



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Between

The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy of

**THE NETHERLANDS**

And

The Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge of the  
Kingdom of

**SPAIN**

On

**COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF RENEWABLE HYDROGEN**

The Minister for Climate and Energy Policy of The Netherlands and the Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge of Spain (jointly hereinafter referred to as "Signatories" and individually as "Signatory");

**AFFIRMING** the excellent relations between the Kingdom of Spain and the Netherlands and the successful cooperation in several policy fields, among others R&D, intercultural dialogue, human rights, climate change and energy;

**AFFIRMING** the value of existing bilateral cooperation between the Signatories, and the need to deepen this collaboration specifically on developing a renewable hydrogen market in line with the European ambitions as stated in the REpowerEU plan (2022);

**RECOGNISING** the mutual interest of the Signatories in energy supply chain diversification, and upscaling renewable hydrogen as a key energy carrier to meet each country's policy goals in emissions reduction, energy security and commitments adopted under the Paris Agreement (2015);

**RECOGNISING** the benefits of working together in supporting the development of technologies, the creation of an international market, the deployment of fit to purpose infrastructure, and evaluating the possibility to establish export-import corridors for renewable hydrogen within Europe to diminish import independence from non-EU countries;

**RECOGNISING** the importance of developing international renewable hydrogen supply chains that align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and that contribute to sustainable local development in both import- and exporting countries;

**MINDFUL** of existing agreements between ports of Spain and the Netherlands and the significant potential of both countries in production, storage, transport and use of renewable hydrogen;

**DESIRING** to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of renewable hydrogen on the basis of mutual social, economic and environmental benefits to the Participants in order to promote sustainable development, including decarbonization of our economies.

**NOW THEREFORE, the signatories have reached the following understanding:**

## 1. OBJECTIVE

- a) The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (here in after referred to as the "MoU") is to establish a framework for the Signatories to promote and enhance cooperation in the field of renewable hydrogen and its derivatives, based on the principles of equality and mutual respect of the Signatories' sovereignty and policies.

## 2. SCOPE AND FORM OF COOPERATION

- a) Subject to their domestic laws, the Signatories will enhance bilateral cooperation and knowledge sharing in fields such as:
  1. Analysis of the potential and feasibility for renewable hydrogen (derivative) corridors via de maritime route and supply chain development;
  2. Hydrogen trade policy, standards and certification schemes;
  3. Knowledge sharing on innovative renewable hydrogen technologies, including but not limited to equipment manufacturing for electrolysers and fuel cells and high-temperature ovens on hydrogen;
  4. Government policies regarding safety, skills and training, social license and regulations for renewable hydrogen within the EU framework;
  5. Promotion of large renewable hydrogen projects with significant impact on Participants by encouraging private capital mobilization.
- b) Signatories will promote the development of (joint) renewable hydrogen projects, thereby creating new opportunities for companies and industry and supporting private-sector networks in accelerating the implementation of both countries' renewable hydrogen strategies;
- c) Signatories will collaborate in a series of yearly working roundtables per topic named under 2a including key stakeholders from public and private organizations that will further support the aims of this MoU by:
  - Exchanging information about the progress of the development of renewable hydrogen corridors;
  - Connecting key stakeholders to develop innovative infrastructure projects for the development of international renewable hydrogen supply chains between Spain and the Netherlands;
  - Facilitating supply-demand matchmaking covering investment and trade between renewable hydrogen producers and off takers;

- Promoting research, education, innovation and academic exchange and ways to train professionals in the academic and non-academic sectors.

### **3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- a) The implementation of the MoU will be subject to the availability of resources of the Signatories;
- b) In connection with this MoU, each Signatory will cover the costs of its own participants in the programs and projects of cooperation, unless otherwise decided.

### **4. COMMUNICATION**

- a) Unless decided otherwise, the Signatories will maintain confidentiality regarding any information shared or exchanged as well as outputs or results regarding this MoU;
- b) Communication related to this MoU will be coordinated primarily through the Netherlands' Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, with specific channels appropriate to the activities to be performed as established in paragraph 2c.

### **5. STATUS**

- a) This MoU does not create any legally binding obligations or confer any rights on the Signatories under international law;
- b) Any differences regarding the interpretation, application and implementation of this MoU will be resolved amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Signatories through diplomatic channels.

### **6. FINAL PROVISIONS**

- a) This MoU will come into effect on the date of its last signature by the Participants;
- b) This MoU will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years;
- c) The Participants may renew this MoU upon their mutual written consent;
- d) The Participants may amend this MoU at any time upon their mutual written consent;
- e) This MoU may be terminated by either Signatories at any time by giving three (3) months' prior written notice of its intention to terminate this MoU through diplomatic channels.

Signed in duplicate in the English language in Madrid, Spain on 20<sup>th</sup> February of 2023.

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**His Excellency Rob JETTEN**  
**Minister for Climate and Energy Policy**

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**Her Excellency Teresa Ribera Rodríguez**  
**Third Vice-President of the Government of Spain and**  
**Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge**