Joint Declaration of Intent on the extension of the Indo-German Green Hydrogen Task Force

between

the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) of the Federal Republic of Germany

and

the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) of the Republic of India

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany share the common goal of reducing their import dependency from fossil fuels and to decarbonize their economies.

With a view to further deepening cooperation in the field of hydrogen between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of India and to promote cooperation and exchange between companies of both countries, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India

(hereinafter referred to as the "Ministries") have reached the following understanding:

Both Ministries will support the continuation of the Indo-German Task Force on Green Hydrogen (hereinafter referred to as the "Task Force") to further strengthen cooperation in the production, utilisation, storage and distribution of green hydrogen through the creation of frameworks for projects, regulations and standards, trade and joint research and development (R&D) projects. Both Ministries very much appreciate the continued work of the Task Force under the umbrella of the Indo-German Energy Forum (hereinafter referred to as "IGEF").

Objectives:

The Task Force will

- develop an Indo-German Green Hydrogen Roadmap with specific joint actions defined;
- formalize the bilateral exchange of information and assessments on upscaling green hydrogen in their respective countries;

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- establish lighthouse projects resulting in recommendations for the political dialogue;
- also work towards establishing a green hydrogen hub in India with German support;
- promote the creation of a close network between government, industry, and research institutes from both countries.

Focus Areas:

The Task Force will prioritize the following areas:

- 1. Promotion of public and private investment in production, transport, and consumption of green hydrogen and its derivates. This will include:
 - a. Upscaling of renewable energies to deliver the required green electricity for hydrogen production;
 - b. support to key industries for decarbonization through conversion of CO2 intensive manufacturing processes into green hydrogen-based processes.
- 2. Promotion of joint R&D projects and R&D partnerships;
- 3. promotion of private sector networks and partnerships;
- 4. identification of opportunities for consortium building and investment;
- 5. sharing knowledge and experiences in regulation, standards, and safety procedures as well as sustainability criteria of green hydrogen;
- 6. cooperation on the development of certification schemes for green hydrogen;
- 7. sharing experiences in green hydrogen policies;
- 8. exploring opportunities for manufacture of electrolysers and other critical components of the green hydrogen value chain in both countries;
- building supply chains to support bulk trade of hydrogen and/or its derivative products for export, including exploring opportunities for advance purchase commitments;
- 10. strengthening institutions and capacity development for agencies engaged in implementation and regulation of the respective national hydrogen strategies. Both Ministries will jointly prioritize the above-mentioned topics, identify relevant institutions to be included in the Task Force meetings and decide on the specific actions in which each topic will be addressed meaningfully.

Structure:

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The Task Force will be led by the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India, and will be supported by the IGEF. The Secretariat to the Task Force will be provided by the IGEF Support Office in New Delhi.

The Task Force will meet (virtually or in person) in quarterly intervals to:

- 1. Identify projects that can be implemented jointly;
- 2. identify key challenges to be tackled, e.g. regulations and standards, transport of hydrogen, financing of projects;
- 3. suggest further activities to be undertaken for implementation of this Joint Declaration of Intent and strengthening cooperation on Green Hydrogen.

This Joint Declaration of Intent is not meant to constitute an international treaty or to create any rights or obligations under international law.

Duration:

The Indo-German Green Hydrogen Task Force will be extended from 2 May 2024 until the start of the work of a regular working group for cooperation in the field of Green Hydrogen within the framework of the IGEF, but at the latest until 31 December 2024.

Signed in New Delhi on the 19th of July 2024 in duplicate and in English language.

For the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action of the Federal Republic of Germany For the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India

Dr. Philipp Ackermann

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of India and to the Kingdom of Bhutan Bhupinder S Bhalla

Secretary Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India