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Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance  
21 July 2022  
New Delhi, India

18 September 2022

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

### Summary

This document presents the Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of International Solar Alliance (ISA)

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### Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

1. The Hon'ble President of the ISA Assembly opened the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) by welcoming the Co-President and Vice Presidents of the International Solar Alliance Assembly, as well as Hon'ble Ministers, Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Honorary Consuls & Other Excellencies.
2. The President stated that the Standing Committee forms an essential building block of the governance mechanism of ISA, and appreciated the time and effort being contributed by the Co-President and Vice-Presidents for carrying out their duties towards the ISA. He added that the directions provided by the Standing Committee and the ISA Assembly in recent years have been pivotal in building the ISA into an authoritative body on solar energy and its deployment across the world, particularly in the under-developed and developing parts of the world.
3. The President appreciated the ISA's initiatives developed with guidance from the Standing Committee and the ISA Assembly, such as the comprehensive Strategic Plan, the Private Sector Engagement Strategy, and the Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility. He added that the ISA is poised to make significant strides toward making solar the preferred source of energy in more countries as the world crosses the 1-Terawatt mark for the installed capacity of solar energy around the globe.
4. The President noted that solar energy deployment across the world is growing at a tremendous rate. He asserted that India is proud to have been a significant contributor to this growth. He also noted that more than half of the 1-Terawatt solar capacity that's available today, didn't even exist four years ago, and that the next Tera watt of solar capacity is expected to be up and running well before the end of the decade. He further added that the ISA must ensure that the investment that would enable this explosive growth in the coming years does not remain restricted to a few countries. He also noted that the ISA, as the champions of the One Sun One World One Grid philosophy, must ensure a well-dispersed solar power generation infrastructure in place to meet the power requirements of the future.
5. The President further stated that the ISA has to become a hub that has access to large volumes of information on policies and best practices, technical and financial resources, as well as human capital from countries that have pushed the solar energy sector to the

position where it is today. He further noted that these would empower the ISA to better tackle the barriers, such as high cost of financing, high-risk perception, lack of viable and bankable project pipelines, and limited institutional and human capacity, that are holding back other countries from developing a vibrant solar energy ecosystem of their own.

6. The President once again welcomed the Co-President, Vice Presidents, and other Excellencies to the Meeting and stated that he looked forward to hearing from the Director General and the ISA Secretariat on the initiatives being worked upon, and the progress witnessed during the past few months. He further stated that he anticipated an enriching discussion that would bring to the table strategic contributions and rich experiences possessed by the fellow members of the Standing Committee.
7. Concluding his remarks, the President, invited the Co-President - Republic of France to deliver his opening remarks.
8. The Co-President thanked the President and welcomed all colleagues to the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA. He conveyed satisfaction in the fact that the ISA is gaining momentum and that global efforts and support for solar energy is at an all-time high. He further noted that solar energy has become the largest and most widely used source of energy worldwide, and also informed the committee that the COP27, to be hosted under the Arab Republic of Egypt's Presidency, has also made solar a key component of the discussion.
9. The Co-President apprised the Standing Committee that since the launch of the alliance in 2015, the ISA Secretariat has been steadfastly committed to pushing for better regulatory frameworks that make solar energy a more competitive source of energy, and improved policies focused on boosting demand and reducing costs on a global scale. He informed the Standing Committee that resilient solar supply chains are necessary to ensure timely and cost-effective delivery of solar panels worldwide. He also stressed on the urgency of governmental measures needed for boosting domestic supplies and ensuring security of the supply chain.
10. The Co-President briefed the Standing Committee on the strategy for solar energy jointly adopted by the European Union (EU). He expressed his confidence that the new aggressive strategy would contribute to more European nations joining the ISA, being more active, and also making contributions to the organization. He noted that the EU as a whole has already contributed EUR 1 million and that this trend is expected to continue further.
11. Apprising of the measures in the EU package, the Co-President stated that the package is

aimed at assisting the development of solar installations, with the target of 320 GW by 2025, more than doubling the current capacity, and nearly 600 GW by 2030. He further asserted that the Republic of France strongly supports the ISA's priorities. He mentioned the financial contribution for the STAR-C project, secondment of experts to the ISA, and the Sustainable Renewables Risk Mitigation Initiative (SRMI). He further added that the Republic of France will further support ISA through the development agency AfD, a key player worldwide in energy transition.

12. The Co-President thanked everyone and reaffirmed his support to the Indian Presidency in expanding membership and raising resources for ISA.
13. The Co-President concluded his remarks by stating that the meeting was an excellent opportunity to talk about issues about the organization, its procedures, recruitment, progress on the plan for the following five years, work plans, and budget. He also asserted that the ISA is moving in the right direction, that is toward being a result-driven, action-oriented organization. He thanked the President, and all members of the Standing Committee for their support.
14. The President thanked the Co-President for his address to the Standing Committee. Recalling the stellar role played by him at COP26, the President welcomed H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma, President of the Conference of Parties, United Kingdom, and Vice President of the ISA Assembly to address the Standing Committee of the ISA.
15. H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma thanked the President for inviting him to speak. He stated that India has a very critical role to play in addressing the agenda of climate change and energy transition. He also expressed his gratitude towards ISA for providing the UK the opportunity to serve as the Vice President of Europe and Others Region, and recognized ISA's truly global role in bringing about the clean energy shift.
16. The COP President further added that energy transition at COP26 witnessed strong commitments from countries, particularly from Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi who made the commitment of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel based electric power installed capacity by 2030 in India. He conveyed his pleasure of having worked with India, France, the EU, and other partners around the world in ensuring the strong commitments were made as an outcome of COP26. He stated that he looks forward to these commitments turning into actions.
17. The Vice President from UK recognized ISA's global role in bringing about the clean energy transition around the world. He also remarked that with the ongoing geopolitical tensions,

countries have become aware that climate security is interlinked with energy security and national security issues. He informed that in line with the commitments and the drive towards clean energy across the world, UK has announced the British Energy Security Strategy which is expected to add five times more offshore wind capacity by 2030, and five times more solar energy in UK's energy mix.

18. Recalling his recent visit to the Republic of Turkiye, H.E. Mr. Sharma informed the Standing Committee about one of the world's largest solar plants being set up there. He added that the solar power plant spanned in an area of 11 kilometers by 2 kilometers. He stated that the solar power plant in Turkiye, along with the many other solar installations around the world are encouraging as these installations not only provide energy security to households, but also help in reducing emissions, and ensuring that the world has a clean future.
19. The COP President stated that during the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. Boris Johnson's visit to India, he had reiterated his personal commitment, and the commitment of the Government of United Kingdom to the ISA and the Green Grids Initiative-One Sun One World One Grid, along with ongoing discussion towards an announcement of more funding support to the ISA.
20. The Vice President from UK stated that he looks forward to his visit to the National Institute of Solar Energy and his meetings with the Director General and the President. He also stated his expectation from the ISA to present tangible projects that could be showcased and promoted at the Clean Energy Ministerial in September 2022 and commended the ISA's stated goal of mobilizing USD 1 trillion in solar investment by 2030.
21. The Vice President reiterated United Kingdom's commitment to the ISA. He concluded his remarks by lauding the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi in the area of clean energy which has the potential to yield environmental dividend as well as an economic dividend in terms of the creation of jobs and a clean environment. He thanked the President for the invitation to address the Standing Committee.
22. The President thanked H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma and invited the Hon'ble Minister from Guyana and Vice President of the ISA Assembly, Mr. Deodat Indar to deliver his address.
23. The Vice President from Guyana thanked the President and other members of the Standing Committee, and recognized the presence of H.E. Mr. Charrandas Persaud, Hon'ble High Commissioner of Guyana in India, and Dr. Mahender Sharma, ISA's National Focal Point in Guyana.

