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**Eight Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance**

**06 June 2023**

**New Delhi, Republic of India**

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**Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the  
International Solar Alliance (ISA)**

**Summary**

The document presents the report of the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)

## Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)

### Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

1. The Hon'ble President of the ISA Assembly opened the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) by welcoming the Co-President, Vice Presidents of the ISA, Honourable Minister, Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Honorary Consuls, and other esteemed Excellencies.
2. The President affirmed that the need for energy transition in today's world is no longer in question but, is rather a matter of how to, and how soon we can achieve it. He acknowledged the emergence of a new global energy economy, witnessing the rapid growth of renewables as alternative sources of energy. Noting the remarkable progress made in the last decade, the President highlighted that the cumulative global solar PV capacity has reached approximately 942 GW. He emphasized the ongoing record-breaking streak of the solar PV market, with an impressive installation of approximately 175 GW of new capacity in 2021.
3. The President emphasized the increasing dominance of solar as the primary renewable energy generation technology, particularly as the world progresses towards the goal of net-zero emissions. He further mentioned that this growth is anticipated to be even more significant as solar PV technology finds applications in the distributed energy sector. The President also highlighted the continuous exploration of new opportunities in deploying solar PV technology, such as, productive use applications, agro PV, and flexible and surface-integrated solar cells. Additionally, he noted that the global solar thermal market experienced a 3% growth in 2021, reaching a capacity of approximately 25.6 GWth, further adding to the global solar capacity and Solar PV.
4. The President commended the ISA for its effective multilateral approach and relentless efforts in driving the global energy transition. He highlighted the notable initiatives launched by the ISA;
  - Solar Finance Facility to support the development of bankable solar projects and stimulate financing through financing vehicles.
  - SolarX Startup Challenge to incubate solar startups by handholding them to give access to manufacturers, suppliers and investors.

- Solar Technology Application Resource Centres or STAR-C to function as training centres and centres of excellence for testing and development of specifications and standards and serve as information centres to support governments and the private sector on solar energy projects.
  - One Sun, One World, One Grid or OSOWOG aimed to achieve global access to electricity.
5. The President acknowledged the immense potential of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) to support its Member Countries. He emphasized that through its nine programmes encompassing various sectors such as agriculture, health, transport, battery storage, heating and cooling, and green hydrogen, the ISA will continue to make significant contributions towards realising a greener and more sustainable world.
  6. The President invited the Co-President, Her Excellency Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships, French Republic, to deliver the opening remarks through a video message.
  7. The Co-President thanked the President and the ISA Secretariat for convening the Eighth Meeting of the ISA Standing Committee.
  8. The Co-President conveyed that the French Republic recognizes the crucial role played by the ISA in accelerating global efforts to combat climate change through the promotion of solar energy. She commended India's leadership in this regard during its G20 presidency. She further expressed gratitude to India for its active involvement in the preparation of the Paris Summit for a New Global Financial Impact, which President Macron will host in June in Paris, setting the stage for ambitious decisions during the G20 Leaders' Summit.
  9. Drawing attention to the current landscape, the Co-President highlighted that solar power represents the most suitable solution for the large-scale and affordable deployment of renewable energy in many countries. Notably, she pointed out that although Africa possesses the best solar resources globally, only 1% of installed solar capacity is currently in Africa. Stressing the importance of solar energy, she underscored its role as a fundamental element of the European Union's (EU) Fit for 55 package, demonstrating its commitment to reducing emissions by 55% by 2030. She expressed appreciation for

the relevance and potential of the ISA, highlighting the consistent growth in ISA membership over recent years.

