



First Assembly of the International Solar Alliance
3 October, 2018
New Delhi, Republic of India

ISA/A.01/WD.04
02/09/2018

Decisions taken at the six meetings of the International Steering Committee

Summary

The document presents the decisions taken at the 6 meetings of the International Steering Committee.

Major decisions taken at the six meetings of the International Steering Committee (ISC)

S.No	Decision made in Steering Committee Meetings
1.	1st Steering Committee
1.1	ISA, in consultation with IRENA, IEA etc. will carry out an analysis so that there is no duplication in the area of conducting studies etc. or sanctioning similar projects in same places. Further, there should be an institutional mechanism for joint consultation to avoid such duplication in annual work plans;
1.2	Make the proposed projects and programs in the road map more focused which can be discussed in the subsequent meetings of ISC;
1.3	Plan for private and corporate sector involvement in ISA activities and structure;
1.4	ISA member countries will designate a nodal officer for ISA and related activities and inform the same to their resident diplomatic missions located in New Delhi; and to The ISA Cell, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. A copy of all correspondence, including feedback on the working paper, should also be marked to the local Embassy/High Commission in Delhi;
1.5	The next meeting of the steering committee of the ISA would take place in January, 2016 at Abu Dhabi which will be conveyed through diplomatic channels shortly.
2.	2nd Steering Committee Meeting
2.1	Formulate projects and programs through pooling and harmonizing the demand from solar rich countries
2.2	The Interim Administrative Cell of ISA (ISA cell) will share with prospective member countries a set of papers, including the following papers jointly prepared by India and France, as agenda for the next ISC meeting:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. ISA concept and how it is innovative, new and ensure no duplication of existing international entities; ii. assessment of solar applications and barriers to be addressed by the Alliance; iii. examples of programmes which demonstrate the transformative value of the Alliance; iv. proposal for common guidelines and methodology for programmes to be submitted by prospective member countries; and v. proposal for working methods of the ISC.
2.3	India and France will invite prospective ISA member countries for a side-event to be organized on 22nd April in New York in the margins of the signing

	ceremony of the Paris Agreement;
2.4	To initiate the activities of the Alliance, a beginning could be made with the Government of India's proposal for training and support of 450 officers from ISA countries at the National Institute of Solar Energy. India also offers for providing financial support of approximately US\$ 15 million to ISA member countries for demonstration projects on 100 % grant basis for solar home lighting, solar pumps for farmers and other such solar applications for the year 2016-17. Other countries in a position to offer support were invited to start identifying programmes focussing on specific goals to promote ISA objectives;
2.5	ISA cell will engage in discussions with relevant stakeholders such as the Association of African Countries, Global Solar Council, International Solar Energy Society, Terawatt Initiatives and other such associations, organizations including for raising investment required and facilitating flow of low cost capital into member countries in order to create a global buyer market;
2.6	ISA cell will engage in discussions with the member countries and firm up plan for organizing Global Investment meet in various regional zones during 2016-17 in connection with specific programmes to be launched. These events could be entrusted to a specific and global grouping of private stakeholders interested in ISA activities, on a transparent, global and open basis, including but not limited to Confederation of India Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). A calendar for organizing these meets will be informed to all Members by email/posting at the website. ISA cell can hold discussions with host countries concerned;
2.7	The ISA website created by IAC shall be made interactive where latest information about ISA could be made available;
2.8	As discussed in the first ISC, all the countries agreed to designate a focal point for coordinating ISA activities. In this context the decision point of the 1st ISC meeting of 1st December 2015 was reiterated wherein all the countries were requested to inform details of the identified focal point to the ISA Cell, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Block 14, First Floor, New Delhi, 110003. (secy-mnre@nic.in) Fax: 00 91 11 2436 7329; Phone + 91 11 2436 2772. It was also decided that a copy of all correspondence, should also be marked to the local resident diplomatic missions in New Delhi, who would act as alternate nodal points; and
2.9	An Interim Administrative Cell of ISA has been set up in New Delhi and will take all measures in follow up of the discussion of the 2nd ISC meeting and will keep ISC and prospective ISA member countries informed.

