



AIDE MEMOIRE

Joint statement on cooperation between

The University of Birmingham (UoB) and International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- 1. The University of Birmingham (UoB)**, established by Queen Victoria in 1900, is a chartered university based in Birmingham, UK, with a charitable mission to undertake education and research. UoB is consistently ranked in the top 1% of universities across the globe and is a member of the Russell Group of UK universities. Characterised by a tradition of innovation, research at the University has pushed forward boundaries of knowledge and made an impact on people's lives. Eleven faculty members and alumni have been honoured with Nobel Prizes till date. The 2014 Research Excellence Framework has confirmed the University's position amongst top research universities in UK, with more than 81% of all research rated as 'world leading' and 87% of all research activities having a global impact. A particular strength is energy research led by the Birmingham Energy Institute, including clean cold and cold-chain and sustainable energy, energy storage and energy grids. UoB has been working in India and globally in the area of sustainable cooling and cold-chains since 2015.
- 2. International Solar Alliance (ISA)** is a treaty based international inter-governmental organization which was launched on 30 November 2015, in Paris, France, and Headquarters at Gurugram, Haryana, India (UN Registration No. 54949). The ISA provides a dedicated platform for cooperation to assist and help achieve the common goals of increasing the use of solar energy in meeting energy needs of prospective ISA member countries in a safe, convenient, affordable, equitable and sustainable manner. The ISA works with the global community, including bilateral and multilateral organizations, corporates, industry, and other stakeholders in this endeavour.
- 3. UoB and the ISA** are natural allies, who are working in support of SDGs, including SDG 7, and to support emerging economies to transition to renewable energy, as part of efforts to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.



4. This letter is a public statement of UoB and the ISA's intent to explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between UoB and the ISA, including events in countries of mutual engagement. UoB and the ISA will continue to engage on a bilateral basis, and have agreed to further discussions on the proposed relationship between the Parties.
5. UoB and the ISA will seek to explore opportunities for collaboration which includes 'ISA Solar Cooling Initiative (I-SCI)' envisaged under ISA Programme "Scaling Solar Applications for Agriculture Use", but not limited to, research into and promotion of solar and solar-hybrid cooling and cold-chain solutions, solar energy storage, energy efficient solar appliances, and measuring the impact of such measures.
6. UoB and the ISA note, for absolutely clarity, that this statement does not constitute, nor is it intended to be, a legally binding agreement, and does not create legally binding or enforceable rights or obligations, express or implied. Similarly, nothing in this statement shall be deemed to constitute a joint venture, agency, interest grouping or any other kind of formal business grouping or entity between the Parties.
7. Nothing in this joint statement obligates either party to expend funds or to enter into any contract, assistance agreement, or other financial obligation. Any activity involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties shall be handled in accordance with each Party's internal policies and procedures, applicable laws, regulations and procedures. Any activity involving financial commitments from either party shall be expressly agreed in writing under a separate agreement executed by both Parties.

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