

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

The Third meeting of the Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), was held on 11 March 2016 in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE chaired the meeting. List of participants is at Appendix-I

2. Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE and Ex-Officio Chairman, IAC welcomed the participants and Dr. Guy-Cedric Werlings, ISA Focal point from France. He stated that the main objective of the meeting is to quick start ISA activities. He also informed the members that Hon'ble Minister is planning to meet the resident diplomatic missions of ISA countries in Delhi during the first week of April 2016 to discuss the ISA roadmap and the Framework Agreement which will be opened for signature during September 2016 in New Delhi.

3. Chairman, IAC thereafter briefly summed up activities undertaken since Paris Declaration on ISA. He thanked the United Nations for proposing strategic partnership with ISA. He also apprised the members about the discussions held with CII for developing a strategy for augmenting the corpus fund, developing standardised bidding document, Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and also the standardization of component and sub-components. He mentioned that for a quick start of ISA activities, Government of India has invited proposals from ISA countries for solar energy demonstration projects and proposals from 9 countries were received. NISE has been developing proposal for training of trainers on different aspects on solar energy for officials from ISA countries. A presentation made on Action Taken Report is at Annexure-I.

4. Dr Werlings, ISA Focal Point of France, thanked India for organizing the meeting of Interim Administrative Cell of ISA at the short notice and made a presentation on key challenges, core principles and proposed models for ISA. He stated that the core principle of ISA is to create buyer's market by creating bigger volumes and participatory approach. He cited the example of LED lighting programme which has successfully helped in reducing the cost. He mentioned that the main activities are realistic assessment of demand for future technologies and affordable finance. He mentioned that there is a need for ISA to capitalize on the strong political support and interest by the Corporate sector to bring in utility scale solar deployment in member countries. He suggested that as an initial step, 2 or 3 programmes could be announced at a function alongside the signing ceremony of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change at New York city on 22 April 2016. The copy of the presentation made by Dr. Werlings is at Annexure-II.

5. Shri Naushad Forbes, President Designate, CII thanked the Government of India and France for providing a dynamic leadership for establishing ISA in India and congratulated MNRE for the speed at which events are taking place and shape. realising ISA objectives. He extended full support of CII for ISA objective and briefed about the action initiated for pooling resources and also developing the project bidding documents, power purchase agreement etc. He mentioned that the ultimate objective is creating an enabling atmosphere for the solar industry and seek their support in accelerating solar energy deployment in ISA member countries. He promised all support from CII, including mobilization of US \$ 500 million corpus for ISA. He expected that RE-INVEST in other parts of the globe will be a game changer for global solar industry. Further he greatly appreciated the idea of a 24x7

cyber centre that will continuously beam solar specific knowledge to all stakeholders world over.

6. Shri Arbind Prasad, Director General, FICCI extended full support for organizing the RE-INVEST, and congratulated MNRE for their prompt action in giving the practical shape to the future activities of ISA.

7. Country Director, AFD France mentioned that the French support of Euro 300 million will be in the form of loan to ISA country for undertaking solar projects. He mentioned that the flow of loan and time frame would depend on project pipeline.

8. Mr. Rahul Majumdar, Exim Bank stated that expert support for development of projects in the pipeline was crucial and ISA could be a good platform for disseminating information in this regard. He stated that Exim Banks of China & Australia who participated in the Abu Dhabi meeting were very proactive. He offered to network with all such agencies to help ISA in implementing its programmes in future.

9. Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy informed about the progress made in developing training modules for officials from ISA countries and mentioned that they will shortly approach ISA countries for nominating person for the training. He also offered to identify training institutions in all ISA member countries and organise a workshop to establish a network of R&D/training institutions. This can be well leveraged by ISA in future.

10. Soft Bank and ENGIE informed about the knowledge portals being used by their organization and suggested that similar technologies could be used for creating ISA 24x7 knowledge portal. They both offered to make presentations in future to the Interim Administrative Cell.

11. Ms. Kanika Chawla, CEEW informed about the preparation of consolidated roadmap for ISA and mentioned that they would be submitting a draft soon.

12. Shri Sanjit Bunker Roy, SWRC informed about the innovative work done by the Barefoot College in capacity building for rural women in India and Africa region in fabrication, operation and maintenance of solar lighting systems.

13. YES Bank informed about their focus for financing renewables in general and solar in particular and also about the special measure solar energy. YES Bank highlighted that IAC should address top 400 global funds that manage assets of around US\$ 60.8 trillion, including 0.96 trillion new contribution into global pension fund, and US \$ 1.84 trillion global life insurance premiums. He suggested that these funds should consider solar option in ISA member countries.

14. Mr. Jaco Cilliens, UNDP informed about proposal for entering into a Strategic Partnership between ISA and United Nations and mentioned that for the purpose a draft Framework Agreement has been prepared and circulated as background for the meeting..