10. The Co-President conveyed the firm commitment of the French Republic to two key priorities of the ISA. Firstly, she emphasized their dedication to capacity building through the STAR-C (Solar Technology and Application Resource Centre) initiative, undertaken in collaboration with UNIDO. This initiative aims to establish a robust network of expertise and training centres. The French Republic has allocated a contribution of EUR 1 million to support the implementation of pilot projects under the STAR-C initiative, specifically focusing on the Republic of Senegal, the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and the Kingdom of Bhutan.
11. Outlining the second priority, the representative emphasized the significance of access to finance. She recalled the commitment made by the President of the French Republic in 2018 to mobilize EUR 1.5 billion through the French Development Agency to finance solar projects worldwide. She noted that the development agency has already committed EUR 1.5 billion towards solid projects, with EUR 1.4 billion on track to be delivered. Additionally, she highlighted the intention of the French Republic to do more, particularly in leveraging private finance and directing resources towards the most vulnerable countries. She mentioned a forthcoming technical meeting in Paris on June 27 and 28, 2023, aimed at exploring ways to unlock solar investments in countries with limited, inadequate, or unavailable risk mitigation instruments. The Co-President emphasized that France has established a roadmap, an organizational framework, and ambitious goals in this regard. She underscored that President Macron will host the Summit for a New Global Financial Pact on June 22 and 23, 2023, in Paris, to promote this new global financial pact to accelerate investments in green infrastructure worldwide.
12. Concluding her statement, the Co-President reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of the French Republic to multilateral cooperation. She emphasized that the Standing Committee serves as a unique platform for preparing for the ISA Assembly and strengthening the position of the ISA as an international organization dedicated to action-oriented initiatives in solar energy development. She assured that the ISA could rely on the steadfast support of the French Republic for its various endeavours.
13. The President thanked the Co-President for her remarks.

14. The President invited the Hon'ble Minister of Venezuela, to deliver her remarks.
  
15. The Hon'ble Minister congratulated the Director General of the ISA for his effective leadership and greeted all distinguished members of the Standing Committee and the President. As Venezuela is regional vice president for Latin America and the Caribbean, she proposed hosting the Sixth Meeting of the ISA Regional Committee Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean region in September 2024. Emphasizing Venezuela's role as the Vice President of the region, she expressed a strong interest in promoting ISA programmes. She sought support from the ISA in developing a regional strategic plan to enhance solar energy across 19 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. She cited the progress made by the African bloc under various projects with the ISA and requested a similar focus on the Latin America and Caribbean region.
  
16. The Hon'ble Minister emphasized the importance of evaluating the inclusion of a new solar lighting programme as the tenth programme of the ISA. This programme would encompass public lighting, outdoor lighting, isolated communities, and recreational spaces like squares and parks. She highlighted that street and outdoor lighting accounts for approximately 3 to 7 per cent of Venezuela's energy consumption. The Hon'ble Minister affirmed that implementing solar lighting would not only contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7 but also reduce electricity consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
  
17. The Hon'ble Minister emphasized the significance of incorporating the organizational structure of the ISA during the Sixth Meeting of the ISA Regional Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean Region in September. She proposed that a specific agenda item be dedicated to the presentation of regional plans and their progress by each regional Vice President. This would foster cooperation among the countries represented in the regional Vice Presidencies.
  
18. The Hon'ble Minister affirmed Venezuela's commitment to promoting ISA programmes within the region and globally. She requested direct communication to schedule an evaluation and provide information regarding the ISA Secretariat Unit that oversees the projects. She further informed the Standing Committee that Venezuela has recently established a university, the Universidad Nacional Experimental de Especialidades Eléctricas, and expressed interest in implementing this project at the university.

19. The Hon'ble Minister once again congratulated the ISA and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to train their staff in master's degrees and high-level training. She emphasized that this training has been instrumental in formulating strategic plans and contributing to the overall well-being of humanity.

20. The President thanked the Hon'ble Minister for her remarks.

### **Agenda Item 2. Adoption of the Agenda**

21. The President invited the Standing Committee to consider the Provisional Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the ISA Standing Committee as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.01.Rev01 and provide their inputs and guidance.

**22. The Standing Committee adopted the Provisional Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the ISA, as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.08/WD.01.Rev01.**

### **Agenda Item 3. Selection of Rapporteurs**

23. The President informed the Standing Committee that the People's Republic of Bangladesh had agreed to be the Rapporteur for the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA. He thanked the People's Republic of Bangladesh for its support.

