

Joint declaration between the European Union and the Republic of Rwanda on  
reinforced cooperation in the field of sustainable energy

1. Acknowledging that energy has been identified by the Republic of Rwanda as a fundamental tool for the promotion of economical, technological advancement and social welfare.
2. Welcoming the development by the Government of Rwanda of an Energy Policy and Energy Sector Strategic Plan that intends to provide energy access to a significant part of the population by 2018.
3. Noting that this strategy is in line with the objectives of Sustainable Energy for All but taking into account that the roll-out of this ambitious strategy will require important efforts in terms of means and capacity.
4. Considering that the Agenda for Change encourages the EU to assist partner countries in poverty reduction and to accompany them on a path to sustainable growth. Key issues addressed in the Agenda for Change include good governance, inclusive and sustainable growth, agriculture, food security, clean energy, and improving resilience to natural disasters and to the consequences of climate change.
5. Considering the EU's intention to allocate a financial contribution of EUR 200 million in support of Rwanda's energy programs for the period 2014-2020.
6. Building on Rwanda's National Environment Policy (2013), Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy (2013), Draft Energy Policy (2014), Energy Sector Strategic Plan (2013).
7. Taking into account the complementarity of EU actions with those of other partners and the need to leverage limited public sector funds to more significant amounts of financing partnerships, and to put the right sustainable technologies to the benefit of as many citizens as possible.
8. Recognising that a reinforced cooperation between the Republic of Rwanda and the EU can help to create the necessary framework conditions for increased investment, will avoid duplication and dispersion of funding and can leverage individual efforts.
9. Confident that a reinforced cooperation can accelerate national energy objectives, substantially increase sustainable energy access, achieve reliable and cost effective electricity generation and can help to supply affordable and modern energy services to the population while improving the efficiency of energy infrastructure and use. This effort will revitalize the economy by maximizing economic, financial, social and environmental benefits, and will contribute to increased resilience to crises and disasters.

10. Recognizing and building upon previous and existing cooperation within the national and regional context.

11. The EU will endeavour to:

- a. Contribute to an improved sector dialogue on energy together with all relevant actors in the energy sector.
- b. Provide technical assistance to the Government of Rwanda to promote and prepare relevant projects and provide the technical knowledge transfer between EU and Rwanda.
- c. Help to identify and bring forward potential energy projects that could be financed with the assistance of the Development Partners in order to increase the access of the population to modern energy services.
- d. Assist in the development of access to off grid solutions that are contributing to the overall objective of the sector.
- e. Promote the mobilization of the private sector and civil society in the field of energy i.e. through the organisation of business fora, industrial attachment programs, and other strategic capacity building interventions to inform and attract the private sector and financing institutions towards sustainable energy investments in Rwanda.
- f. Support the Government of Rwanda in achieving sustainable energy development goals by considering capacity building where clear capacity constraints are present;

12. The Government of Rwanda will endeavour to:

- a. Provide a regulatory environment that contributes to the development of a sustainable and modern energy sector.
- b. Lead and coordinate the sector dialogue through program steering on energy ensuring transparency of information related to funding and project preparation in the sector.
- c. Promote private sector investment and engagement in the sector i.a. by supporting economically viable business models.
- d. Promote the use of sustainable energy technologies and solutions with a view to limiting the negative climate and environment related impacts of energy generation and use.

13. An indicative Roadmap will outline possible actions with a view to increase the provision of modern, secure, competitive and sustainable energy services to the Rwandan population and enterprises, with a provisional timeline for implementation. This Roadmap will as well aim at

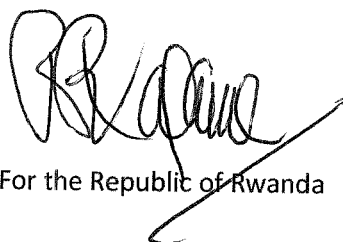
mutually strengthening the individual efforts of the different partners, bearing on the existing programming exercise in the national, regional and thematic allocations.

This Declaration does not, nor is it intended to, create any binding, legal or financial obligations on either side under domestic or international law.

Signed on 23 September 2014 in New York

A stylized, handwritten signature consisting of a single continuous line that forms a large, open 'C' shape with a small vertical stroke at the top left.

On behalf of the European Union

A complex, handwritten signature with multiple loops and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the bottom.

For the Republic of Rwanda

*Done in two original copies – Each signatory retains one copy*