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Dorotheenstr. 84
10117 Berlin

Tel. +49 30 18 272-2030
Fax +49 30 18 272-3152

cvd@bpa.bund.de
www.bundesregierung.de
www.bundeskanzler.de

Joint Declaration of Intent between The Republic of India And The Federal Republic of Germany on the Partnership for Green and Sustainable Development

1. The Republic of India and the Federal Republic of Germany (hereinafter referred to as ‘both Participants’) have a long-standing and fruitful cooperation in addressing challenges related to green and sustainable development, climate change and environment with active and mutually beneficial whole-of-government engagement. Both Participants look back with satisfaction on the completion of 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations, 60 years of development cooperation and over 20 years of the Strategic Partnership. Both Participants have further jointly decided to build on the Strategic Partnership to effectively respond to two of the most pressing global challenges of today, viz. achieving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and addressing climate change.

2. Both Participants acknowledge that sustainable development, particularly in the developing world, is essential to ensure that more people have access to health, healthy ecosystems and their ecosystem services, education, employment and a better standard of living, especially in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the global level, the outcomes of the G20 Summit in Italy and UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow have set the stage for more decisive action for reaching the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including SDG 13 pertaining to climate change and the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Both Participants also note that the adverse impact of climate change is a common concern for human kind, and has a negative fallout on life and property, ecosystems and livelihoods, as well as on the economic and social development of societies, in particular of local communities.

3. In this context, both Participants are committed to the timely realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the goals under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Both Participants are continuously taking effective steps to implement the SDGs and address the challenges of climate change. India achieved its aim of sourcing 40% of its established power generation capacity from non-fossil fuel sources, 9 years ahead of the 2030 target. India announced its further plans for ambitious climate action at COP-26, with the commitment to achieve net zero by 2070 and install 500 GW from



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non-fossil fuel sources and reduce emissions intensity of its economy by 45% by 2030. India has also launched a Green Hydrogen Mission to further address the energy transition challenges in the hard-to-abate sectors of the economy. Germany has pledged that it will achieve net zero by 2045 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 65% until 2030 as compared to 1990.

4. Both Participants welcome the robust ongoing cooperation which has been instrumental in contributing to efforts on SDGs and climate action. The Annual Negotiation Meetings on Development Cooperation, the Indo-German Environment Forum, the Indo-German Energy Forum, including the soon to be implemented Indo-German Green Hydrogen Task Force, the Indo-German Solar Partnership, the Indo-German Green Urban Mobility Partnership, the recently established NITI-BMZ Dialogue on Development Cooperation, bilateral sectoral working groups and numerous other joint work streams have been key joint endeavours in this regard. Both Participants recognize that at the EU level, the India-EU Clean Energy and Climate Partnership and the recently launched India-EU Connectivity Partnership reflect the strong desire in promoting green energy transition and supporting sustainable, quality and resilient infrastructure projects.

5. The strong political commitment of both Participants to support sustainable development and climate action provides opportunities for joint development initiatives at the bilateral, regional and global levels. In recognition of the mutual convergences, emerging opportunities and common objectives related to SDGs and climate action, both Participants express their intent to establish the Partnership for Green and Sustainable Development (hereinafter referred to as the 'Partnership'). The Partnership aims to intensify bilateral climate and sustainable development cooperation, and link it with the strong commitment on both Participants to the SDGs and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Partnership will continue to include and further strengthen collaboration between the public and private sectors, civil society organisations and research institutions. In this regard, both Participants intend to work together in the following initiatives.



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Bilateral

6. As Global Partners, both Participants support a long-term cooperation agenda for achieving the SDGs and their respective climate targets with a focus on, but not limited to:

- a just energy transition, a massive scale-up of renewable energy, green grids and storage, energy efficiency and low emission energy systems,
- sustainable urban development,
- green mobility,
- climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation,
- conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources, agro-ecological transformation, the Bonn Challenge and forest landscape restoration, ecosystem restoration, environment and biodiversity protection with a view to the implementation of the future Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework,
- combating marine litter, especially plastics, covering the whole lifecycle, and
- sustainable consumption and production and circular economy.

7. Both Participants aim to facilitate joint research and development, technology cooperation and industry-wide collaboration for implementing the SDGs and tackling climate change and intend to work together in developing high quality projects in identified priority sectors. Both Participants also aim to promote collaboration on technology innovation, regulatory standards, capacity building and private investments, in particular to drive PV-manufacturing and the creation of a green hydrogen economy.

8. Considering that the timeline for the realisation of SDGs and some of the climate targets declared by both Participants during COP26 in Glasgow culminate in 2030, both Participants will work together to learn from each other and to facilitate the achievement of their respective objectives. Germany intends to strengthen its financial and technical cooperation and other assistance to India with a long term goal of at least 10 billion Euros of new and additional commitments till 2030 under this Partnership. This will support inter alia the achievement of the ambitious goals of both Participants in the climate action and sustainable development space, further promote German-Indian research and development (R&D), encourage private investment and thus aim at leveraging further



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funding. Both Participants stress the importance of swift implementation of existing and future commitments.

Trilateral

9. Both Participants aim to cooperate to enhance support for SDGs and SDG related climate targets in third countries in Asia, Africa and the Indo-Pacific region under the framework of the India-Germany Joint Declaration of Intent on Triangular Development Cooperation. The objective would be to build on individual strengths and experiences in development cooperation and offer sustainable, viable and inclusive projects to third countries in addressing development challenges and achieving SDGs and SDG related climate targets, including through multilateral institutions where India and Germany are members, such as the International Solar Alliance (ISA). Both Participants strive to undertake capacity-building initiatives in jointly decided priority sectors and will explore co-financing and other innovative partnership models to support joint projects in third countries.

Multilateral

10. Both Participants aim to cooperate on multilateral initiatives to support implementation of SDGs and climate action. Germany has become a member of and supports the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). Germany also supports India's initiative for the 'One Sun One World One Grid' launched at COP 26 to accelerate adoption of green grids and solar energy. Under the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) the German government is cooperating with the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) for promoting disaster and climate resilience of existing and future infrastructure in India as well as in selected member states of CDRI. India in turn has joined the InsuResilience Global Partnership on Risk Finance and Insurance which i.a. contributes jointly with CDRI to innovative solutions for financial resilience of infrastructure.

11. During the German G7 presidency, both Participants also aim to work towards a just energy transition partnership/s between India, G7 members and other interested bilateral and multilateral development partners in order to promote government to government, private sector and green industrial collaboration for a just energy transition in India.

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12. During India's G20 Presidency, both Participants will work together with their G20 partners on progress towards SDGs and climate action.

High-level Coordination Framework

13. Both Participants intend to create a permanent Ministerial Mechanism within the framework of the biennial India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (IGC) for high-level coordination and political direction for this Partnership. This Ministerial Mechanism will be inaugurated and institutionalised at the 6th IGC as a permanent thematic track of the IGC plenary.

14. Both Participants intend to work towards identifying further deliverables and take stock of progress on various objectives on a regular basis. All existing bilateral formats in the fields of sustainable development, development cooperation, energy transition and climate action would contribute to the Partnership and report on progress to the Ministerial Mechanism at the IGC.

15. This Joint Declaration of Intent does not create any rights or obligations under international or national law. The provisions of this Joint Declaration of Intent may be revised at any time with the written consent of both Participants.

Signed in Berlin on May 2, 2022 in duplicate in the English language.

For the Republic of India

For the Federal Republic of Germany

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Olaf Scholz
Federal Chancellor