24. The President invited the Standing Committee to appoint the People's Republic of Bangladesh as the Rapporteur for the Eighth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA.

**25. The Standing Committee appointed the People's Republic of Bangladesh as the Rapporteur for the Eighth Meeting of the ISA Standing Committee.**

### **Agenda Item 4. Report of the Depositary**

26. The President invited the Depositary to present its report to the Standing Committee of the ISA.

27. The Depository was represented by Mr Prabhat Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. He acknowledged that the ISA is an action-oriented and member-driven collaborative platform dedicated to promoting the widespread adoption of solar energy technologies. Its primary objectives include facilitating energy access, ensuring energy security, and driving the global energy transition in its Member Countries. He highlighted that the ISA was inaugurated by the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, and the French President during COP21 in Paris on 30 November 2015 to contribute to effectively implementing the Paris Climate Agreement. He further emphasized that the ISA aims to unite countries in their collective response to everyday challenges and enable the extensive deployment of solar solutions by addressing critical aspects such as technology, finance, and capacity-building.
28. The representative of the Depository informed the Standing Committee that as of 15 May 2023, a total of 115 Members had signed the ISA Framework Agreement, with 93 countries having deposited their instruments of ratification. Additionally, he shared that following the Fifth General Assembly of the ISA held on 18 October 2022, Spain, Congo, and New Zealand had signed the ISA Framework Agreement. Furthermore, Solomon Islands, Brazil, and Cyprus had submitted their instruments of ratification, taking significant steps towards becoming full-fledged Member Countries of the ISA.
29. The Depository concluded by stating that the Membership of the ISA is expected to expand further. This expansion would enhance the institutional and human resource capacity of the ISA and contribute to the realization of its strategic plans. The increased Membership will play a crucial role in supporting key initiatives such as the Green Grid Initiative, One Sun One World One Grid Initiative, STAR C (Solar Technology and Application Resource Centre), SolarX Startup Challenge, and numerous other endeavours undertaken by the ISA.
30. The President invited the Standing Committee to consider the report of the Depository and put forth comments and guidance on ISA membership.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Action Taken Report of the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly**

31. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to consider the Action Taken Report in response to the guidance provided by the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.08/WD.03.

**32. The Standing Committee noted the Action Taken Report for the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.03.**

**Agenda Item 6. Update on the revised organizational structure and status of regular staff of the ISA Secretariat**

33. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the progress made in filling up the approved 50 positions in the ISA Secretariat and the inclusion of project-based secondment positions in the ISA organogram in the form of a note akin to a footnote as contained in working document ISA/SC.08/WD.04A.

34. The Director General highlighted that the ISA Secretariat is actively engaged in the recruitment process for staff positions in accordance with the approval received during the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly. He assured the Standing Committee that the ISA Secretariat had developed a comprehensive plan to hire skilled professionals through a well-structured and fair selection process.

35. The Director General requested the ISA Secretariat to present the status of staff recruitment and the proposal for inclusion of seconded positions in the ISA Secretariat organogram.

36. The ISA Secretariat provided a comprehensive overview of the revised organogram, highlighting the positions successfully filled through recruitment and those that remain vacant. The ISA Secretariat is expected to fill all the vacant positions by the end of 2023. Additionally, the ISA Secretariat shared their plan to onboard the recruited staff in batches, emphasizing the importance of building the ISA employer brand, enhancing recruitment outreach, and optimizing talent acquisition through technology. Furthermore, the ISA Secretariat demonstrated how the project-based secondment positions would be represented in the ISA Secretariat organogram.

37. The Director General conveyed the intention of the ISA Secretariat to include secondment positions in the ISA Secretariat organogram. He informed the Standing Committee that while many organizations, such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the United Nations (UN), typically represent only regular staff in their organograms, project-based secondment positions are not explicitly reflected. However, he stressed the importance for organizations like the ISA to consider the inclusion of such positions within the organogram.