3.	3rd Steering Committee Meeting
3.1	Interventions made by Nigeria will form part of the report of 2 nd ISC meeting
3.2	Prospective ISA member countries will provide their comments/suggestions, through the national focal point for the ISA within two weeks from the date of receipt of the report of ISC meeting on the following proposals: a) Rules of Procedure for the consultative process; b) ISA concept – How it is innovative and new; c) Indicative Table “solar applications covered by the Alliance and main obstacles to deployment at scale”; and d) Proposed key organizational principles. The ISA cell will collate the comments and submit accordingly revised proposals for consideration of the ISC in its next meeting.
3.3	The document “Common guidelines for making a Programme proposal under ISA” was adopted without observations.
3.4	<p>The Programmes for “Scaling solar applications for agricultural use” and “Affordable finance at scale” were adopted with following observations: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Specific to “Scaling solar applications for agricultural use” In the penultimate paragraph of the proposal, after the sentence “They will report to us by the end of this year, and will propose a new set of objectives for the following year”, the following sentence should be added: “Their reports will also be forwarded to the Interim Administrative Cell of ISA for coordination and analysis purposes.”. ii. Specific to “Affordable finance at scale” In paragraph 4. the text “...Corporate sector, in particular through the Terrawatt Initiative, on the optimal terms ...” shall be revised as “...Corporate sector, inter alia through the Terrawatt Initiative, on the optimal terms ...”. It was clarified that collaboration between ISA & TWI did not create any exclusivity for other organizations. In the penultimate paragraph of the proposal, after the sentence “They will report to us by the end of this year, and will propose a new set of objectives for the following year”, the following sentence should be added : “Their reports will also be forwarded to the Interim Administrative Cell of ISA for coordination and analysis purposes.”. iii. Common to both programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All the prospective ISA member countries will also be invited to join the two programmes; b) The programmes were approved for launching in the Ministerial Side Event on ISA scheduled on 22 April 2016; c) The national Representative, through a consultative process should further detail the programme in the form of a full programme

	<p>proposal. ISA Cell will facilitate/coordinate the process and circulate among the prospective ISA member countries.</p> <p>d) The programme proposals so developed will also be presented at the Founding Conference, which would also serve as the first Ministers" Conclave, scheduled in New Delhi in the near future; and</p> <p>e) The participating countries as well as the ISA cell will assess the financial means, institutional mechanisms, and necessary capacity building measures etc , required to implement the programme.</p>
3.5	ISA cell will engage one international consulting organization, like McKinsey, BCG, KPMG etc. for suggesting a model for ISA financial sustainability and also its governance structure. The task will be completed within two months;
3.6	The Joint Declaration between ISA Cell and UNDP was approved for being read and launched in the Ministerial Side Event of ISA on 22 April 2016; and
3.7	As discussed in previous ISC meetings, countries were requested to inform details of the identified National Focal Points to the ISA Cell, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (Email: secy-mnre@nic.in ; pcmaithani@nic.in;). It was also decided that a copy of all correspondence should also be marked to the local resident diplomatic missions in New Delhi, which would act as alternative nodal points/contact points.
4.	4th Steering Committee Meeting
4.1	<p>Framework Agreement of ISA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Framework Agreement of ISA will be circulated to all prospective member countries of ISA through the network of National Focal Points, and also through French and Indian missions in these countries, and also through Missions of prospective countries in New Delhi and Paris; ii. The countries will be requested to convey their acceptance, make comments (if any) or seek clarifications (if required) on the Framework Agreement of ISA, and convey through e-mail from their National Focal Points or through diplomatic channels, by the countries which are yet to designate their National Focal Points; iii. The acceptance / comments may sent to the French and Indian focal points (guycedric.werlings@diplomatie.gouv.fr) and (pcmaithani@nic.in) by 17th October 2016; iv. Based on comments received from the prospective member countries of ISA, India and France will propose the revised version of the ISA Framework Agreement by 24th October 2016; v. The finalized ISA Framework Agreement text may be opened for signature at the 22nd Conference of Parties to the United Nations

	<p>Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-22) scheduled to be held in Marrakech, Morocco during 7-18 November 2016; and</p> <p>vi. The ISA Interim Secretariat will separately convey exact date and venue for the ISA event in COP-22 where the Framework Agreement may be opened for Signature.</p>
4.2	<p>Interim Arrangement of Director General of ISA.</p> <p>Hon^{ble} Minister for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines, India and Hon^{ble} Minister of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs, Government of France will consult with each other and will consider appointing a suitable person to serve as Interim DG of ISA on a full time basis, until ISA Assembly appoints a person. While appointing the interim DG, the Hon^{ble} Ministers may consider the eligibility criteria as contained in Annexure-IV of the Agenda notes.</p>
4.3	<p>Corpus Fund for ISA</p> <p>I. The ISA Secretariat with the help of the National Focal Points of ISA in the prospective member countries will develop a strategy and make efforts for augmenting corpus fund from various sources including from States, public and private sector contributions;</p> <p>II. While accepting contributions, ISA Secretariat will ensure that there is no conflict of interest with those contributing to the ISA corpus fund, and the contributing entity will have no role or influence in determining ISA activities, including on spending the interest earned on the contributed amount; and</p> <p>III. The contributions made in the corpus may be acknowledged in the ways as mentioned in Annexure-II.</p>
4.4	<p>Engagement with the World Bank</p> <p>The ISA Secretariat will continue dialog with the World Bank for the following activities:-</p> <p>i. Developing roadmap to mobilize financing, and financing instruments; and technical assistance and knowledge transfer;</p> <p>ii. Supporting mobilization of concessional financing; and supporting country ISA RE-INVEST events; and</p> <p>iii. Organizing an event on Financing at Marrakech, Morocco during COP-22 scheduled to be held during 7-18 November 2016.</p>
4.5	<p>Engagement with the UN</p> <p>The ISA Secretariat will continue dialog with the UN for seeking UN support</p>