15. Thereafter, agenda items were taken up for discussion, as under:-

- i. Presentation before Hon'ble Prime Minister on ISA Actions

Decision: *ISA cell in coordination with Ministry of External Affairs will seek convenience of Hon'ble Minister and finalize agenda for the meeting.*

- ii. Proposal from the Government of France for a specific Program on “Affordable finance at scale” under ISA in April 2016

Decision: *French proposals for “Affordable finance and scale” and ‘mini-grid for Agriculture pump sets’ will be examined and developed as an agenda for next IAC meeting for consideration in New York.*

- iii. Roadmap for French support of Euro 300 million for ISA countries announced by Hon'ble President of France on 25 January 2016

Decision: *AFD, India will give the details so that ISA cell can circulate to all member countries , expert agencies and upload in the web page.*

- iv. Solar energy projects in general with particular focus on Africa under US \$ 10 billion assistance from India.
CII volunteered to have a consultative workshop with stakeholders in this regard in a month time.

Decision: *Exim Bank will give details which the ISA cell can circulate to all member countries.*

- v. Holding of RE-INVEST in India, Indonesia, Peru and Kenya

Decision: *CII and FICCI in coordination with ISA member countries and also with Terra Watt initiative will develop 2 proposals each for holding RE-INVEST.*

- vi. Organization of Trainings at National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) and National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) as part of Biannual Annual Plan 2016-17

Decision: *NISE will seek nominations from ISA countries and finalize the calendar of training, apart from identifying a network of R&D institutions and training institutions in ISA countries.*

- vii. Setting up of ISA cyber centre for exchange of information and knowledge sharing

Decision: *ENGIE and Soft Bank will make a presentation about the knowledge portal being used by their organizations and suggest modalities for creating a knowledge portal for ISA.NIC will also be consulted*

- viii. Preparation of comprehensive Roadmap for ISA for next five years

Decision: *Based on the inputs from KPMG, Deloitte, PWC and Yes Bank, CEEW will submit a consolidated draft road map for consideration of ISA.*

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

**Third Meeting of Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of International Solar Alliance
(ISA)
11 March 2016: 1200 hrs.**

List of Participants

Chairman, IAC

Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE

Members

1. Shri K. Nagaraj Naidu, Director, MEA
2. Shri D. K. Khare, Director (IR), MNRE
3. Dr. Subrata Bose, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
4. Dr. N.P.Singh, Sr Consultant, MNRE
5. Shri KBK Reddy, DGM, IREDA
6. Dr. O S Sastry, Director General, NISE
7. Dr. Ashvini Kumar, Managing Director, SECI
8. Dr. Yogender Kumar Yadav, Director General, SSS-NIBE, Kapurthala
9. Shri B V Rao, Director, IREDA
10. Shri Srikant Sharma, MNRE
11. Dr P.C .Maithani, Director, MNRE –Convener

Special Invitee

12. Mr. Guy-Cedric Werlings, ISA Focal Point, France
13. Mr. Francois Schichan, Political Counsellor, Embassy of France
14. Mr. Naushad Forbes, President Designate, CII
15. Ms. Soma Banerjee, Principal (Energy and Infrastructure), CII
16. Mr. Jaco Cilliens, UNDP
17. Dr. S. N. Srinivas, UNDP
18. Shri Shuva Raha, Deputy Director, CII
19. Ms. Rashika Chandihok, Director, CII
20. Shri C Shekhar, Deputy Director, FICCI
21. Shri Arbind Prasad, Director General, FICCI
22. Ms Rita Roy Choudhury, Senior Director, FICCI
23. Mr Nicolas FORNAGE ,Regional Director for South Asia, AFD
24. Shri Saurabh Sharivastava, Senior Consultant, DELOITTE
25. Shri Monoj Singh, Soft Bank Energy
26. Shri Vikas Bansal, YES Bank
27. Ms. Kanika Chawla, Council on Energy, Environment and Water
28. Ms. Ruchika Chawla, KPMG
29. Shri Piyush Kumar Arora, YES Bank
30. Shri Pawan Kumar Agrawal, YES Bank
31. Shri Rahul Mazumdar, Chief Manager, Research, EXIM Bank
32. Shri Tarun Sharma, Regional Head, Exim Bank
33. Dr. G. Giridhar, Director, MNRE/NISE
34. Shri Bunker Roy, Barefoot College
35. Shri Praveen Ashokan, ENGIE
36. Shri Ranjith Nair, ENGIE
37. Shri Rajeev Malhotra, Yes Bank

38. Ms. Shikha Jain, FICCI
39. Shri Vaibhav Singh Assistant Manager, PWC
40. Shri Anvesha Thakker, Advisor, KPMG