38. The President underscored the urgency of expediting the recruitment process, highlighting that the ISA Secretariat cannot fulfil its mandate without the necessary expertise in solar energy. Recognizing the current low staff strength, the President strongly recommended that the ISA Secretariat prioritize immediate recruitment in a transparent and fair manner.
39. The representative of the French Republic acknowledged that seconded experts may not be considered permanent staff members within an organization. However, recognizing the importance of the contributions of the seconded experts to the ISA, he commended the inclusion of seconded experts in the ISA organogram on the website, as demonstrated by the ISA Secretariat.
40. The representatives of the Kingdom of Sweden and Venezuela expressed their agreement with the comments made by the representative of the French Republic, acknowledging that the inclusion of seconded positions in the ISA Secretariat organogram is a positive step.
41. The President emphasized that the International Solar Alliance (ISA) is committed to adhering to international norms and assured that the ISA will maintain transparency in all its processes.
- 42. The Standing Committee noted the updates presented by the ISA Secretariat and the Director-General on the revised organizational structure and status of regular staff of the ISA Secretariat presented in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.04A.**

**Agenda Item 7. Establishment of the proposed ISA Administrative Tribunal in accordance with the requirement of the ISA Staff Regulations**

43. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present its proposal for the establishment of the ISA Administrative Tribunal in accordance with the requirement of the ISA Staff Regulations. He noted that it was important for the ISA to adhere to the practices adopted by international organizations, as this adherence is crucial to uphold the integrity of the organization and ensure its effective functioning.
44. The Director General emphasized that the ISA Framework Agreement and the ISA Regulations required the establishment of an Administrative Tribunal. Through a comparison of international practices, the ISA Secretariat observed that smaller organizations often favour the Arbitral Mechanism, while larger organizations tend to adopt a judicial mechanism. Taking this into consideration, the ISA has decided

to adopt the Arbitral mechanism as its preferred approach for the establishment of the Administrative Tribunal.

45. The Director General requested the ISA Secretariat to present to the Standing Committee the proposal for establishing the ISA Administrative Tribunal.

46. The ISA Secretariat presented its proposal for the establishment of the proposed ISA Administrative Tribunal in accordance with the requirement of the ISA Staff Regulations.

47. The President agreed with the proposal, acknowledging its significant potential to strengthen the organization and requested the ISA Secretariat to proceed with the implementation of the proposal.

**48. The Standing Committee noted the proposal of the ISA Secretariat on the establishment of the proposed ISA Administrative Tribunal contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.05.**

**Agenda Item 8. Update on the ISA Viability Gap Funding and Demonstration Projects in the ISA Member countries**

49. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the ISA Viability Gap Funding (VGF) and Demonstration Projects in the ISA Member countries as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.06.

50. The Director General reported that subsequent to the Fourth Session of the ISA Assembly in 2021, the ISA Secretariat explored the possibility of implementing large-scale projects in the areas where demonstration projects were to be implemented. The ISA Secretariat decided to allocate the remaining funds from the demonstration projects towards establishing a VGF mechanism. However, despite consultations with countries and multilateral development organizations, no project proposals were received, leading to the understanding that the amount offered by the ISA for the VGF mechanism was inadequate for developing large-scale projects. In light of these circumstances, the ISA Secretariat proposed to restructure the viability gap funding mechanism by combining it with other donor funding sources for solar projects in its Member Countries.

