

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

The Interim Administrative Cell of the International Solar Alliance (ISA Cell), held its sixth meeting on 14 June 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. A copy of the presentation from ISA Cell introducing Agenda and informing the Action Taken Report is enclosed at Annexure-II

2. Shri Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, MNRE and Chairman, ISA Cell welcomed the participants and mentioned that 24 countries have designated National Focal Points in their Capitals for ISA, and other countries are in a process of doing so. Further, in a short span of time, ISA has initiated two programmes, and issued a joint declaration for cooperation with UNDP. He also informed the members about the third Initiative of the ISA on off-grid solar for energy access, as stated in the Joint Statement between USA and India issued on 7 June 2016. He thanked UK for interest in developing a joint programme under ISA. He sought each and everyone's support in developing concrete activities within the programmes and implementing them. He further informed that on the basis of feedbacks/comments received on the ISA Framework Agreement (Statute) circulated in the first ISC meeting, a revised draft Statute of ISA is under preparation. The draft Statute under preparation: a) draws from the Paris Declaration on ISA; b) aims at making ISA a nimble organization with action oriented focus, outsourcing of finance and administration functions to UN and/or its organs; and c) non-mandatory & voluntary contributions from the ISA members.

3. Chairman, ISA Cell informed about the World Bank's interest in cooperating with ISA for mobilizing finances and reducing cost of fund for solar energy development and deployment. On the occasion of the visit of the World Bank President to India in end June 2016, a Joint Declaration between the World Bank and ISA cell for detailing cooperation activities is contemplated in order to effectively implement *inter alia* the second programme of ISA 'Affordable Finance at Scale' launched at New York, USA. He also informed about other developments including: a) allocation of additional 5 acres of land for ISA Headquarters by the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE); and b) setting up of 24x7 cyber centre with the assistance of UNDP and National Informatics' Centre, Government of India by 14 August 2016.

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

1. UNDP as Strategic Partner of ISA

Mr. Jaco Cilliers, Country Director, UNDP informed that UNDP has been assisting in implementation of 59 solar energy projects in 48 member countries of the ISA with a grant assistance of US \$ 179 million that leverage US\$ 1.1 billion in co-financing. He stated that within the Joint Declaration mandate, UNDP proposes to assist in developing an expert Paper for ISA Action Plan and five year roadmap that includes financial, operational, sustainability and business models. The exercise may start in 2nd week of July and completed by August 2016. UNDP may consult various stakeholders.

Decision: The UNDP proposal for consultation process was agreed. UNDP will develop Terms of References for the exercise, including for Experts, in consultation with ISA Cell.

2. New Initiatives under ISA

Mr. George N. Sibley, Minister Counsellor, US Embassy stated that one of the many positive outcomes of the recent visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to US was the US-India joint commitment to a third programme under the ISA. He stated that the third programme of ISA as described in the joint statement will be developed in consultation with ISA cell. He informed the members about the ongoing India-US energy collaboration including Promoting Energy Access through Clean Energy initiative that is aimed at expanding off-grid clean energy access and strengthening the building blocks of the off-grid ecosystem such as businesses, technologies, financing tools, and policies. He further stated that a great deal of work is already in motion and US looks forward to greater cooperation within the ISA. Regarding US ability to join ISA as a member, he mentioned that US envisions ISA as a nimble organization, based on voluntary membership, in which projects and activities are more valued than dues and voting rights.

Dr. Simon Lucas, First Secretary, UK High Commission expressed UK's interest for developing a joint India-UK programme under ISA. He stated that the possible areas could be creating collaboration on solar research and development, partnership with existing solar programmes in ISA countries, particularly in Africa, and private sector finance for solar projects in prospective ISA member countries. He further desired to know as to whether in kind contributions are acceptable as a UK contribution to ISA.

Decision: Draft papers for Joint Programmes under ISA with USA and UK will be developed. Based on US and UK initial preferences, ISA cell will prepare the first draft and send for their inputs by end June 2016. These shall be innovative proposals, with a clear road map of activities that ISA can pursue to implement the programme.

