives are fully compatible with the *Mission Innovation* that was also launched on 30 November 2015 in Paris, France. He stated that objectives of the Mission Innovation for increasing Government investment in clean energy innovation, affordable access to critical technologies, and information exchange compliments ISA efforts and both the initiatives shall establish an institutional mechanism for jointly taking up activities in ISA member countries.

5. Mr. Christian TESTOT, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of France expressed satisfaction about the progress made since ISA launch on 30 November 2015. He mentioned that ISA should specifically focus in the area of reducing the cost of capital for attracting investment in mature solar applications, and develop new solar applications tailored for the ISA countries. He further stated that setting up common financing instruments, quality control procedures and risk guarantee mechanisms will assist small and medium enterprises in the ISA countries. Alongside establishment of joint research, training and capacity building

programmes will accelerate solar energy deployment in ISA countries. He clarified that the French assistance of Euro 300 million will be utilized for providing loans for solar projects in ISA countries.

6. Thereafter, Agenda Items were taken up for discussion, as under:-

1. MoU with UN as ISA Strategic Partner - presentation by UNDP

Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative stated that ISA is an embodiment of south-south cooperation and informed that Delhi is hosting south-south workshop in March 2016. He informed about the Strategic Partnership for establishing a Centre within ISA, and undertaking activities in ISA countries for development of skilled manpower, regional networking, technical expertise, establishment of a e-portal, knowledge generation and sharing, funding mobilization and Programmatic Support etc. He detailed the genesis and efforts made so far in this direction. Copy of the presentation made is enclosed at Annexure-I.

Decision: UN will submit the proposed MOU draft between ISA and UN, which IAC will circulate to all prospective member countries.

2. Mobilization of Resources

Need for sustained availability of funds for success of ISA was underlined. India's contribution of US \$15 million to ISA corpus was noted and proposal for augmenting it to a level of US \$ 1000 million was supported.

CII representative informed that an Action Plan for mobilizing resources for ISA corpus is under preparation.

Decisions

- a) CII, in consultation with its Members would develop strategy for augmenting ISA corpus, which will be circulated to all concerned; and
- b) IAC placed on record its appreciation of IREDA and SECI for their commitment to contribute US \$ 1 million each as and when ISA becomes a legal entity.

3. RE-INVEST globally

FICCI representative underlined the need to develop a common and standard approach for Private sector participation in RE- INVEST in the identified locations. The strategy should be balanced with focus on investment promotion through conference sessions, exhibitions, and Business to Business meetings. Further, in order to optimise the growth potential these events should be aligned with the global events. Support of ISA Member Country missions will be critical in facilitating organization of these events. Further, these events could be leveraged from the Terrawatt Initiative and Mission Innovation partnership.

Decision: RE-INVEST in ISA countries will be decided in consultation with CII, FICCI and host Member Countries such as Indonesia, India, Peru and Kenya.

4. Sources of Finance and India's commitments

The members were informed about sources for funding for India's contributions for ISA biennial Action Plan 2016-17. It was informed that training support for 450 officers is planned under the India-Africa Summit process, and upto Rs 100 crore and upto Rs 115 crores will be arranged from MNRE budgetary sources for setting up demonstration projects in ISA countries, ISA corpus & construction of Secretariat Building, of which foundation stone was laid down jointly by France and India on 25 January 2016.

DG, NISE informed that they have developed programme for organizing training of trainers on different aspects of solar energy. Once the training modules are firmed up, nominations from ISA countries could be solicited either through ISA country missions in New Delhi, or through our Missions in these countries.

Decisions

- a. Proposals for setting up demonstration projects in ISA countries will be invited through Indian Missions in ISA countries;
- b. Possibilities of organizing additional trainings in other ISA countries, within the Solar Networking Groups will be explored; and
- c. Measures will be taken to facilitate projects to develop a buyers market.

5. Governance structure

It was informed that the Draft Framework Agreement (Statute) of ISA was first circulated in the 1st ISC meeting held in Paris, France on 1 December 2015. The governing structure includes an Assembly of all member countries, a Council and Secretariat.

Decision: Draft Framework Agreement (Statute) of ISA will be placed before IAC for inputs / comments and thereafter accordingly the new draft would be circulated to ISA countries for views/comments.

6. ISA roadmap for next five years

The members were informed about involvement of Deloitte, YES Bank, Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC), and KPMG in developing a comprehensive document covering different aspects of ISA roadmap, strategy and action plan.

Decision: The comprehensive document covering different aspects of ISA roadmap, strategy and action plan will be placed before IAC in its subsequent meetings before wider circulation.