24. H.E. Mr. Indar apprised the Standing Committee about Guyana's first-of-its-kind Low Carbon Development Strategy that has been in development for 13 ½ years and is being presented to the Parliament of Guyana. He presented the strategy as a model for the world for moving towards a low carbon economy and informed the Standing Committee that with Guyana's forest cover of about 86 per cent which can store about 18-19 billion tons of carbon and sequester about 254 million tons of carbon on an annual basis. He presented these forests of Guyana to the world as a service that could help it to gain carbon credits which could be traded across the world, as the country continues to advocate for global carbon tax.
25. Explaining about the Low Carbon Development Strategy, the Vice President from Guyana stated that the strategy presents guidelines for the country and its economy to function in a low carbon fashion. Adding further, he apprised that Guyana has been a net-zero country for the past 100 years with a huge carbon sink, and low levels of industrialisation. He also apprised the Standing Committee regarding Guyana's arrangements with Norway for trading of verified carbon credits, which has already fetched the country about USD 250 million till date.
26. Apprising on Guyana's renewable energy initiatives, H.E. Mr. Indar stated that Guyana has 165 MW of hydropower, 47 MW of other renewable energy projects, and 2.2 MW of small hydro power in its energy mix. He reported that Guyana is on its way to leading regional and global efforts in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the energy space.
27. The Vice President from Guyana shared that Guyana is looking forward to hosting the Meeting of the Regional Committee for the Latin American and Caribbean Region of the ISA. He expressed his concern about the inability of many countries to stick to their commitments made at COP26 due to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and the resulting increase in fuel prices. The Vice President reaffirmed his country's support for ISA.
28. H.E. Mr. Indar reaffirmed his country's commitment to moving away from fossil fuels, and towards hydropower and other renewable energy sources. He concluded his remarks by thanking the President and assuring continued support to the ISA Secretariat through the National Focal Point, Mr. Sharma.
29. The President welcomed H.E. Mr. Yuri Viamontes, Hon'ble Deputy Minister from Cuba and the Vice President of ISA Assembly from the Latin America and Caribbean region of ISA.
30. H.E. Mr. Yuri Viamontes welcomed the interventions carried out by ISA for adoption of solar energy. He mentioned that Cuba is committed towards the adoption of solar energy

and is working towards this end. He expressed Cuba's continuous support to ISA and its future interventions for scaling up solar adoption.

- 31. The President thanked the Co-President and the Vice Presidents for their remarks.**

### Agenda Item 2. Adoption of the Agenda

32. The President invited the Standing Committee to consider the Provisional Agenda for the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.04/WD.01 and provide their comments.
33. In the absence of any comments from the Standing Committee, the President invited the Standing Committee to adopt the Provisional Agenda for its Sixth Meeting.
- 34. The Standing Committee adopted the Provisional Agenda for the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the ISA, as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.04/WD.01.**

### Agenda Item 3. Selection of Rapporteur

35. The President notified that the Republic of the Niger has graciously agreed to be the Rapporteur for the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA. He thanked the Republic of the Niger on behalf of the Standing Committee for their support.
36. The President invited the Standing Committee to appoint the Republic of the Niger as the Rapporteur for the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA.
- 37. The Standing Committee appointed the Republic of the Niger as the Rapporteur for the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of ISA.**

### Agenda Item 4. Report of the Depositary

38. The President invited the Depositary to present its report to the Standing Committee of the ISA.
39. Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs representing the Depositary of ISA reported to the Standing Committee that the amendment to the framework agreement of ISA came into force on 8 January 2021 with 30 member countries that participated in the first Assembly of the ISA ratifying the acceptance of the amended Framework Agreement of the ISA, and that the membership of ISA is open to all UN member countries.
40. The Depositary further added that as of 30 June 2022, 107 countries have signed the

Framework Agreement of the ISA, and of these 87 countries have deposited their instruments of ratification, which include Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Denmark, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, The Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Tanzania, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zimbabwe, and Norway.

41. The Depositary further added that in addition, 21 countries that have signed the Framework Agreement of the ISA and are yet to deposit the instrument of ratification which include Bolivia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Hungary, Israel, Liberia, Luxembourg, Morocco, Nepal, Palau, Paraguay, Syria, United States of America, Yemen, and Zambia.
42. The Depositary notified the Standing Committee that seven countries, namely Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Greece, Italy, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Norway, and Indonesia have submitted their instruments of ratification after the Fourth Assembly of ISA, and are now full-fledged members of the ISA. He expressed his hope that that the membership of ISA will increase further in the future.
43. The Depositary reported to the Standing committee that the UN General Assembly granted observer status to the International Solar Alliance by adopting resolution A/RES/76/123 on 9 December 2021. The Depositary concluded its report by conveying its gratitude to all countries that supported the resolution, and thanking the Standing Committee of the ISA.
44. The President invited the Standing Committee to consider the report of the Depositary and put forth comment and guidance on ISA's membership.
45. The President noted the increase in membership of the ISA and expressed his satisfaction on the same.
46. **The President and the Standing Committee thanked the Depositary for their continued support with the membership of the ISA. The Standing Committee also recognized the**



efforts of the Depository and thanked it for its assistance in securing Observer status for the ISA at the UN General Assembly.

