

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

The eighth meeting of the Interim Administrative Cell (IAC) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), was held on 3 March 2017 in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Shri Rajeev Kapoor, Secretary, MNRE and ex-officio Interim Director General (IDG) of ISA and Chairman, IAC chaired the meeting. List of participants is at Annexure-I.

2. The Chairman welcomed the participants and stated that in line with the decision taken in the 4th meeting of the International Steering Committee of the ISA (ISC), Hon'ble Minister for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines and Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs, Government of France have jointly decided to appoint Shri Upendra Tripathy as Interim Director General of ISA (IDG) on full time basis. Interim Secretariat of ISA will now operationalize this decision. He further mentioned that in the absence of any specific guidelines regarding the remuneration, as an interim arrangement and as per standard practice in Government of India, Shri Tripathy may be offered a monthly remuneration of his last pay drawn minus pension. However, decision on remuneration, protocol and other perks for IDG will be taken by the ISC in its next meeting that may be scheduled at an early date. He further stated that the IDG would need to be included as a member in the IAC.

3. The Chairman further informed about the forthcoming India and France Ministerial meeting of the African Development Bank scheduled to be held from 22– 26 May 2017 at Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat. He stated that half a day session in the Ministerial meeting has been earmarked for renewable energy and the ISA. This session should be utilized for informing the African countries about the strides that India have made in renewable energy, for dissemination of information about the ISA and bringing more and more African countries in to the ISA's fold.

4. Joint Secretary (Economic Diplomacy), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that so far 25 countries have signed the Framework Agreement and Ivory Coast is likely to sign it shortly. He further informed that MEA is working towards ensuring that the signatory countries complete the ratification process at the earliest.

5. After discussions, the following decisions emerged:-

- i. The offer of appointment may be extended to Shri Upendra Tripathy to serve as Interim Director General of ISA till further orders or up to the period ISA Assembly appoints a regular Director General , whichever is earlier;
- ii. The terms and conditions, including remuneration, perks and protocol, will be decided by the International Steering Committee of ISA. Till then, Shri Tripathy will be provided salary, on an interim basis, equivalent to last pay drawn minus pension, as per the existing practice in the Government of India;

- iii. The Hon'ble Minister for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines will be apprised of the decision and his approval sought on the same;
 - iv. ISC meeting shall be convened at an early date where guidance may be sought on remuneration and other facilities to be provided to the IDG; and
 - v. MNRE, in coordination with MEA and Renewable Energy Manufacturing Associations, will work to develop a programme for the meeting of the African Development Bank scheduled to be held in Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.
6. Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Shri Rajeev Kapoor, Secretary, MNRE & ex-officio IDG and Chairman of IAC – In Chair
2. Shri J.B. Mohapatra, JS&FA, MNRE
3. Shri Agrim Kaushal, Economic Advbiser, ISA
4. Shri K. Nagaraj Naidu, Joint Secretary, MEA
5. Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Joint Secretary, MNRE
6. Ms. Veena Sinha, Director, MNRE
7. Ms. Priya Nair, Deputy Secretary, MEA
8. Shri K.S. Popli, CMD, IREDA
9. Dr. Yogender Kumar Yadav, Director, SSS NIBE
10. Dr. P.C. Maithani, Adviser, MNRE