7. Interim action agenda of ISA 2016-17

The French proposal for opening up the finalized Framework Agreement of ISA (FA) for signature alongside COP-21 agreement on 22 April 2016 was discussed.

After discussions, the members felt that in view of the impending consultation process with ISA countries, it may be quite difficult to finalize FA before 22 April 2016.

Decisions

- a. ISA Founding Conference may be held in Delhi in September 2016 where the finalized Framework Agreement (FA) shall be opened for signature. This conference shall be followed by an ISC meeting in Delhi; and
- b. Once 25 countries submit instrument of ratification/accession, 1st ISA Assembly and Council meeting may be held at New Delhi.

8. Review of work by CPWD of ISA Secretariat Building

Senior Architect CPWD presented the ISA Headquarters building designs. She stated that as the building campus will require around 7.5 acre land, there is a need for additional land allocation for ISA. She also clarified that ISA building designs adhere to floor area norms as applicable in Gurgaon (Annexure-II). She informed that the estimated cost of ISA headquarters building would be around Rs 180 crore. It was clarified that building design is yet to be approved.

Decision: MNRE will prepare a Note for Cabinet approval for providing 5 acre additional land for ISA, and also for seeking additional allocation for constructing ISA headquarters.

7. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**First Meeting of Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of International Solar Alliance
(ISA)**

10 February 2016: 1500 hrs.

List of Participants

Chairman, IAC

Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE

Members

1. Dr. J. C. Sharma, Economic Adviser, MNRE
2. Shri J. B. Mohapatra, Finance Adviser, MNRE
3. Ms Varsha Joshi, Joint Secretary, MNRE
4. Shri. D. K. Khare, Director (IR), MNRE
5. Shri Debasish Prusty, Director (Climate Change), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
6. Shri Subrata Bose, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
7. Shri B. K. Srivastava, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs
8. Dr N.P.Singh, Sr Consultant, MNRE
9. Shri K. S. Popli, CMD, IREDA
10. Shri KBK Reddy, DGM, IREDA
11. Shri O S Sastry, Director General, NISE
12. Shri Ashvini Kumar, Managing Director, SECI
13. Dr. Yogender Kumar Yadav, Director General, SSS-NIBE, Kapurthala
14. Shri Srikant Sharma, MNRE
15. Dr P.C .Maithani, Director, MNRE -Convener

Invitees

1. Dr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEEW
2. Dr. Akanksha Chaurey, Consultant Director, CII
3. Shri Christin Testot, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of France
4. Shri Deepak Rai, Sr. Assistant Director, FICCI
5. Ms. Gayatri Gogoi Prasad, Consultant Director, CII
6. Shri Gael Chichereau, Embassy of France
7. Shri Navneet Kumar, Senior Architect, CPWD
8. Shri Poulami Choudhary, Assistant Director, FICCI
9. Shri Rahul Kumar, GEVP, Govt. banking, Yes Bank
10. Ms. Rita Roy Choudhury, Sr. Director, FICCI
11. Shri Sandeep Arora, Director, Yes Bank
12. Dr. Sonia Mehta, Senior Architect, CPWD
13. Dr. S.N.Srinivas, Programme Officer , UNDP
14. Shri Vibhash Garg, Associate Director, PwC India
15. Shri Vikas Bansal, Director, Yes Bank
16. Shri Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative

Report of the Second meeting of the Interim Administrative Cell of the International Solar Alliance

The Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), held its second meeting on 17 February 2016 in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE chaired the meeting. The list of participants is enclosed at Appendix-I.

Agenda for the meeting was discussion on the Framework Agreement (Statute) that was circulated in the 1st ISC meeting of ISA. It was decided that the Statute will be revised and sent to IAC members for views/comments.

Appendix-I

Second Meeting of Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of International Solar Alliance (ISA)

17 February 2016: 1000 hrs.

List of Participants

Chairman, IAC

Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE

Members

1. Dr. J. C. Sharma, Economic Adviser, MNRE
2. Shri K. Nagaraj Naidu, Director, MEA
3. Dr. A. S. Reddy , Director (L&T), MEA
4. Dr. Ashvini Kumar, MD, SECI
5. Shri Subrata Bose, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
6. Shri K. S.Popli, CMD, IREDA
7. Shri. D. K. Khare, Director (IR), MNRE
8. Dr N.P.Singh, Sr Consultant, MNRE
9. Dr P.C .Maithani, Director, MNRE -Convener

List of Participants:

- 1) Shri Deepak Gupta, Sr. Programme Manager, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation
- 2) Ms Gayatri Prasad, CII
- 3) Ms. Rasika Chandihok, CII
- 4) Ms. Kanika Chawla, CEEW