#### Agenda Item 5. Election of President and Co-President of the ISA Assembly

47. The President called upon the Director-General to brief the Standing Committee of the ISA on the Election of President and Co-President of the ISA Assembly.
48. The Director-General informed the Standing Committee that Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly specifies the process of invitation for nominations for the positions of President and Co-President for a term of two years. He further stated that the terms of the current President and Co-President will end before the Fifth Assembly of the ISA, and that both the positions are supposed to be filled by election.
49. The Director-General further added that the Fifth Assembly of the ISA shall elect a new President and Co-President for a term of two years, and that the process of invitation of nominations for these positions has to be initiated 90 days before the opening of the ISA Assembly as specified in the Rules of Procedure. The Director-General conveyed that he looks forward to receiving nominations from the member countries for these positions, and that the details of the election process are contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.03.
50. The Director-General, on behalf of the President invited comments on the agenda item from the Members of the Standing Committee.
51. The President informed the Standing Committee that Republic of India intends to seek re-election to the position of President in order to continue supporting the ISA.
52. The Co-President informed the Standing Committee that the French Republic having co-founded the ISA in 2015, will support India's nomination for the Presidency of the ISA Assembly, and will also seek re-election to the Co-Presidency of the ISA Assembly.
53. **The President invited nominations from other member countries. He informed the Standing Committee that the details of the election have been included in the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.03. The President requested the Director-General to share all the pertinent information related to the process of election of the President and Co-President with member countries.**
54. **The Director-General informed the Members that the last date for filing of nominations by ISA Member Countries for the positions of the President and Co-President is 18 September 2022.**

## Agenda Item 6. Selection of the new Vice-Presidents of the Standing Committee of the ISA Assembly

55. Briefing the Standing Committee on the agenda item, the President stated that the provisions in the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly mandate the process for selection of new Vice Presidents which needs to be carried out during the upcoming session of the ISA General Assembly. He informed the Members regarding the notification for the selection as contained in the Information Document ISA/SC.06/INF.01.
56. The President informed the Standing Committee that the Information Document contains the members of the ISA that have been identified to be selected as the Vice Presidents of the ISA Assembly, along with two alternates as per the provisions of the rules of procedure.
57. **The President invited the Standing Committee to take note of the information provided by the document and provide their guidance.**

## Agenda Item 7. Proposed amendment for the selection of the Vice-Chair of the Regional Committees

58. The Director-General, on behalf of the President briefed the Standing Committee on the proposed amendment for the selection of the Vice-Chair of the Regional Committees.
59. The Director-General explained that the Rules of Procedure of the ISA assembly state that the Vice Presidents take turns chairing the meetings of the respective Regional Committees. He further explained that the third Meeting of the Regional Committee of the Asian Pacific region requested the ISA Secretariat to develop and implement a procedure for the election or selection of the Vice Chair of the Regional Committee, and that in response the ISA Secretariat proposes amendments that would resolve the inconsistency that the Chair of the Regional Committee, which is the Vice President is selected based on their seniority or the date on which they submitted their instrument of ratification, whereas the Vice Chair of the Regional Committee is elected.
60. The Director-General informed the Standing Committee that the amendment seeks to change the procedure from election to appointment by seniority, as is the case for the Vice Presidents cum Chair of the Regional Committees, and that this congruence between the Vice Chair and the Chair would ensure continuity in the Regional Committee as once the terms of the Chairs, or the Regional Vice Presidents is over, the Vice Chairs would then take over as the Regional Vice Presidents, or the Chairs.
61. The Director-General, on behalf of the President, invited the Members of the Standing

Committee to take note of the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.04 containing the details of the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly pertaining to the selection of the Vice Chair, and provide their guidance on the agenda item.

- 62. The Standing Committee adopted the proposed amendments for the selection of the Vice-Chair of the Regional Committees as contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.04 and recommended the proposal to the ISA Assembly for its consideration and approval.**

### **Agenda Item 8. Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly**

63. The Director-General, on behalf of the President, explained the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly.
64. The Director-General explained that the Rules of Procedure were approved by the second Assembly of the ISA and lay down the provisions for convenings of the governance meetings of the ISA and guiding their conduct. He added that with the amendment to the Framework Agreement in 2021, some inconsistencies and gaps in the Rules of Procedure were identified by the ISA Secretariat which needed to be addressed to avoid possible ambiguities in the future.
65. The Director-General briefly explained the process-based changes being proposed through the amendment as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.05, including
- i. Partner organisations remain invitees to the Assembly as long as their partner status is valid and not revoked by the Assembly, instead of a two-year term currently specified by the Rules of Procedure;
  - ii. Simplification of the appointment of member countries contributing USD 5 million to the ISA as additional members of the Standing Committee for one term as well as implementing a draw of lots instead of first-come-first-served basis in case the number of potential additional members exceeds nine;
  - iii. Move from election to selection for the appointment of Vice Chair for the Meetings of the Regional Committees as discussed by the Standing Committee under agenda item 7; and
  - iv. Revision of the time period for acceptance of supplementary items for the ISA Assembly from 30 days to 22 days before the opening of the ISA Assembly.
66. The Director-General, on behalf of the President invited comments and guidance on the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly.

67. The representative of Republic of France supported the proposed amendment to Article IV, Rule 17 of the Framework Agreement pertaining to the revised timelines for submission of supplementary items, and sought:
- i. Clarification on the objective for amendment of Article IX, Rule 31, pertaining to the grant of observer status at the Assembly, and whether it is to limit the participation of partner organisations
  - ii. Removal of Article VIII, Rule 33, pertaining to participation of partner organisations and revocation of partner status as it might be restrictive; and
  - iii. Clarification on Article IV, Rule 79 pertaining to financial contribution and membership of the Standing Committee, whether ISA has received such contributions in the past, and the rule acting as a deterrent for developing or least developed countries from actively participating in the ISA governance
68. The representative of Republic of India brought to the attention of the Standing Committee that point (f) under the proposed rule column for Article IV, Rule 2, Annex II, reads that the Standing Committee shall approve proposals for agreements or arrangements with States, international organizations, and international agencies, on behalf of the ISA subject to prior approval by the Assembly, and that the “prior” qualification is unnecessary and could be removed.
69. Addressing the suggestions by the Members, the Director-General thanked the representatives of Republic of France, and Republic of India for their suggestions on the agenda item. He explained that the aim of the amendment to Article IX, Rule 31 is not to restrict partnerships in any manner, but to maintain it for an indefinite period of time, unless revoked by the ISA Assembly, as compared to the current rule that impose a limit of two years.
70. Addressing the suggestion by the representative of Republic of France, regarding removal of the Assembly’s power to revoke partner organisation status, the Director-General explained that this might be needed in case of potential conflicts, and that exercise of the power is safeguarded by the strong consensus required among the members of the Assembly to exercise it.
71. On the issue of financial contribution and additional membership of the Standing Committee, the Director-General explained that the proposed amendment would replace the current graded structure of memberships which has not yet been utilized by any member countries, and that with the proposed threshold amount of USD 5 million,

countries are invited to support the ISA financially, and take part in the governance process of the ISA. He added that the additionality would also provide a degree of ownership to the countries which provide financial assistance.

