

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON STRENGTHENING BILATERAL
COOPERATION ON RENEWABLE HYDROGEN**

BETWEEN

THE MINISTER OF CLIMATE, ENERGY AND UTILITIES OF DENMARK

AND

**THE MINISTER OF CLIMATE POLICY AND GREEN GROWTH OF THE
NETHERLANDS**

The Minister of Climate, Energy and Utilities of Denmark and the Minister of Climate Policy and Green Growth of the Netherlands (hereinafter referred to individually as ‘Participant’ and collectively as ‘the Participants’),

Recognising the shared interests of the Participants in supporting a cost-effective transition to a green economy and fulfilling the commitments of the Paris Agreement;

Acknowledging their shared commitment to working together to establish a leading role for Europe in the global renewable hydrogen economy and to contribute to the realisation of a European market for renewable hydrogen that is competitive, transparent and aligned with the broader goals of sustainable development and climate protection;

Highlighting the alignment between Denmark's renewable energy potentials and ambition to become a net exporter of certified renewable hydrogen and the Netherlands' substantial and growing demand for hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives;

Recognising that the development of a robust European renewable hydrogen market necessitates close collaboration at both bilateral and EU level. Such collaboration is essential for overcoming existing technical, regulatory and financial barriers, fostering innovation and ensuring the integration of renewable hydrogen into the broader European energy system. Additionally, it is acknowledged that a well-functioning renewable hydrogen market in Europe has the potential to enhance energy security, create new economic opportunities and promote sustainable growth;

Desiring to promote mutually beneficial cooperation on renewable energy production and the efficient use of energy, and understanding that this Memorandum of Understanding provides a general framework for cooperation and expresses the Participants' intent to collaborate;

Building on existing cooperation, especially the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the Energy Transition signed on 19 June 2020,

have reached the following understanding:

Paragraph I – Objective

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to reaffirm and reinforce the Participants’ bilateral cooperation on renewable hydrogen. Given the Participants’ ambition to improve the integration of the Danish and Dutch energy systems, and bearing in mind the aim of a market-driven rollout of a European hydrogen market and associated infrastructure, the Participants will work together to support the

establishment of a European market for renewable hydrogen, potentially linking Danish supply with Dutch demand beyond 2030.

This MoU sets out the framework for this collaboration, outlining shared objectives, guiding principles, and areas of cooperation between Denmark and the Netherlands. This MoU is aimed at strengthening existing cooperation in international networks, such as within the IEA, NSEC and the EU, not replacing them.

Paragraph II - Cooperation priorities

The Participants have identified the following key areas of cooperation within the framework of this MoU. This list is not exhaustive:

- a. Supporting the cost-effective development of a European renewable hydrogen market, with a focus on its application in hard-to-abate sectors, such as the aviation and maritime sectors and heavy industry.
- b. Coordinating the implementation of national and EU regulatory frameworks for hydrogen, including the further specification and adoption of rules under the EU Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package.
- c. Encouraging the development of regional pipeline infrastructure to facilitate potential trade between Danish renewable hydrogen suppliers and Dutch offtakers, where relevant.
- d. Exchanging information and best practices regarding underground hydrogen storage and efficient permit-granting procedures for hydrogen infrastructure within the context of EU legislation.
- e. Facilitating partnerships between hydrogen technology providers and project developers from both countries.

Paragraph III – Governance and encouragement of participation

The Participants will foster cooperation between policymakers and experts from the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities and the Dutch Ministry of Climate Policy and Green Growth, and among relevant authorities in order to enhance coordination of policymaking and implementation, and explore mutually beneficial hydrogen-related research and work opportunities in both countries. This cooperation will be governed as follows:

Joint Steering Committee: The Participants will establish a joint steering committee (JSC) responsible for overseeing the progress of this MoU. The JSC will include a representative from the ministry responsible for energy and climate policy. It will hold regular meetings, at least once a year, to review progress, address challenges, and decide on general follow-up action to this MoU. Additional meetings may be convened as necessary. The JSC will be responsible for establishing an action plan covering a period of two years, including a timeline for the envisioned activities.

Working groups: The JSC may establish specific working groups to address particular areas of knowledge-sharing, such as research and innovation, offshore hydrogen production, infrastructure development, underground storage, regulatory harmonisation, market integration, and financial instruments including the collaborative leveraging of European funds (e.g. under the Connecting Europe Facility) and private capital.

Stakeholder engagement: The Participants recognise the importance of involving a wide range of stakeholders, including industry, academia, non-governmental organisations, hydrogen network operators (HNOs) and civil society, in the development of the renewable hydrogen sector.

The Ministers intend to periodically discuss the progress made in achieving the priorities set out above. Preferably, they will meet in the margins of an existing event to limit their travel-related CO₂ emissions. Progress concerning the different areas of cooperation covered by this MoU will be assessed in advance of such meetings.

Paragraph IV – Costs

Each Participant will bear its own costs associated with the implementation of this MoU, unless otherwise decided in regard to specific projects or initiatives. Joint funding opportunities may be explored in regard to mutually beneficial projects.

Paragraph V – Nonbinding agreement

This MoU is not meant to constitute a treaty or to create any legal rights or obligations under international or national law.

Paragraph VI – Final provisions

This MoU will remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signature, unless terminated earlier by mutual decision of the Participants. Any amendments must be made in writing and decided by both Participants. Either Participant may terminate this MoU by providing three months' written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in duplicate in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 12 November 2024, in English only.

For the Ministry of Climate,
Energy and Utilities of
Denmark

For the Ministry of
Climate Policy and Green Growth
of the Netherlands

Mr Lars Aagaard
Minister for Climate, Energy
and Utilities

Ms Sophie Hermans
Minister of Climate Policy
and Green Growth and Deputy
Prime Minister