51. The Director General requested the ISA Secretariat to present an update on the Demonstration Projects in the ISA Member Countries and the proposal to restructure the VGF mechanism as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.06.
52. The ISA Secretariat presented the update on the Demonstration Projects in the ISA Member countries and the proposal to restructure the VGF mechanism.
53. The representative of the French Republic concurred with the concept of the VGF mechanism. However, he emphasized the importance of clarifying that VGF is contingent upon the principle of additionality. In other words, the VGF is designed to support solar projects that would not have been feasible without the financial assistance under the VGF mechanism. The representative stressed the need for a comprehensive understanding of the specific purpose and intention underlying the establishment of this funding instrument.
54. The President emphasized that around 800 million people currently lack access to energy and providing them with clean energy access would significantly enhance their livelihoods and reduce the burden of emissions. The President acknowledged the growing urgency of the environmental challenge and highlighted the importance of extending support to developing and least developed countries in their transition towards sustainable energy solutions. While acknowledging India's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions, the President stressed the need for developed countries to assist developing countries in their efforts. The President proposed that the ISA Secretariat should transparently secure green funds from developed countries to facilitate this assistance.
- 54. The Standing Committee noted the update on the demonstration projects in the ISA Member Countries and the proposal to restructure the VGF mechanism contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.06.**

**Agenda Item 9. Update on the STAR-C initiative**

55. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present the update on the ISA STAR-C initiative as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.07.

56. The Director General thanked the French Republic for initiating the Solar Technology and Application Resource Centre (STAR-C) initiative. He noted that the ISA Secretariat is actively working towards establishing new STAR centres in multiple countries to serve as knowledge hubs. He also mentioned that a portion of the French support was utilized in creating pedagogical materials in collaboration with UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization). Emphasizing the potential of harnessing the strengths of Member Countries, the Director General highlighted that the ISA possesses the ability to accelerate the adoption and utilization of solar energy technologies through such collaborative efforts.
57. The Director General requested the ISA Secretariat to present an update on the ISA STAR-C initiative as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.07.
58. The ISA Secretariat presented the update on the ISA STAR-C initiative.
59. The representative of the French Republic thanked the ISA Secretariat for the update on STAR C and for the efforts to secure more support from Philanthropies for this initiative. He requested other Members of the ISA to contribute to the STAR C initiative to develop local capacities.
60. The President expressed appreciation for the STAR C initiative and suggested that the ISA Secretariat should endeavour to expand funding for this important initiative. Additionally, the President mentioned that India has a training program called IMET, which plays a valuable role in raising awareness and providing knowledge about solar technology to individuals.
- 61. The Standing Committee noted the update on the ISA STAR C initiative as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.07.**

#### **Agenda Item 10. Update on the SolarX Startup Challenge**

62. The President stated that the first edition of the ISA SolarX Startup Challenge initiative had successfully attracted the participation of over 100 startups from the Africa region. He added that to better align with the objectives of the initiative; the ISA Secretariat had proposed to rename the initiative as “SolarX Startup Challenge” from its original nomenclature of “SolarX Grand Challenge” as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.08

63. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the ISA SolarX Startup Challenge.
64. The Director General affirmed the significance of the ISA SolarX Startup Challenge, noting its dual role in advancing solar energy and fostering innovation, incubation, and startup development within the ISA Member Countries. He highlighted that the ISA is actively driving this initiative forward in collaboration with Invest India. The Director General further mentioned that while the SolarX Startup Challenge was initially launched in the Africa region, it will progressively expand to other regions such as Asia and the Pacific Region and Latin America and the Caribbean region, ensuring a wider reach and impact.
65. The Director General invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the SolarX Startup Challenge.
66. The ISA Secretariat presented the update on SolarX Startup Challenge as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.08.
- 67. The Standing Committee noted the update on the SolarX Startup Challenge as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.08.**

**Agenda Item 11. Update on the ISA Solar Finance Facility**

68. The President stated that the ISA Solar Finance Facility aims to attract private capital for investment in solar projects in Africa by offering risk mitigation support. He added that the Solar Facility would comprise three funds; the Payment Guarantee Fund, the Insurance Fund, and the Investment Fund. The solar projects proposed in Africa would have the opportunity to purchase payment guarantees or partial insurance premiums from these funds. The President noted that the Government of India had expressed willingness to explore the potential of investing up to USD 25 million as seed capital in the facility.
69. The President then invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the progress made by the ISA Secretariat in operationalising the Solar Finance Facility.