3. RE-INVESTs

Chairman, ISA Cell introduced the agenda and stated that RE-INVESTs are envisioned with participation from all prospective ISA member countries from the continent and outside. These events are aimed at investment promotion through conference sessions, exhibitions, business to business meetings. He informed the members about India's RE- INVEST and stated that the events helped in developing a vibrant and enabling environment on renewable energy in the country, as a large number of industries, developers, financiers committed specific goals in the form of 'Commitments' for renewable energy deployment, manufacturing and financing. He further stated that RE-INVESTs should be self-supporting events and the host country would not be required to spend for organizing the event.

Chairman, ISA Cell invited Kenya, Peru and Indonesia to provide their views and requested CII, FICCI and Terrawatt Initiative to share their experiences.

H. E Mrs. Florence Imisa Weche, High Commissioner of Kenya in India welcomed the proposal for organizing the event and stated that Kenya is consulting technical experts and industries in Kenya in the matter.

H.E Mr. Carlos Jimenez, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Peru informed about interest generated in Peru about ISA initiative. He however desired to know more details including expenditure involved in organizing the event.

H.E. Mr. Taufik Rigo, First Secretary, Embassy of Indonesia stated that India and Indonesia can work under the existing collaborative arrangement. He informed about Indonesia Expo that is scheduled in New Delhi in September, 2016, and also stated that during the forthcoming visit of the Hon'ble President of Indonesia both the countries could firm up specific cooperation activities. He supported the proposal for organizing RE-INVEST in Indonesia, however desired to know specific details of the proposal.

Ms. Soma Banerjee, CII informed that they were partners with MNRE and FICCI in organizing RE-INVEST in India. They helped MNRE in creating a platform for the event and build green energy capacity in the country. Immediate outcome of the event was increased capacity of solar energy generation. She offered that CII would like to be associated in organizing such events in Indonesia, Peru and Kenya.

Ms. Rita Roy Choudhury, FICCI informed that FICCI was fully involved with CII in organizing the RE-INVEST in 2015. She expressed desire to partner with CII and Terrawatt Initiative in organizing RE-INVESTS in Indonesia, Peru and Kenya. She also mentioned that FICCI would be a part of the Hon'ble PM's delegation to Kenya and would utilize the opportunity to interact with industry and inform them about RE-INVEST.

Mr Jean-Pascal Pham-Ba, Terrawatt Initiative informed that they are non-profit organization and specially value their association with ISA. He expressed willingness to partner in organizing RE-INVESTs in Indonesia, Peru and Kenya.

Decision: CII, FICCI and Terrawatt Initiative will together develop a transparent strategy, including an action plan with clear roadmap of activities for holding ISA-RE-INVESTs in the year 2017 in India, Indonesia, Kenya and Peru. The events should be revenue neutral and must have very clear outcomes. Revenue surplus, if any, will be spent on promoting ISA objectives.

4. WAPCOS 's experiences in Africa

Shri M. Manoj Kumar, Deputy Chief Engineer WAPCOS, informed that they provide a range of services in the areas of infrastructure development, water resources and power generation in India and abroad. He stated that WAPCOS has presence in over 50 countries including in many prospective ISA member countries in South Asia and across Africa.

Decision: WAPCOS Ltd will submit a strategy paper to ISA cell for developing specific activities under ISA programme '*Scaling solar applications for agricultural use*' in member countries and role WAPCOS can play in implementation.

5. Trainings for professional from ISA countries

Dr. O.S. Sastry, Director General, NISE informed that 3 advance training programmes on solar energy technologies for the participants from prospective ISA member countries are scheduled during August-September 2016. Further, 15 training programmes, including 9 for technical personnel, 2 for policy makers, 2 for banking and financial personnel and 2 for entrepreneurs are planned during the year 2016-17 and 2017-18. India will finance these training programmes.

Decision: NISE will seek inputs from UNDP in finalizing the training modules and seek nominations for training from prospective ISA member countries through Focal Points in capitals and Contact Points in the ISA country Missions in New Delhi. All such training should be linked through a Whatsapp programme under ISA banner.

6. ISA Cell Structure

The members were informed that in order to carry out correspondence & functions of Interim Secretariat of ISA the Chairperson ISA Cell, has been re-designated as Interim Director General with no additional financial implication, and with the prior approval of the Hon'ble Minister for Power, Coal, and New and Renewable Energy.

The structure was presented in the meeting. It consists of Interim Director General, Additional Director General and 4 Directors with 4 verticals. Chairman, ISA Cell informed that the present positions are filled with MNRE staff at no cost to ISA. He also informed about joining of Shri A. Kaushal and Ms. Rajshree Ray, Economic Advisers in ISA Secretariat at NISE. He invited other prospective ISA countries to place interns in the ISA Secretariat or even officers on secondment basis.