	including for sharing of knowledge, best practices, experiences, technology, and expertise and also for financial support to the ISA.
5.	5th Steering Committee Meeting
5.1	<p>The following are the action points for the ISA Secretariat: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Develop draft ISA Manual of Rules and Procedure and bring the same for consideration of ISC in its next meeting, or place draft rules for consideration of ISA Assembly in its first meeting. Till ISC / ISA Assembly approve the ISA Manual of Rules, UN rules and procedure may apply to the ISA mutatis mutandis from the date that ISA secretariat notifies the same; II. Submit revised draft Host Country Agreement for consideration of the Government of the Republic of India; III. Submit an Interim Headquarters Agreement for consideration of the Government of the Republic of India; IV. Develop programmes on solar rooftop and solar supported E-Mobility through consultative process with ISA countries, garner support of at least two countries for owning the programme and also develop work plan for implementation. Thereafter, the Programme shall be launched in the ISA Solar Summit in December 2017. These programmes will be open for the countries that have ratified the Framework Agreement of the ISA; V. Pursue with multilateral banks and GCF for enhancing cooperation in solar energy area; and VI. Post the list of projects financed under the Government of France and Government of India support of Euro 300 Million and US \$ 2 billion soft loan respectively for ISA countries on its website to attract more countries to sign the ISA treaty.
5.2	<p>The following were approved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Resolution for welcoming the countries that have signed the Framework Agreement (FA) and those who have ratified the same, as enclosed at Annexure –IV of the Agenda (Agenda Item no 7.1); ii. The prospective member countries of the ISA will have an option to sign and ratify the FA in any one of the official UN languages, with all texts equally authentic; and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India that serves as depository of the FA will arrange official translation of the FA in all UN languages to all the prospective countries of the ISA (Agenda Item no 7.2); iii. India's proposal for holding Founding Conference of ISA, and ISA Secretariat's plans to organize Solar Summit on the margins of the

	<p>Renewable Energy Global Investors Meet & Expo (RE-Invest 2017) on 8 and 9 December 2017. ISC urged the prospective member countries of the ISA to expedite signing and ratification of the FA (Agenda Item no 7.3);</p> <p>iv. Proposal for providing status of the Founding Member Country to all the countries that ratify the FA by 8 December 2017(Agenda Item no 7.3);</p> <p>v. ISA Pavilion in major events to create awareness about ISA programmes and attract more members. While putting ISA Pavilion, the ISA Secretariat will keep the National Focal Points of ISA abreast of the plan and seek their involvement (Agenda Item no 7.4);</p> <p>vi. Level of Interim Director General / Director General of ISA shall be equivalent to the Assistant Secretary General (ASG) of UN from 15 March 2017 when the Interim Director General joined as per offer letter given by the interim Secretariat. The incidental taxes on pay and perks of the Interim Director General / Director General of the ISA will be borne by the ISA until the same is exempted under the Host Country Agreement (Agenda Item no 7.5)</p> <p>vii. Secondment policy of ISA, as enclosed at Annexure –VII of the Agenda (Agenda Item no 7.8);</p> <p>viii. ISA Policy on Partner Organisations as enclosed at Annexure –VIII of the Agenda, and authorized the Secretariat of the ISA to undertake minor changes in the draft policy as deemed necessary;</p> <p>ix. ISA Solar Award Policy as enclosed at Annexure –IX of the Agenda;</p> <p>x. Strategy to organize RE-Invest Events in ISA member countries as enclosed at Annexure –X of the Agenda;</p> <p>xi. Logo Policy of ISA as enclosed at Annexure-XI of the Agenda and authorized the ISA Secretariat to undertake minor changes in the draft policy as deemed necessary;</p> <p>xii. launching of ISA Solar Technology Application Centre at ISA campus, and mandate the ISA Secretariat to develop details of the proposed Centre including its work plan before its launch during the ISA Summit in December 2017. UN can be requested to lend its name once ISA is a legal entity; and</p> <p>xiii. e-learning Platform with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi, India and mandate the ISA Secretariat to develop work plan before it is launched during the ISA Summit in December 2017.</p>
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<p>5.3</p>	<p>The following were ratified: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Launching of the third Programme of the ISA on „Scaling Solar Mini Grids“; and ii. ISA’s Joint Declaration with the World Bank and Climate Parliament and desired that ISA and its Partners should finalize a two-year plan of action which will help implement solar programmes.
<p>6.</p>	<p>6th Steering Committee</p>
<p>6.3</p>	<p>The following are the action points for the ISA Secretariat:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sign the Headquarters Agreement between the ISA and the Host Country before 11 March 2018 when the Founding Conference of the ISA is scheduled. On behalf of the ISA, the IDG was authorized to sign the Headquarters Agreement (Agenda Item 6.2); ii. Develop business models for dissemination of solar pumps and other solar systems and devices in ISA member countries and also explore possibilities of coordinated action with stakeholders for arranging finance from corporate, bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, philanthropies etc. (Agenda Item 6.3); iii. Expedite launching of the Paris Risk Mitigation Fund (Agenda Item 6.4); iv. Re-examine the proposal for Energy Efficiency becoming as an integral area of activity of ISA and limit energy efficiency issues to solar sector and solar related areas (Agenda Item 6.6); v. Initiate process and undertake all activities as deemed necessary for holding first General Assembly of the ISA on a earliest possible date or on the side-lines of the 2nd Global RE-INVEST (Agenda Item 6.10); vi. In Interest of continuity and under the mandate of the Paris Declaration, ISC recommended that the General Assembly of the ISA in its first meeting keeping in view the need for continuity and consistency, consider continuance of India as Chair and France as Co-chair for a period of one year for putting in place ISA’s instruments, rules and regulations. (Agenda Item 6.10). vii. Prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR) for establishing Solar Technology Application and Resource-Centre (STAR-C) and place the same for approval of the Assembly in the near future (Agenda Item 6.13). viii. The IDG will make expenditures as per the financial delegation, as contained in Annexure-VI of the Agenda, with modifications as deemed