- 70.** The Director General informed the Standing Committee about the ISA Secretariat's efforts to establish the Solar Finance Facility, mentioning that a consultant has been appointed to assist in structuring the facility. He expressed immense gratitude to the Government of India for considering the request of the ISA for initial funding to initiate the process. The Director General further outlined plans of the ISA, which included mobilizing resources from other Member Countries, developing regulatory mechanisms to attract investments, and securing essential private sector investments for solar projects.
- 71.** The Director General invited the ISA Secretariat to provide an update on the ISA Solar Finance Facility and the activities undertaken by the ISA Secretariat to operationalise the facility.
- 72.** The ISA Secretariat presented the update on ISA Solar Finance Facility as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.09.
- 73.** The President emphasized the importance of having a payment security and insurance mechanisms to assure the private sector that their investments will be protected, and that the energy generated will be effectively utilized. He noted that this de-risking process needs to be completed before actual investments occur in Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Additionally, the President highlighted that once the facility is established in any country, the funds will be available for refinancing and emphasized the need for funds to be routed through a well-defined system or mechanism to set up capacities in various countries.
- 74.** The Representative from Edhina Capital explained that while structuring the facility, the focus would be on creating a Parent Company that balances internal capacity-building and utilising external expertise as needed, ensuring effective governance. She further elaborated that after engaging with numerous individuals and companies, it was concluded establishing the Parent Company is critical for ensuring longevity and that having a permanent vehicle to capture knowledge and ensure governance within each facility is crucial. This approach would enable the creation of a global track record of investments. Once the payment guarantee, insurance, and investment funds are consolidated at the Parent Company level, opportunities would arise to collaborate with other global firms. She mentioned ongoing discussions with MIGA, which had expressed interest in providing a guaranteed structure on an optional basis for projects requiring it and informed of several private sector insurers showing interest in the insurance fund. She also expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble President for the facility, as

having a blended finance facility and mobilizing capital is vital for attracting commercial capital and achieving a crowding effect. She requested all ISA Member Countries to contribute to the blended finance pool, which would have a multiplier effect and attract more commercial capital.

- 75.** The President invited all developed countries to contribute to the fund.
- 76.** The representative of the French Republic affirmed the complete support of the French Republic for the proposal, emphasizing the Facility's potential to kickstart investments. He further highlighted the importance of focusing on upstream funding, particularly regarding project preparation, and stressed the need to strengthen public operators in this context. However, he expressed concern about avoiding duplication and ensuring alignment with the existing instruments developed by the World Bank to ensure efficient and coordinated efforts.
- 77.** Responding to the intervention of the French Republic, the President acknowledged the importance of having effective instruments in place to channel funds. He highlighted that despite other institutions working towards securing funds, a significant part of the population still lacks access to electricity. The President emphasized that this facility would play a vital role in ensuring access to electricity for this underserved population.
- 78.** The representative of Mali congratulated the Governments of the Republic of India and the French Republic for their invaluable contributions to the developing countries. He informed the Standing Committee that the Republic of Mali has just obtained the electrification of three health centres and is waiting for the financing of the irrigation projects and recommended the acceleration of the implementation of pilot projects.
- 79.** The President thanked the French Republic and the Republic of Mali for their interventions.
- 80.** **The Standing Committee noted the update on the ISA Solar Finance Facility as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.09.**

**Agenda Item 12. Update on the ISA work plan and budget for CY 2022 and CY 2023**

- 81.** The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present the proposed work Plan and budget for the year CY 2023 as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.10 for the consideration of the Standing Committee.
- 82.** The ISA Secretariat presented the key highlights of the work plan and budget for CY 2022 and the proposed work plan and budget for CY 2023 pursuant to the approval of the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly in October 2022.
- 83.** **The Standing Committee noted the update on the ISA work plan and budget for CY 2022 and CY 2023 as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.10.**

**Agenda Item 13. Update on the status of the ISA Corpus Fund, voluntary contributions by the ISA Member Countries and resource mobilisation**

