

# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

## **BETWEEN**

### **THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

## **AND**

### **THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY AFFAIRS**

The Department of Energy of the United States of America and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs, hereinafter referred to as the "Participants;"

**RECOGNIZING** their shared interest in the development of energy efficiency, and clean, sustainable, and renewable energy sources;

**CONSIDERING** the strategic importance of clean energy in promoting energy diversity and security, environmental sustainability, and economic development;

**NOTING** their desire to foster communication and cooperation under the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) and on energy-related matters of common interest, and to foster collaboration among laboratories, scientists, universities, institutes, and industries of the Participants' countries;

**AWARE** that there is wide interest in the Caribbean and Latin America in deploying renewable and energy efficient technologies; and

**DESIRING** to foster strong United States of America - Trinidad and Tobago cooperation on energy to support the adoption of these technologies throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, as appropriate, in the context of the ECPA,

Have reached the following understanding:

#### **Section 1 Objective**

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (Memorandum) is to promote and facilitate cooperation on the scientific, technical, and policy aspects of energy efficiency and clean energy technologies through the exchange of ideas and information, in accordance with the Participants' respective national priorities and socio-economic development goals and strategies.
2. The Participants have developed a Statement of Work to establish a Renewable Energy Research Centre (the Centre) to promote the rapid deployment of critical technologies for renewable energy and energy efficiency deployment in the Caribbean. The Centre is to play an essential role in the implementation of the activities of this Memorandum.

## **Section 2**

### **Intention of the Participants**

1. It is not the intention of the Participants, and nothing contained in this Memorandum should be deemed or construed, to create the relationship of partnership, association, principal and agent, or joint venture between the Participants and nothing in this Memorandum obligates the Parties to enter into any further arrangement or agreement.
2. This Memorandum does not create any legally binding obligations between the Participants.

## **Section 3**

### **Areas of Cooperation**

1. The Participants intend to develop a Work Plan to define the scope of their proposed collaborative activities within the framework of this Memorandum. The Work Plan may be revised as mutually determined by both Participants from time to time.
2. Specific areas of cooperation that may be included in this Work Plan include, but are not limited to, the exchange of information and ideas on:
  - a. Technical support for the development of a Renewable Energy Research Centre at the University of Trinidad and Tobago and/or the University of the West Indies (UWI), including technical assistance related to the project solicitation process and project monitoring and oversight procedures;
  - b. Renewable and clean energy resources and technologies, policy analysis, and financing information and tools;
  - c. Technical areas such as:
    - i. Solar energy;
    - ii. Tidal and wave energy;
    - iii. Energy efficiency;
    - iv. Microalgae;
    - v. Biomass;
    - vi. Wind energy; and
    - vii. Biofuels.
  - d. Development of policies to support and enhance clean energy research, development, and deployment;
  - e. Establishment of a continuing dialogue on energy efficiency, clean energy technologies, policies, and technical analysis; and
  - f. Any other energy-related area, as both Participants may mutually determine in writing.

## **Section 4**

### **Forms of Cooperation**

The forms of cooperation in the framework of this Memorandum may include:

1. Exchange of publicly-available scientific and technical information;
2. Organization of seminars, workshops, and other meetings on jointly determined topics;
3. Exchange of scientists, engineers and other specialists, including those from industry and other non-government sectors;
4. Visits by a Participant's specialist teams or experts to the facilities of the other Participant, and field visits to research labs, renewable energy installations and industrial sites for technical exchanges and experience-sharing on renewable energy technologies;
5. Conduct of joint analytic studies;
6. Identification of areas and projects suitable for the possible future conduct of joint research and development and pilot scale and demonstration projects;
7. Assessments of renewable resource potential;
8. Engagement with similar institutions from the Western Hemisphere to facilitate technology cooperation on clean energy in other countries as a result of the bilateral cooperation developed in the framework of this Memorandum.

## **Section 5**

### **Participation of Other Organizations**

The Participants may jointly invite other entities to participate in the cooperative activities carried out in the framework of this Memorandum including: governmental agencies, universities, science and research centres, institutes and institutions, private sector firms, and other entities of the Participants' respective countries, and those of regional partner countries. The costs of such participation are to be borne by the entity that incurs them.

## **Section 6**

### **Expenses**

1. Each Participant is to be responsible for the costs of its own participation in all cooperative activities carried out in the framework of this Memorandum, unless the Participants otherwise determine in writing.
2. Each Participant's participation in the cooperative activities is subject to the availability of funds, resources, and personnel and is to be conducted in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in that Participant's State.

**Section 7**  
**Commencement, Modification, and Discontinuation**

1. The Participants' implementation of cooperative activities within the framework of this Memorandum may commence on the date of the last signature.
2. This Memorandum may be modified by mutual consent of the Participants, in writing.
3. The Participants may discontinue this Memorandum at any time by mutual consent in writing. Alternatively, a Participant that desires to discontinue its participation in this Memorandum should give the other Participant at least ninety (90) days' advance written notice. In the event of discontinuation, the Participants intend to consult regarding cooperative projects already in progress.

Signed, in duplicate, at Washington on the 20th day of May 2013, and at Port of Spain on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul B. Paul", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

MINISTER OF ENERGY AND ENERGY  
AFFAIRS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin C. Ramnarine", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.