ISA activities have increased significantly. Major initiatives under implementation include: a) two Indo-French Programmes; b) three new programmes being developed with USA, UK and EU; c) An joint declaration of ISA and UNDP; d) finalization of MoUs with 6 organizations; e) establishment of interim Secretariat; f) establishment of 24x7 cyber centre with the help of UNDP and NIC, Government of India; g) ISA Secretariat building; and h) training programmes for ISA countries. Increased work and coverage of ISA Cell necessitate positioning of a full time interim Director General /Director General of ISA, until ISA becomes an intergovernmental organization. This will provide continuity and help ISA cell/interim Secretariat working in an effective manner.

It was accordingly suggested that with the approval of the host country, i.e., India, UNDP may be requested to initiate process of inviting nominations for the interim Director General from the prospective member countries of ISA. The interim Director General shall be a person with impeccable integrity, record of administrative excellence and innovative thinking as well as have experience in implementation of

solar energy projects and programmes. UNDP will seek nominations from member countries/prospective member countries in a time bound manner following a transparent process shall recommend a panel of 3 persons for consideration of the International Steering Committee/Assembly of ISA, as the case may be, which will chose the interim Director General /Director General.

Decision:

The following were decided:-

- i. ISA Cell will be re-designated as Interim Secretariat and use the Interim Secretariat inaugurated on 25 January 2016 jointly by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Mr François Hollande, Hon'ble President of France;
- ii. Chairman ISA cell will be re designated as Interim Director General of ISA at no cost to ISA; and
- iii. UNDP to be requested to initiate a process of inviting nominations for the position of interim Director General/ Director General once consent of the host country of ISA (India) is obtained.

5. In his concluding remarks, Secretary, MNRE expressed thanks to the Special Invitees for attending the meeting and providing valuable inputs. He hoped that with the support from the prospective ISA member countries, UN, World Bank and also from other countries, ISA will be successful in achieving its stated goal for expediting development and deployment of Solar energy in the prospective ISA member countries.

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

Sixth Meeting of Interim Administrative Cellof International Solar Alliance (ISA)

14 June 2016: 1030 hrs.

List of Participants

Chairman, ISA Cell

Shri UpendraTripathy, Secretary, MNRE

Members

1. Shri Tarun Kapur, Joint Secretary, MNRE
2. Shri K. Nagaraj Naidu, Director & HOD, ITP & Energy Security Division, MEA
3. Dr. A. Duraisamy, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
4. Shri Rajesh Parihar, Under Secretary, Investment Technology Promotion Division, MEA
5. Dr. O S Sastry, Director General, NISE
6. Dr. N.P.Singh, Advisor, UNIDO
7. Shri Ashvini Kumar, Managing Director, SECI
8. Shri A. Kaushal, Economic Adviser, MNRE
9. Ms. Rajshree Ray, Economic Adviser, MNRE
10. Shri D. K. Khare, Director (IR), MNRE
11. Shri K B K Reddy, DGM (TECH.), IREDA
12. Shri S. K. Deb, Consultant, MNRE
13. Shri Srikant Sharma, MNRE
14. Dr. P. C. Maithani, Director, MNRE -Convener

Special Invitees

1. H.E Mrs. Florence Imisa Weche, High Commissioner of Kenya, India
2. H.E Mr. Carlos Jimenez, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Peru, India
3. H.E Mr. George N. Sibley, Minister-Counselor, Embassy of the USA
4. H.E. Mr. Francois Schichan, Counselor, Embassy of France, India
5. H.E Mr. Taufik Rigo, First Secretary, Embassy of Indonesia Indonesian Embassy
6. H.E. Mr. Simon Lucas, First Secretary Climate & Development, British High Commission
7. H.E. Mr. Samuel Karicho, Kenya High Commission
8. Dr. Jaco Cilliers, Country Director, UNDP
9. Shri Saba Kalam, Programme Officer, UNDP
10. Mr Sikander Shah, U S Embassy
11. Mr. Stewart Davis, Energy Officer, Embassy of the USA
12. Ms. Usha Sunil, US, DoE
13. Mr. M Waltes, USAID
14. Shri Anurag Mishra, USAID
15. Shri B. Siddarthan, Country Head, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
16. Shri M. Manoj Kumar, Deputy Chief Engineer, WAPCOS Ltd
17. Shri Suneel Deamri, Solar Expert, WAPCOS ltd.
18. Shri Anand V. P., Engineer-Renewable Energy, WAPCOS ltd.