72. Addressing the suggestion by the representative of Republic of India, the Director-General agreed on the removal of the word “prior” from the proposed amendment.
73. **The Standing Committee adopted the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the ISA Assembly as contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.05 with the following changes:**
  - i. **removal of the word ‘prior’ from the proposed amendment as mentioned in para 68 above**
  - ii. **implementing a draw of lots instead of first-come-first-served basis in case the number of potential additional members, contributing USD 5 million or more, exceeds nine**
74. **The Standing committee recommended the proposal contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.05, with these changes, to the ISA Assembly for its consideration and approval.**

#### **Agenda Item 9. Proposal for Policy for Procurement of Consultants at ISA Secretariat**

75. The President invited the Director-General to brief the Standing Committee on the agenda item.
76. The Director-General underscored the need for a policy for procurement of consultants given the Secretariat’s need for a large number of consultants. He mentioned that owing to the recruitment of ISA Staff to regular positions, the need for consultants is reducing.
77. The Director-General emphasized that the proposed consultant policy would ensure that the Secretariat is kept lean, with short-term consultants (contract duration less than six months) working on particular pieces of work, and long-term consultants (contract duration up to one year, renewable by another year) providing specific expertise to the Secretariat.
78. On behalf of the President, the Director-General invited the Standing Committee to consider the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.06 and provide their comments.
79. The representative from the Republic of France supported the policy and remarked that excessive reliance on consultancy can be counterproductive, given that the organization

needs to expertise of its own.

80. The representative from the Republic of India observed that the proposed working document limits the total number of consultants and staff on secondment to 25 percent of the total number of regular sanctioned staff. He remarked that given the low strength of regular staff at present, it would be more appropriate to increase this limit to 40 percent of the total sanctioned strength for regular staff instead of 25 percent.
81. The Director-General thanked India for the proposal. He expressed his gratitude for the suggestion and explained that the Secretariat has been facing a problem related to short-term consultants.
82. **The Standing Committee adopted the proposal for Policy for Procurement of Consultants at ISA Secretariat as contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.06 with the change that the share of consultants and officers on secondment is increased to 40 percent of the total sanctioned strength for regular staff instead of proposed 25 percent. The Standing committee recommended the proposal contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.06, with this change, to the ISA Assembly for its consideration and approval.**

#### Agenda Item 10. Proposed amendments to the Secondment Policy

83. The President invited the Director-General to brief the Standing Committee on the agenda item.
84. The Director-General stated that the proposed amendments to the ISA's Secondment Policy are contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.07. He appraised the Standing Committee of the role played by experts and specialists on secondment from the partner organizations of ISA in the establishment of the ISA Secretariat in its initial years.
85. Providing context for the proposed amendment, the Director-General stated that as the recruitment at ISA is progressing, the Secretariat is in a position where it can increasingly depend on its own staff for its day-to-day activities. He explained that under such circumstances, the Secretariat would like to phase down its reliance on officers on secondment as the tenure of these officers comes to an end. Stressing the need for a revision of the Secondment Policy, he mentioned that the proposed amendment would standardize the process and arrangements under which officers on secondment can be taken on board.
86. On behalf of the President, the Director-General invited the Standing Committee to consider the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.07 and provide their comments.

87. The representative from the Republic of France thanked the Director-General for his explanation and welcomed the efforts to enhance the transparency and efficiency of the process of secondment of experts. He emphasized the need to ensure that ISA does not limit the possibility of building a truly international organization by bringing in experts from member countries and that too cost-free resources to the ISA. He stressed that the secondment policy should not be unreasonably restrictive and should signal to the member countries that the ISA welcomes their expertise, particularly from qualified project-based experts.
88. The representative from the Republic of India remarked that the standing committee had already endorsed the proposal to increase the possible share of consultants and officers on secondment from 25 percent to 40 percent of the total sanctioned strength for regular staff and this would help address the concerns raised by the representative from France.
89. The representative from the Republic of India also suggested that the Secondment Policy should limit the list of lending entities to member countries, the United Nations and its organs, Multilateral Agencies, and Universities and academic institutes, and must not include partner organizations and intergovernmental economic integration organizations. He also suggested that the policy should explicitly state that an officer on secondment would not serve more than 2 tenures, with each tenure extending up to a maximum duration of three years, and that the lending organization shall pay the salary of the officer on secondment.
90. The representative from the Republic of India, while referring to paragraph 4.1 on page 67 of the working document, suggested that a formal agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding between the ISA and the sponsoring organization should be made compulsory as a simple electronic communication would not be sufficient.
91. The representative from the Republic of France expressed his support for a redrafting of the Secondment Policy incorporating the suggestions put forth by the representative from the Republic of India. He also suggested that the Secondment Policy should not impose any ceiling on the secondment tenure.
92. The President explained that the orientation of the ISA is to be truly open and transparent and that the staff positions in the organization should be available for personnel from all member countries. He further explained that the idea is to reduce the number of nominated appointments and to take a merit-based approach to induct professionals from all member countries. He explained that this has been the thinking behind the proposed limit on the number of consultants and officers on secondment and that an increase of this

limit to 40 percent of the total sanctioned strength for regular staff gives sufficient scope for nominated appointments.

93. The President expressed his vision that the ISA must remain a truly international organization where citizens from any of its member countries can gain employment by competing based on their merit, and this is what will make this organization great.
94. The President supported the suggestion that officers on secondment should be from member countries, the UN and its organs, Universities, and multilateral agencies, but not from public sector and bilateral agencies. He clarified that the idea is to make the process transparent and build ISA into an organization that provides equal opportunities to every country.
95. **The Standing Committee adopted the proposed amendments to the Secondment Policy as contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.07 with the following changes:**
  - i. **increase the share of consultants and officers on secondment to 40 percent of the total sanctioned strength for regular staff instead of the proposed 25 percent**
  - ii. **limit the lending entities to member countries, the United Nations and its organs, multilateral agencies, and universities and academic institutes**
  - iii. **an officer on secondment would not serve more than 2 tenures, with each tenure extending up to a maximum duration of three years, and that the lending organization shall pay the salary of the officer on secondment**
  - iv. **Formal agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the ISA and the sponsoring organization should be made compulsory**
96. **The Standing committee recommended the proposal contained in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.07, with these changes, to the ISA Assembly for its consideration and approval.**

#### **Agenda Item 11. Update on status of Regular Staff of the ISA Secretariat**

97. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present a status update on the regular staff of the ISA Secretariat.
98. The Director-General introduced the agenda item by apprising the Standing Committee that during the second, third, and fourth ISA Assembly, the Assembly allowed for capacity building and capacity addition at the ISA Secretariat through approved organizational roadmaps and recruitment plans. The Director-General, with the permission of the



- President, invited ISA Secretariat to make a presentation on the where ISA Secretariat stands as far as recruitments are concerned.
99. The ISA Secretariat presented an update on the status of the regular staff of the ISA Secretariat vis-à-vis the organizational roadmap approved by the second, third, and fourth assembly of ISA. The ISA Secretariat also presents certain deviations made by Director General in anticipation of the approval of the General Assembly and the justifications for the same.
100. The ISA Secretariat sought the approval of the Standing Committee on:
- i. Ex-post facto approval on the deviations;
  - ii. Authorization for the President of the ISA Assembly to select a distinguished person with administrative and vigilance experience to carry out the recruitment audit for regular staff, economists, and hiring of consultants, done after June 2021 and up to 15 June 2022, which shall help ISA Secretariat in strengthening the recruitment process and making it more efficient; and
  - iii. Recruitment plan for the balance 25 positions to be presented before the Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee.
101. The President invited comments and suggestions from the members of the Standing Committee on the Agenda Item discussed.
102. The representative from the Kingdom of the Netherlands thanked the ISA Secretariat for the presentation. He raised the query on the gender balance within the Secretariat. He also raised a query on how many candidates applying for a position at the Secretariat come from the private sector, the public sector, and/or other international institutions.
103. The representative from the Republic of France praised the HR policy by describing it as more rational and efficient. He seconded the queries raised by the representative from the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the gender balance within the Secretariat. He mentioned that the Republic of France is very keen on ensuring gender equality as it is a standard in various European countries and highlighted that India also shares the same view.
104. The representative from the Republic of India put forth a suggestion that prior approval from the Standing Committee must be sought for any deviation from the decisions of the ISA Assembly. He also suggested that whenever the number of positions has been increased for one role, there should be a corresponding reduction in the position by putting some other position on hold so that the total number of staff, which was approved by the

General Assembly remains the same.

