

Joint Declaration to Accelerate International Hydrogen Trade

“Launch of the International Hydrogen Trade Forum”

July 22, 2023, 14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) Meeting, Goa, India

The countries Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay endorse the following joint declaration to accelerate international hydrogen¹ trade development by bringing importing and exporting countries together and fostering the dialogue on the nascent international hydrogen trade through the CEM Hydrogen Initiative ‘*International Hydrogen Trade Forum (IHTF)*’ launched today.

We recognize:

- The urgency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the effects of climate change in line with the Paris Agreement.
- The important role that hydrogen² will play in the global energy mix and in building resilient economies.
- The diverse role that hydrogen can play in global emissions reduction from local communities to heavy industrial decarbonization applications.
- The importance of establishing international hydrogen supply chains (‘trade corridors’) to be able to transport large volumes of energy from regions with abundant clean energy sources to large demand centers with more limited resources.
- The need to accelerate investment across the whole value chain to meet increasing global demand.
- The importance of general principles of non-discriminatory market access and participation for international hydrogen trade in the new international hydrogen market.
- The importance of global cooperation and coordination on hydrogen trade to learn from each other and share valuable knowledge, experiences and best practices, and stimulating research, innovation and demonstration.
- The importance that measures taken forward as a result of the forum to progress international hydrogen trade must be conform with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.

We resolve the common determination to:

- Establish the CEM’s Hydrogen Initiative IHTF as an inter-governmental forum between hydrogen importing and exporting countries to accelerate international hydrogen trade, reduce related barriers and enable productive market conditions.
- Support the Sustainable Development Goals by encouraging policies and regulation for production, consumption and trans-border hydrogen trade as a reliable, clean and vital solution in the global energy system.
- Develop and implement policies to mitigate potential negative impacts of the production of hydrogen for export.

¹ Hydrogen referred to in this declaration refers to renewable and low-carbon hydrogen

² The cooperation of the IHTF includes hydrogen and all its derivatives/hydrogen-based fuels and carriers, such as ammonia, synthetic hydrocarbons and liquid organic hydrogen carriers.

- Share knowledge and expertise on the infrastructure development needed to facilitate hydrogen trade among IHTF member governments.
- Facilitate dialogue between producers and consumers of hydrogen, that builds on existing studies and work of other relevant organizations on the progress and challenges of international hydrogen trade with a view to recommend political action.
- Work on the above with existing multilateral organizations and other fora to add value and minimize duplicative efforts, such as the World Trade Organization, Mission Innovation, G20, Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation, International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy and the Hydrogen Council.
- Remain actively engaged on these issues through this forum.

The co-leads of the CEM-H2I (Canada, European Commission, Japan, Netherlands and the United States) welcome the IHTF as part of the collaborative activities within the framework of the Clean Energy Ministerial Hydrogen Initiative.

The coordination of the International Hydrogen Trade forum will be assumed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Signed in duplicate by the launching co-leads of the International Hydrogen Trade Forum in Goa, India on Saturday 22 of July 2023.

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H. E. Suhail Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure of the United Arab Emirates

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Mr. Sandor Gaastra, Secretary General of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy on behalf of the Minister for Climate and Energy Policy of The Netherlands