19. Mr Jean-Pascal Pham-Ba, Secretary General, Terawatt Initiative
20. Mr. Philine Humbert, Advisor, Solaire Direct Terawatt Initiative
21. Ms. Soma Banerjee, Principal (Energy) Confederation of India Industry
22. Ms. Rasika Chandihok, Director, CII
23. Ms. Rita Roy Choudhury, Sr. Director, FICCI
24. Shri Shekar Chandra, FICCI
25. Ms. Shikha Jain, FICCI
26. Ms. Paulami Choudhury, FICCI

Major Decisions in the 5th ISA Cell meeting - Action taken

- *NISE will share the training module with UNDP and seek inputs. Thereafter the module so developed will be shared with ISA countries. E-learning platforms for solar courses will also be launched so that students from member countries have free access. [Under process](#)*
- *ISA Cell will facilitate the process for organizing RE-INVESTs in Indonesia, Kenya and Peru on the stipulated dates and find out a transparent basis for choosing a manager company. [CII, FICCI and Terrawatt Initiative will present their experiences](#)*

New Programmes under ISA



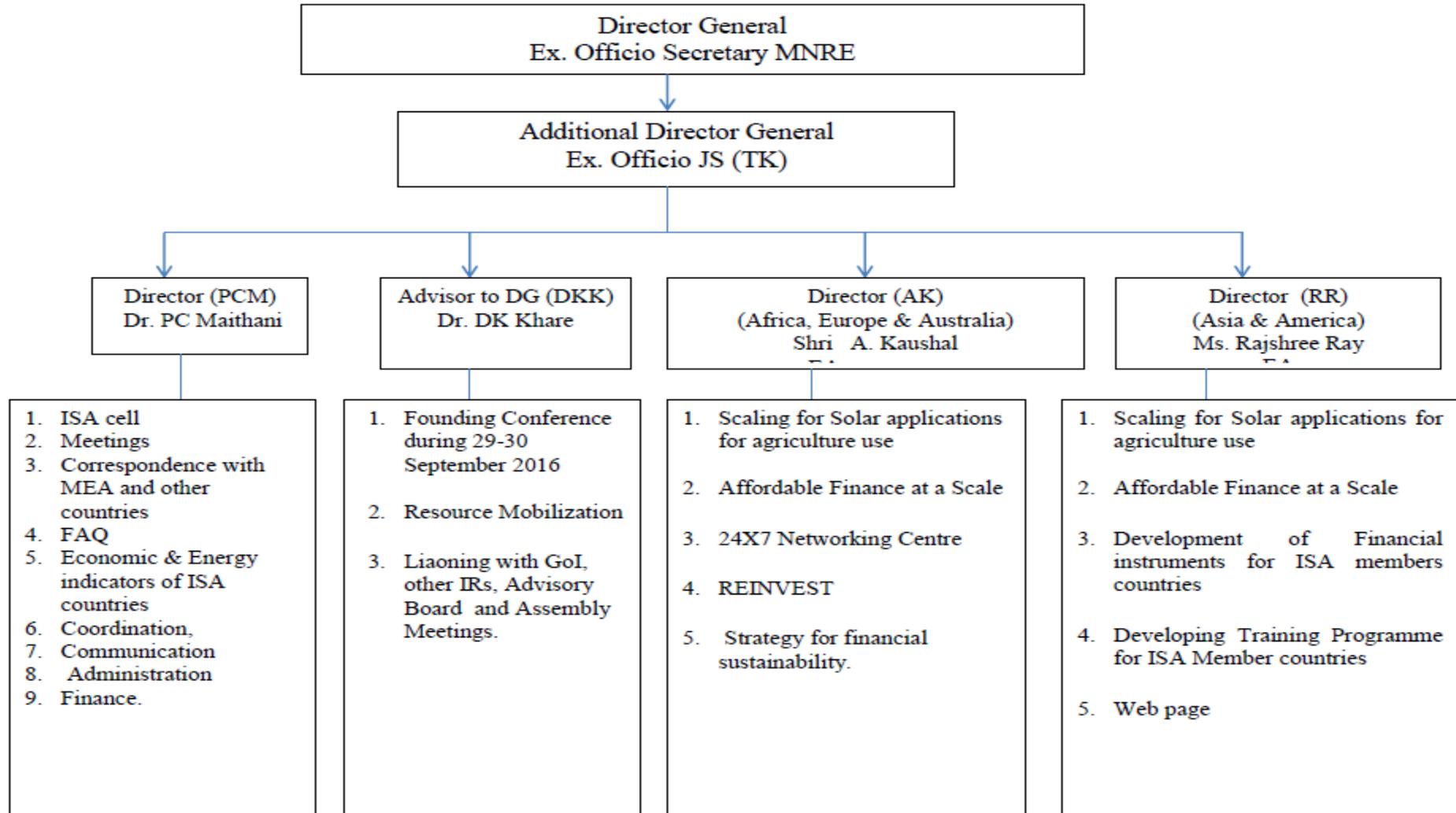
India-US Joint Statement : 7 June 2016

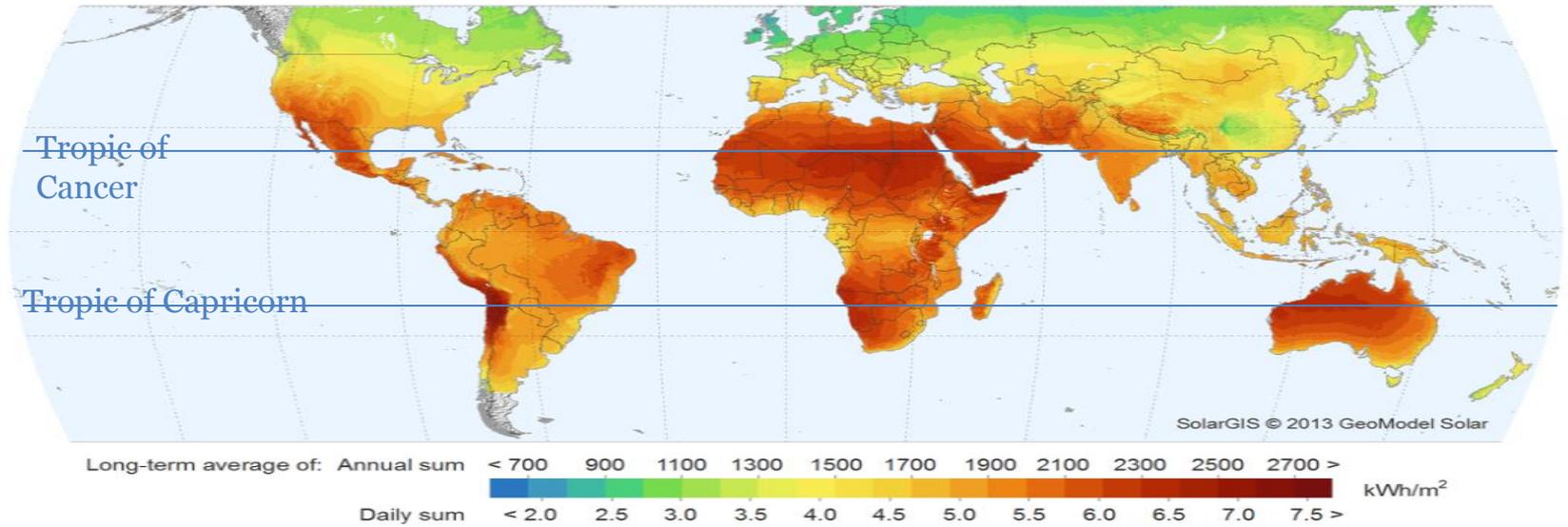
- The United States welcomes the launch of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- The United States and India will jointly launch the third Initiative of the ISA which will focus on off-grid solar for energy access at the Founding Conference of ISA in September, 2016 in India.
- The United States is committed to bring to bear its technical capacity, resources and private sector, and is jointly launching with India new efforts, to spur greater investment in India's renewable energy sector, including efforts that can serve as a model for other ISA Member Countries.

India-UK Joint Programme

- Under discussion

Interim Administrative Cell of ISA (ISA Cell)-Structure





Thank You