105. Answering the queries raised by the Republic of France and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the ISA Secretariat appraised the Standing Committee that respect for diversity is a core value of the ISA and its Secretariat, and in all vacancy announcements, ISA Secretariat makes a serious effort to strive for gender parity. The ISA Secretariat also mentioned that the Secretariat has a considerable number of staff in international positions as well as several women among the staff.
106. The Director-General appraised the Standing Committee that ISA Secretariat has crossed the one-third mark in terms of gender balance which has gone up from 20 percent earlier to 33 – 35 percent, depending upon the denominator chosen to calculate the same.
107. The Director-General also appraised the Standing Committee that the ISA Secretariat is attracting a very competent and diverse group of people. He mentioned the recent new international recruitments at the ISA Secretariat and introduced the newly appointed international staff to the Committee who have come from different countries including Nigeria, Fiji, Canada, and Bhutan and come with experience of working across distinct sectors.
108. The President highlighted that ISA Secretariat already has a diverse pool of talented resources and its remuneration is at par with other international organizations. He further highlighted that right now the recruitment is at an initial stage and as ISA Secretariat continues to recruit further people from around the world shall join the ISA. He further mentioned that with the increase in resources, ISA shall aim to pay more to attract the best talent. He concluded by mentioning that the recruitment of staff shall be open and transparent for all member countries and everyone, irrespective of gender, are welcome to come and compete for the different positions.
109. **The Standing Committee noted the updates presented by the ISA Secretariat and the Director-General on the status of regular staff of the ISA Secretariat presented in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.08, and endorsed ex-post facto the deviations for further consideration and approval of General Assembly. It also authorized the President of the ISA Assembly to carry out the recruitment audit as proposed.**

#### **Agenda Item 12. Update on the ISA's Viability Gap Funding**

110. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present a status update on the ISA's Viability Gap Funding.
111. The Director-General introduced the agenda item by apprising the Standing Committee

that ISA Secretariat proposes a viability gap funding to scale up the demonstration projects that have been carried out in 26 SIDS and LDC member countries. He mentioned that it has been noted that a key barrier for scaling up is the availability of resources, or vice versa, and the viability of getting these projects to be cost-effective. Consequently, ISA Secretariat proposes that ISA provide a degree of support to these projects in form of viability gap funding, which shall be the last equity that goes in and shall be subject to a maximum of 10% of the project cost of USD 150,000 whichever is lower. He mentioned that more details on the viability gap funding mechanism are contained in the working document ISA/SE.06/WD.09.

112. The Director-General, with the permission of the President, invited comments on the ISA's Viability Gap Funding.
113. The representative from the United Kingdom appreciated the transparent processes that are governing ISA and thanked ISA Secretariat for bringing out high-quality papers. She expressed support for the initiative and also appreciated the shift in thinking of the ISA Secretariat towards implementation and getting delivery to unlock the potential of ISA and solar at large. She raised a query on how the ISA Secretariat aims to carry out an evaluation of the implementation of the initiative and judge how well it is going and whether it is the best approach. She also enquired about the ISA Secretariat's plans to share the information on this initiative and its implementation with other funding agencies including multi-lateral banks, Green Climate Fund, and bilateral agencies.
114. The Director-General thanked the representative from the United Kingdom for the useful and relevant pointers. He appraised the Standing Committee that all the demonstration projects have been carried out with a project management consultancy or a project management cell on board. He informed the Standing Committee that the countries have either appointed their own project management cells, or the ISA Secretariat have appointed project management consultants through a Swiss challenge method. He further mentioned that a part of the project management cell's job is to assess how well the project implementation is progressing. Answering the query whether this is the best approach, the Director-General mentioned that these country-specific projects will develop out of the demonstration projects of the ISA Secretariat, and these have been put forward by the National Focal Points of the respective countries, which ensures that the project represents the needs and circumstances in the country and is locally desirable and physically viable, but not economically viable, thus highlighting the need for viability gap funding.

115. The Director-General also mentioned that ISA Secretariat has started the process of capturing the results of these projects. He further added that the ISA Secretariat, with its knowledge management cluster, aims to capture the learnings that ISA Secretariat has from all these projects. The case studies, thus, developed could be shared with various partner organizations as well.
116. The representative from Republic of the Niger raised a query on when can member countries put forward the case for the need for viability gap funding from the ISA.
117. The Director-General mentioned that the working document on viability gap funding clearly states the time when the project is under preparation, that is before it has been implemented, is the time when the application for the viability gap funding needs to be put forward. The Director-General requested member countries who are interested to approach the Secretariat at the time of financial closure of the project so that it builds a clear case that the viability gap funding is essential for the financial closure to occur.
118. The representative from the Republic of France highlighted the need to make sure that we have a clear vision as we continue to create this new funding facility. In this regard, he asked ISA Secretariat to elaborate on the difference between this new funding mechanism and the risk mitigation funding mechanism. He further asked ISA Secretariat to elaborate on the source that the Secretariat anticipates funding shall come from and what sort of institutions the Secretariat has in mind; will it be a commercial bank or exchange institutions like EXIM Bank of India. He also raised the query on its articulation over the existing funding mechanism framework like SRMI.
119. Responding to the query from the Republic of France, the Director-General appraised the Standing Committee that the key difference is that these are cases where the viability of the project is in question and, thus, it's not just a matter of risk, but it is a matter of scale as well. He further mentioned that in the case of the risk management facility and the SRMI projects, the projects are economically viable, to begin with, but they are not able to attract investments, despite being economically viable and that's where risk funding comes in. In this case, ISA Secretariat is looking at those kinds of projects where economic viability itself is at stake, and therefore a contribution to the capital cost helps in bringing down the overall capital cost.
120. The Director-General went on to add the Secretariat is providing the funding for this initiative from the resources that the Secretariat itself has. He mentioned that the Secretariat has allocated USD 1.5 million from its resources, which could not be spent in the past due to a variety of reasons. He expressed that if this initiative takes off and is

welcomed well, ISA Secretariat would look for support from other countries for expanding this program. Secondly, he mentioned that the other part of the project cost can come from almost anywhere. ISA Secretariat is looking at EXIM Bank or equivalent from the member countries, which who can provide the balance resources required. ISA Secretariat is also looking at local commercial banks for providing monetary support to projects with the equity portion coming from entrepreneurs. Thus, ISA Secretariat is looking at a variety of sources from which the balance of monetary resources can come.

