

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between The Governments of

The NETHERLANDS

And

The Kingdom of MOROCCO

On

COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Minister for Climate and Energy Policy of the Netherlands and the Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of Morocco (jointly hereinafter referred to as "Participants");

AFFIRMING the strong political, trade and investment ties between Morocco and The Netherlands and their shared commitment to tackling climate change;

AFFIRMING the value of existing bilateral cooperation between the Participants, and the need to deepen this collaboration specifically with regard to renewable energy, including clean fuels and feedstock;

RECOGNISING the mutual interest of the Participants in energy supply chain diversification, renewable energy development and upscaling hydrogen as a key energy carrier to meet each country's policy goals in emissions reduction, energy security and commitments adopted under the Paris Agreement (2015);

RECOGNISING the benefits of working together in supporting the development of renewable energy, the creation of an international market, the development of technologies, the deployment of infrastructure, and setting up export-import corridors for renewable and low carbon energy sources and energy carriers between Morocco and the Netherlands, as a gateway to Europe;

RECOGNISING the importance of developing renewable energy projects and international supply chains that align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and that contribute to sustainable local development in both import- and exporting countries.

MINDFUL of existing agreements between Morocco and the Netherlands, valuable long-term research collaboration and the significant potential of both countries in production, storage, transport and use of renewable energy.

WISHING to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of renewable energy on the basis of mutual social, economic and environmental benefits to the Participants in order to promote sustainable development, including decarbonization of their economies.

NOW THEREFORE, the Participants have reached the following understanding:

1. OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “MoU”) is to establish a framework for the Participants to promote and enhance cooperation in the field of renewable energy and clean fuels and feedstock, based on the principles of equality and mutual respect of the Participants’ sovereignty and policies.

2. SCOPE AND FORM OF COOPERATION

- a) Subject to their domestic laws, the Participants will enhance bilateral cooperation and knowledge sharing in the field of renewable energy and clean fuels and feedstock. Topics include renewable energy technology, energy efficiency and demand-side management, energy storage, power-to-X, research and development, and critical raw materials required for sustainable energy technology and to support the energy transition and energy security.
- b) Participants will promote the development of (joint) renewable energy projects, thereby creating new opportunities for companies and industry and supporting private-sector networks in accelerating the energy transition;
- c) Participants will collaborate in a taskforce to accelerate renewable energy implementation and uptake as this is seen by both Participants as a main priority. The main activities of the taskforce will be.

- exchanging information about the progress of the development of renewable energy, power and gas grids, carbon markets and clean fuels and feedstock;
- supporting joint actions for existing and future international initiatives and alliances related to renewable energy and clean fuels and feedstock;
- connecting key stakeholders to develop innovative infrastructure projects for the development of international supply chains between Morocco and the Netherlands;
- facilitating supply-demand matchmaking covering investment and trade between producers and off takers of renewable energy and clean fuels and feedstock;
- promoting new renewable energy sources, in particular offshore wind, and new uses of renewable energy sources, such as seawater desalination;
- promoting research, capacity building, innovation and academic exchange and ways to train professionals in the academic and non-academic sectors.

- d) For this collaboration, participation will also be open to participants from third countries that have similar interest in contributing to the development of supply chains between Morocco and Europe including through trilateral partnership.
- e) Where possible collaboration will take place utilizing the existing multilateral networks within the energy international space.

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- a) The implementation of the MoU will be subject to the availability of resources of the Participants;
- b) Each participant will cover the costs of its own participants in the meetings organized within the framework of the cooperation in connection with this MoU, unless otherwise decided.

4. COMMUNICATION

- a) Unless decided otherwise, the Participants will maintain confidentiality regarding any information shared or exchanged as well as outputs or results regarding this MoU;
- b) Communication related to this MoU will be coordinated primarily through the Netherlands' Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the Moroccan Ministry for Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, with specific channels appropriate to the activities to be performed as established in paragraph 2d.

5. STATUS

- a) This MoU does not create any legally binding obligations or confer any rights on the Participants under international law;
- b) Any differences regarding the interpretation, application and implementation of this MoU will be resolved amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Participants through diplomatic channels.

6. FINAL PROVISIONS

- a) This MoU will come into effect on the date of its last signature by the Participants;
- b) This MoU will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years;
- c) The Participants may renew this MoU upon their mutual written consent;
- d) The Participants may amend this MoU at any time upon their mutual written consent;

e) This MoU may be terminated by either Participant at any time by giving three (3) months' prior written notice of its intention to terminate this MoU through diplomatic channels.

Signed in duplicate in the English language in Rabat, Morocco on 21 June 2023.

<p>For the Government of the Netherlands</p> <p>His Excellency Mark Rutte Prime Minister</p> <p>For His Excellency Rob Jetten Minister for Climate and Energy Policy</p>	
<p>For the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco</p> <p>Her Excellency Leila BENALI Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development</p>	