- 84.** The President underscored the significance of voluntary contributions in enhancing the financial sustainability of the ISA. As the ISA does not have membership fees, voluntary contributions are crucial in bolstering the organization's overall strength, resilience, and impact. The President further noted that a Voluntary Contribution Mechanism was approved during the Fifth Session of the ISA Assembly. He added that all the ISA funds go to helping countries that need assistance in expanding access to clean energy and urged the ISA Member Countries to make voluntary contributions, thereby supporting the ISA programmes, initiatives, and activities.
- 85.** The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present the status of the ISA Corpus Fund, voluntary contributions by the ISA Member Countries and resource mobilisation activities undertaken by the ISA Secretariat.
- 86.** The ISA Secretariat presented the update on the status of the ISA Corpus Fund, voluntary contributions by the ISA Member Countries and resource mobilisation as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.11.
- 87.** **The Standing Committee noted the update on the status of the ISA Corpus Fund, voluntary contributions by the ISA Member Countries and resource mobilisation as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.11.**



**Agenda Item 14. Preparations for the Ninth Meeting of the ISA Standing Committee**

- 88.** The President briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal of the ISA Secretariat to convene the Ninth Meeting of the Standing Committee on 15 September 2023 at 16:00 hours in New Delhi and invited interventions from the Members of the Standing Committee on the proposal.
- 89.** The Director General added that all ISA Regional Committee Meetings would be concluded by 15 September 2023. He emphasized that the agenda for the upcoming Standing Committee Meeting would incorporate the valuable insights and feedback gathered from the Regional Committee Meetings. With the Sixth Session of the ISA Assembly scheduled for 31 October 2023, holding the Standing Committee Meeting on 15 September would allow the ISA Secretariat ample time to adequately prepare for the Assembly Session
- 90. The Standing Committee considered the proposal of the ISA Secretariat for convening the Ninth Meeting of the ISA Standing Committee on 15 September 2023.**

**Agenda Item 15. Preparations for the Sixth Session of the ISA Assembly**

- 91.** The President invited the Standing Committee to consider the preparations for the Sixth Session of the ISA Assembly as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.08/WD.12.
- 92.** The Director-General provided an update on the preparations for the upcoming Sixth Session of the ISA Assembly, scheduled from 30 October to 1 November 2023 in New Delhi. He informed the Standing Committee about the High-Level Conference on New Technologies for Clean Energy Transition, scheduled for 1 November 2023 in collaboration with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the Government of India, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the International Solar Energy Society (ISES). Additionally, the Director-General mentioned the planned India Energy Transition dialogue, organized by the Observer Research Foundation and the Global Energy Alliance

for People and Planet (GEAAP), expected to take place on the sidelines of the ISA Assembly and hoped that the visiting Ministers and dignitaries would actively participate in these important events as well.

**93. The Standing Committee took note of the preparations for the Sixth Session of the ISA Assembly as contained in the working document ISA/SC.08/WD.12.**

**Agenda Item 16. Interventions by the Members**

**94.** The President invited interventions from the Members of the Standing Committee.

**95.** The representative from the Kingdom of Denmark greeted the Members of the Standing Committee and congratulated the ISA on the progress made since the last Assembly Session. He further thanked the ISA for giving the Kingdom of Denmark an opportunity to chair the upcoming Fourth Meeting of the ISA Regional Committee on 22 June 2023 in Brussels, Belgium.

**96.** The President thanked the representative from the Kingdom of Denmark for his intervention.

**Agenda Item 17. Any Other Business**

**97.** The President invited the Members of the Standing Committee to propose any other business that needs to be addressed.

**98.** No other business was proposed for the consideration of the Standing Committee.

**Agenda Item 18. Closing of Meeting**

**99.** The President concluded the Meeting by thanking all Members of the Standing Committee for their contribution. He encouraged all the Members to extend their continued cooperation to the ISA Secretariat to carry out its activities for a positive outcome.

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