121. The representative from the Kingdom of the Netherlands appreciated the ISA Secretariat's initiative as financing of projects is a very important aspect. He seconded the points raised by the representative of the United Kingdom and stated that it is extremely relevant to learn also from other organizations and financial institutions who are involved in financing large projects, know the complexities on the viability, especially about the final gap. He shared his perception that the need for viability gap funding for the last 10 per cent gap means that the present investors are not willing to finance the full 100% which happens quite often, especially in high-risk environments including political risk, and regulatory risk among others. He raised the query whether ISA Secretariat is considering providing for the insurance variant or only looking at financing possibilities.
122. The Director-General clarified that the ISA Secretariat is looking at funding any viability gap for the projects.
123. The President shared his experience of financing projects in developing countries. He mentioned that the Republic of India, through its experience of adding almost 153,000 MW of renewable energy capacity in the past 5-6 years, has been able to drive investments in India through competitive bidding to setup capacity and enter into agreements for selling electricity. He further mentioned that this will not happen for developing countries as the risk perception and cost of finance are high, thus, underlining the need for a risk mitigation fund and low-cost finance. He added that as the world aims to reduce its carbon footprint, it is incumbent upon all the members of ISA to make sure that the pledged Green Climate Fund is accessible to developing countries.
- 124. The Standing Committee noted the updates presented by the ISA Secretariat and the Director-General on the ISA's viability gap funding in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.09.**

### **Agenda Item 13. Update on Resource Mobilization for the ISA**

125. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present an update on the Resource

Mobilization for the ISA.

126. The Director-General introduced the agenda item by apprising the Standing Committee that financial sustainability of ISA as a goal been repeatedly discussed at the Assembly. He mentioned that details on the efforts undertaken by the ISA Secretariat and the latest update on Resource Mobilization along with an assessment of the resources that have been received are contained in the working document ISA/SE.06/WD.10.
127. The Director-General mentioned that the availability of funds is now at a comfortable level. He mentioned that this change in the availability of funds can be largely attributed to the support from the Government of India. He thanked the Republic of India for its continuous support to the ISA and its Secretariat. He further mentioned that there is an equal amount of money that has been gathered from several different philanthropic foundations. He also added that there are a few countries that have also provided support to the ISA. He attributed this transfer of resources to the amendment that came in 2021 which made it possible for countries that are a member of the UN and located beyond the two tropics to come and join ISA. However, he mentioned that there has not been a large transfer of resources.
128. The Director-General, with the permission of the President, invited the ISA Secretariat to give a brief presentation on resource mobilization status at the Secretariat.
129. ISA Secretariat expressed its gratitude towards the countries that have made contributions both in terms of cash and kind. The Secretariat also thanked the philanthropic foundations for placing their faith and trust in the Secretariat to carry out its activities with the help of their support.
130. ISA Secretariat mentioned that the budget requirement, for carrying out the activities across the three pillars as mentioned in the strategic work plan approved by the fourth Assembly, is approx. USD 300 million till 2026. ISA Secretariat reported that presently the Secretariat has access to USD 88 million, which would cover its activities to be undertaken in 2022 and 2023. ISA Secretariat expressed that despite being in a comfortable position currently, there is still work required to close the gap to meet USD 300 million. ISA Secretariat also highlighted that the ISA is also looking at support from member countries to reach the goal of USD 300 million.
131. ISA Secretariat requested all the member countries to put their faith and trust and help ISA to close the gap.
132. The President added that while we are talking about climate and how climate change is

impacting everyone, it is not being translated into action by countries who can take action, namely the developed countries. He further added that the introduction of a membership fee may not be fruitful for developing countries but that might be the case for developed countries. He suggested having a regime whereby the developing countries don't have to pay membership fees, but the developed countries do. He also mentioned the need how the Green Climate Funds and equivalents are necessary and the need of the hour, especially for the developing countries. He highlighted that the Republic of India stands at a different position with one of the fastest rates of energy transition in the world and also the country achieving 40 per cent of capacity via non-fossil fuels sources by 2030, in November 2021, i.e., 9 years in advance. He also highlighted that the Republic of India will continue to be on this path as it aims to more than double the capacity installed in the coming years. He further highlighted that India will be able to afford to undertake the transition required but mentioned that this case would not be true for other developing countries. He stressed the fact that if countries are unable to come good on their pledge of USD 100 billion a year for climate reforms, the world would not be able to fight and stop climate change. He stated that while achieving net-zero targets, countries need to help those countries who lack finance to achieve their net-zero targets. He underlined the same as the reason why the Republic of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, is keen on helping its neighbors and developing nations in this transition and fight against climate change. He further stressed the role that ISA is playing in helping member countries in the transition to clean energy and to get access to clean energy.

133. The representative of the Republic of France seconded what the President mentioned on the need to increase our resources. He congratulated the ISA Secretariat on the work carried out by them in increasing partnerships with the philanthropic foundations as well as the private sector and highlighted the need to keep it going. He further mentioned that there are various players in the European market, including SolarPower Europe, that have been working on a similar front and highlighted the need for exploring synergies with them. He further mentioned the need for ISA to continue to act as a platform to bring together different actors and aggregate synergies. He appreciated the work carried out by the Director-General in this regard.
134. **The Standing Committee noted the updates presented by the ISA Secretariat and the Director-General on the resource mobilization of ISA in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.10.**

**Agenda Item 14. Update on Work Plan and Budget of the ISA for CY 2022 and CY 2023**

135. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present an update on the work plan and budget of ISA for CY 2022 and CY 2023.
136. The Director-General introduced the agenda item by apprising the Standing Committee that last year the assembly had approved the work plan and budget for two years, specifically the budget for the calendar year 2022 and the long-term strategy. As the ISA Secretariat has put together the strategy on the one side and the resources on the other side, the Secretariat has now started delivering on the activities. He mentioned that details on the update on the work plan and budget for ISA for CY 2022 and CY 2023 are contained in the working document ISA/SE.06/WD.11.
137. The Director-General, with the permission of the President, invited the ISA Secretariat to give a brief presentation on updates on the work plan and the activities carried out this year.
138. ISA Secretariat gave a presentation on work undertaken and activities undertaken as a part of the 6 strategic priorities as approved by the fourth Assembly of the ISA.
139. The representative from the Kingdom of the Netherlands thanked the ISA Secretariat for providing an overview of the activities undertaken to date. He stressed the point raised by the Republic of India, while discussing the agenda item on resource mobilization, on the need for additional resources. He articulated that different policy objectives are competing for money across the world. He appreciated the work undertaken by ISA to drive attention towards the key climate policies which are needed for solar adoption and are crucial in overall climate policy. He further complimented the Republic of India and the Republic of France for providing leadership to the ISA and offered continued support of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the ISA and its activities.
140. The representative from the Republic of France appreciated and congratulated ISA Secretariat and the Director-General for the work undertaken to date. He described that the work undertaken is very professional, detailed, and concrete. He also appreciated ISA's efforts in undertaking partnerships with different organizations and taking it forward.
- 141. The Standing Committee noted the updates presented by the ISA Secretariat and the Director-General on the work plan and budget of ISA for CY 2022 and CY 2023 in the working document ISA/SC.06/WD.11.**