	<p>necessary until regular rules are in place after approval by the Assembly and duly notified by the Interim Secretariat (Agenda Item 6.14).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ix. Shall develop the process for granting membership to all the UN member countries outside the inter-tropical zone and take measures to introduce a suitable amendment proposal in the first General Assembly according to the Framework Agreement provisions (Agenda Item 6.15); x. Undertake an analysis of the prospects and likely gains from apportioning apart of the Solidarity Tax on airplane tickets for solar energy activities. Thereafter with proper rationale approach the ISA Member countries for apportioning a part the Solidarity Tax to fund capacity building projects in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) & Small Islands Countries (Agenda Item 7.3); xii. Take necessary steps for partnering with United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) to enable the utilization of the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Fund for promoting solar energy deployments and applications in the degraded and waste lands in the ISA member countries (Agenda Item 7.4); xiii. Outreach to the United Nations regarding a proposal for 6 December as the UN day dedicated to Universal Energy Access to be known as Universal Energy Access Day of the UN (Agenda Item 7.5); xiv. Shall revise the provisions of the proposal for establishing panel of ISA experts with an alternative appropriate nomenclature, and develop guidelines for selecting the panels of experts for approval of General Assembly (Agenda Item 7.7); xv. Develop a transparent procedure for selecting reputed companies for implementing the projects for setting up solar Rooftop Demonstration Projects in Member countries. Countries that have ratified and signed ISA Framework Agreement will be eligible (Agenda Item 7.8); and xvi. Develop guidelines for the programme and constitute an International Committee to finalise the list of selected candidates for ISA Solar Fellowships for Midcareer Professionals. (Agenda Item 8.1).
6.2	<p>The following were approved:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Launching of new programmes on Solar Roof Top and Solar Supported e-mobility (Agenda Item 6.3); ii. Proposal for holding the Founding Conference of the ISA on 11 March

	<p>2018 (Agenda Item 6.7);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Proposal for ISA partnership in 2nd Global RE-INVEST (Agenda Item 6.8); iv. The ISC approved the proposal for selection of Director General of ISA and noted the suggestions (Agenda Item 6.9); v. Proposal for signing the Joint declaration with Commonwealth Secretariat and authorized the IDG to sign the same (Agenda Item 6.12); and vi. Proposal for signing Joint Declaration between ISA and Green Climate Fund
6.3	<p>The following were ratified:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Passed the resolution on welcoming the Countries that have signed the Framework Agreement and appreciating those that have also ratified the same along with status update (Agenda Item 6.5); and ii. Signing of Joint Declarations with European Investment Bank (EIB) and
6.4	<p>The following were noted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Notification for ISA Framework Agreement coming into force issued by ISA Secretariat(Agenda Item 6.16); ii. ISA Secretariat's initiative for hosting first Outreach Programme during 1718 January, 2018 (Agenda Item 7.1);and iii. The progress under the ISA's Secretariat initiative for organizing the first National Focal Point Conclave from 6 - 15 December 2017 (Agenda Item 7.6).