### Agenda Item 15. Update on the Action Taken Report of the Fourth Assembly

142. The President invited the ISA Secretariat to present an update on the action taken report of the fourth Assembly.
143. The Director-General introduced the agenda item by apprising the Standing Committee that during the fourth Assembly and under the Assemblies before that, the ISA Assembly tasked the ISA Secretariat to carry out several actions. He informed that the ISA Secretariat has prepared an action taken report, details of which are contained in the working document ISA/SE.06/WD.12. The Director-General highlighted that the report has also been submitted to the office of the President so that the ISA Assembly is also kept informed.
144. The Director-General, with the permission of the President, requested the Committee members to consider the action taken report prepared by the ISA Secretariat and provide their comments and guidance.
- 145. The Standing Committee noted the action taken report for the fourth Assembly as prepared by the ISA Secretariat and presented in the working document ISA/SE.06/WD.12.**

### Agenda Item 16. Preparations for the Seventh Standing Committee of the ISA

146. The President of the ISA Assembly invited the Standing Committee to consider Preparations for the Seventh Standing Committee of the ISA.
147. The ISA Secretariat had earlier proposed that the Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee of the ISA be conducted on 7 September 2022 in New Delhi, India. However, the Director-General informed that the EU Commissioner for Energy will be visiting Delhi on 7 September 2022 and ISA Secretariat has received a request to co-host an event with the EU. He suggested that the ISA Secretariat look for the convenience of the Standing Committee members to schedule meetings between 8 and 10 September 2022.
- 148. The President asked ISA Secretariat to consult with Standing Committee members and finalize a date between 7 and 10 September 2022.**

### Agenda Item 17. Preparations for the Fifth Assembly of the ISA

149. The President of the ISA Assembly invited the Standing Committee to consider Preparations for the Fifth Assembly of the ISA as contained in the Working Document ISA/SC.06/WD.13.

150. The Director-General stated that the guidance regarding the date for the Fifth Assembly was sought from the Republic of France, so as to ensure the French Minister's participation. Accordingly, the date of the Fifth Assembly has been tentatively scheduled as 18 October 2022.
151. The Secretariat had proposed to hold the Fifth Assembly at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India.
152. The Director-General informed the Standing Committee that the Pragati Maidan venue may not be available by October 2022, and therefore the ISA Secretariat, is looking at various other options. The Director-General informed the Standing Committee that The Ashoka Hotel was completely booked during the proposed dates, and as a result the Fifth Assembly of the ISA would tentatively be held at the Pullman Hotel at Aerocity, New Delhi.
153. The Director-General also informed the Standing Committee that the Secretariat is planning the following events relating to the Fifth Assembly:
- i. Pre-scheduled meetings on 17 October 2022 of the President of ISA Assembly with various ministers who shall be coming to Delhi to attend the Assembly
  - ii. Fifth Assembly of the ISA on 18 October 2022 followed by Ministerial Dinner
  - iii. Release of reports, namely Ease of Doing Solar (EoDS) and ISA Annual Solar Reports on Technology, Investments and Markets (consultation draft) on 19 October 2022
  - iv. Thematic side events on 20 October 2022
154. The President of the ISA Assembly also suggested that field visits could include in the schedule of the participants of the Fifth Assembly. These could include:
- i. Some utility-scale solar parks in India which has some of the largest Solar Parks of the world; or
  - ii. Solar-wind hybrid project sites; or
  - iii. Few of the Solar Cities under development in India
- 155. The Standing committee took note of the preparations for the fifth Assembly.**

#### **Agenda Item 18. Interventions by Member Countries**

156. The President invited interventions from the Members of the Standing Committee. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius and Kingdom of the Netherlands expressed their willingness to present their statements.

157. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius greeted the members of the Standing Committee and conveyed the apologies of the Honorable Minister of Energy and Public Utilities of Mauritius who could not attend the meeting of the Standing Committee. She stated that the Republic of Mauritius has been one of the first countries to join the ISA in May 2017. She thanked the ISA for nominating the Republic of Mauritius as the Vice President of the Africa Region in October 2020. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius informed the Standing Committee that in the wake of climate change, the Republic of Mauritius has pledged at COP26 to reduce its emissions by 40 percent by 2030. She stated that the Republic of Mauritius has also set the target of achieving a 60 percent share of renewable energy in the electricity mix by 2030, and to cease the use of coal power for electricity generation within this period. She stated that Mauritius is well on its way to further accelerating the penetration of solar in the energy mix in the country to achieve its commitments and targets, given the high potential for solar energy resources in the Republic of Mauritius. She informed that the Republic of Mauritius has recently revised its Renewable Energy Roadmap 2017 to meet these targets. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius communicated that till 2014, the Republic of Mauritius had low solar PV penetration amounting to an installed capacity of only 18 MW. She highlighted the reasons behind this being the high level of investment risk perceived by private banks during these early years, its novelty in the utility-scale power generation, and the intermittent nature of generation which makes it highly dependent on weather changes. She affirmed that this is no longer the case with solar energy in the country as the policy and strategic framework for the development of solar PV have significantly improved in the following years. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius stated that Mauritius has been able to rapidly integrate solar PV in its power generation mix with the help of several fiscal incentives provided by the Government for the promotion of renewable energy and investments in green technologies, and with investment from the private sector, along with green loan facilities from local and international banks and partners. She informed that to date, Republic of Mauritius has installed more than 100 MW of solar PV, making it the second largest source of renewable energy in Mauritius after bagasse. The representative from Republic of Mauritius expressed her pleasure in having learned that ISA is gaining momentum in its objective of mobilizing USD 1 trillion for the global solar sector by 2030. She also expressed her delight in learning about the necessary instruments that the ISA is putting in place to allow African countries to mobilize investment, particularly private investments for the accelerated deployment of solar PV in the continent where access to electricity is a key issue and where solar technology is a game changer. The representative from the Republic of Mauritius thanked the ISA for the

two projects that it is developing in the country under the USD 50,000, the ISA CARES initiative and the viability gap funding mechanism. She also thanked the ISA Secretariat for organizing the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee and congratulated the Director-General for his relentless efforts in meeting the objectives of the Alliance, and his support to the African region. She stated that with the support of the ISA, the Republic of Mauritius is confident about relentlessly pursuing its energy transition with solar PV being the key to its success.

158. The Director General, on behalf of the President, invited the representative from the Kingdom of Netherlands to present his statement.
159. The representative from the Kingdom of Netherlands thanked the President, the Co-president, the Secretariat of the ISA, and the Director General for their efforts and the very important work they're doing, and for their leadership. He stated that he looks forward to working together and thanked them for trying to align ISA with its member countries in a very effective and productive manner. The representative from the Kingdom of Netherlands conveyed that the current Dutch government and the leadership are highly ambitious on climate policies and that the Netherlands is extremely supportive of the energy transition. He underlined the key role played by solar in the energy transition process, not only in terms of achieving the climate objectives but also in terms of energy security policies. The representative from the Kingdom of Netherlands congratulated ISA for its activities and programs, for bringing people together from all over the world and trying to change the energy agenda, and for making solar energy important. He concurred with earlier speakers and asked ISA to continue to focus on implementation, results, and outcomes. He expressed his appreciation for the work done at the ISA and committed his support to the organization. He concluded by sharing his expectation of seeing a positive change in the world in terms of climate policies.
- 160. The President thanked the representatives from the member countries for the interventions.**

#### **Agenda Item 19. Any Other Business**

161. The President invited the Members of the Standing Committee to propose any other business that needs to be addressed.
- 162. No Members of the Standing Committee proposed any other business for the consideration of the Standing Committee.**

## Agenda Item 20. Closing of the Meeting

163. The President invited the Co-President to deliver their closing remarks. The Co-President thanked the gathering.
164. The President thanked all the Ministers and other representatives of the member countries for attending the meeting. He stated that the International Solar Alliance has been growing, both in terms of membership and activities, while also enhancing its ability to raise finances which will further increase the rate of progress making the ISA stronger.
165. The President exhorted the members that in the face of disruptions caused by the conflict in Ukraine, and the resulting stoppage of gas flows, multiple countries are prioritizing their energy security, which he feels is legitimate. However, this should not come at the cost of the ultimate goal of mitigating global warming. He stressed that global warming continues to be a key concern, and that time is running out for positive action on this front, with the daily addition of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gasses to the environment.
166. The President stated that effective climate action will not happen until and unless countries that need assistance are supported thoroughly. He clarified that these countries need assistance not only in transitioning to renewable energy but first and foremost in ensuring energy access for their people and extending these two forms of assistance is what the International Solar Alliance has been formed for.
167. The President urged the member countries to invest resources and take action in the fight against climate change which they have been extremely concerned about, which includes reducing emissions and working towards energy transition which has been pledged. He also stated that another way of fighting climate change is by assisting other countries which need the assistance that organizations like the International Solar Alliance are offering. He emphasized the need for greater and more effective action in the fight against climate change.
- 168. The President concluded the meeting by thanking all the attendees.**

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## List of Participants of the Sixth Meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)<sup>1</sup>

S.No.	Country	Role	Representatives
1.	<b>Republic of India</b>	Chair, President of the ISA Assembly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Shri R K Singh, Minister of Power, and New and Renewable Energy</li> <li>2. Shri Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</li> <li>3. Shri Dinesh Dayanand Jagdale, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</li> <li>4. Shri Aseem Kumar, Director, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</li> <li>5. Shri Divyanshu Jha, Under Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</li> </ol>
2.	<b>Republic of France</b>	Co-Chair and Co-President of the ISA Assembly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India</li> <li>2. Ms. Luisa Terranova, Counsellor Political Section</li> <li>3. Ms. Julie Fabre, Counsellor</li> </ol>
3.	<b>Republic of Mauritius</b>	Vice President of the Africa Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Mrs. S. Hanoomanjee (GCSK), High Commissioner of Mauritius to India</li> <li>2. Mrs. Reema B. Robee, Second Secretary at the High Commission.</li> </ol>
4.	<b>Republic of the Niger</b>	Vice President of the Africa Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Ado Leko, Ambassador of Niger to India</li> <li>2. Mr. Souleymane Boureima, Counsellor</li> <li>3. Mr. Moustapha Dior, First Secretary</li> </ol>
5.	<b>Republic of Fiji</b>	Vice President of the Asia and the Pacific Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Mr. Nilesh Roneel Kumar, Chargé d Affaires a.i.</li> </ol>
6.	<b>Kingdom of the Netherlands</b>	Vice President of the Europe and Others Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Mr. Marten van den Berg Ambassador of the Netherlands to India</li> <li>2. Mr. Thed Brouwer, National Focal Point of ISA</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> Not strictly as per seniority. Tentative list as per online registration (may be updated)

7.	<b>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b>	Vice President of the Europe and Others Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma, Minister and COP President</li> <li>2. Ms. Sally Taylor, Development, Climate, Science and Technology Director</li> <li>3. Ms. Adritha Subbiah, Senior Energy Manager</li> </ol>
8.	<b>Republic of Cuba</b>	Vice President of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Mr. Alejandro Simancas Marin, Ambassador of Cuba to India</li> <li>2. Mr. Abel Aballe Despaigne</li> </ol>
9.	<b>Co-operative Republic of Guyana</b>	Vice President of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.E. Hon. Deodat Indar, Minister within the Ministry of Public Works of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana</li> <li>2. H.E. Mr. Charrandass Persaud, High Commissioner of Guyana to India.</li> <li>3. Dr. Mahender Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, Guyana Energy Agency</li> <li>4. Mrs. RONALDA EDWARDS HORATIO, First Secretary, Guyana High Commission, India</li> </ol>
10.	<b>Ministry of External Affairs, Government of Republic of India</b>	Depository of the ISA Framework Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Additional Secretary (ER &amp; DPA)</li> <li>2. George Pothan, Legal Consultant (ED)</li> </ol>
11.	<b>ISA Secretariat</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General</li> <li>2. Mr. Arun Misra, Senior Advisor</li> <li>3. Mr. Joshua Wycliffe, Chief of Operations</li> <li>4. Mr. Remesh Kumar, Chief of Unit, Programmes and Project Implementation</li> <li>5. Mr. Shishir Seth, Chief of Unit, Governance and Partnerships</li> <li>6. Dr. Ugochukwu Ugbor, Chief of Unit, Knowledge Management</li> <li>7. Ms. Onyi Iyizoba, Legal Specialist</li> <li>8. Mr. Naresh Mehta, Chief of Protocol</li> <li>9. Mr. Saba Kalam, Programme Specialist, STAR-C</li> <li>10. Ms. Nidhi Bakshi, HR Analyst</li> <li>11. Ms. Jyotsna Gola, Senior Consultant, Corporate Planning and Strategy</li> <li>12. Mr. Vineet Mathur, Admin and Procurement Analyst</li> </ol>

			<p>13. Mr. Sudhakar Upadhyay, Admin Assistant 14. Ms. Vandana, IT Specialist 15. Mr. Rajender Kumar, IT Assistant 16. Ms. Aarti Narain, Communication Analyst 17. Mr. Nikhil Kumar, Advocacy Specialist</p>
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