

Joint declaration between the European Union, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,
the Kingdom of Spain, the Portuguese Republic, the Republic of Austria
and the Republic of Cape Verde on reinforced cooperation in the field of sustainable
energy

1. Acknowledging that energy has been identified by Cape Verde as a fundamental tool for the promotion of technological advancement and social welfare.
2. Welcoming the development by Cape Verde of an ambitious national energy policy that intends to provide energy access to 100% of the population by 2015, and attain a 50% penetration of renewable energy by 2020 with the ultimate goal of ensuring 100% penetration, in order to achieve self-sufficiency, reduced vulnerability and sustainable environmental development, as reflected in the ambitious official strategic energy plan document "*Renewable Energy Plan*" of 2011 and recent studies results.
3. Noting that this strategy is in line with the objectives of Sustainable Energy for All of i) ensuring universal access to modern energy services, ii) doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency and iii) doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, 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 the fight against energy poverty 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. Building on the support already provided by the European Union, the European Member States (Austria, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain and Portugal), and other partners in the energy field such as the European Investment Bank, the African Development Bank, the United Nations, the Japanese Cooperation, the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.
6. Exercising leadership in promoting regional integration and cooperation on renewable energy and energy efficiency as headquarter of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, established in 2010 in Praia, Cape Verde, with the support of the ECOWAS Commission and by seed money and expertise made available by the Austrian and Spanish Governments, as well as technical assistance from UNIDO.

7. Taking into account the complementarity of the actions of the EU and its Member States in using limited public sector funds to leverage 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 with the Republic of Cape Verde will create the necessary framework conditions for increased investment, will avoid duplication, dispersion of funding and can leverage individual efforts.
9. Confident that this 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 contribute to promoting peace and security by avoiding the marginalization and exclusion of the majority of the population, it will revitalize the economy by maximizing economic, financial, social and environmental benefits, help promote sustainable industrial development and contribute to increased resilience to crises and disasters.
10. Recognizing and building upon previous and existing cooperation within the national and regional context.
11. All signatories will take steps towards the improved organization of a sector dialogue on energy, together with the other donors in the energy sector.
12. The EU will endeavour to:
 - a. Provide technical assistance to Cape Verde to refine its policies, promote and prepare relevant projects and provide the technical knowledge transfer between EU and Cape Verde.
 - b. Help to identify and bring forward potential energy projects that could be financed with the assistance of the donor community in order to increase the access of the population to modern energy services.
 - c. Assist in the development of a comprehensive master plan for energy supply in rural areas that can help to identify projects to increase off-grid access and the development of mini-grids in all inhabited islands.
 - d. Promote the mobilization of the private sector and civil society in the field of energy i.a. through the organisation of business fora to inform and attract the private sector and financing institutions towards sustainable energy investments in Cape Verde.

13. The Government of Cape Verde will endeavour to:

- a. Actively participate in the sector dialogue and the program steering on energy ensuring transparency of information related to funding and project preparation in the sector.
- b. To overcome sector related difficulties by prioritising implementation of legislative and regulatory reforms and establishing an appropriate environment enabling private sector investment in the energy sector while encouraging phasing out of subsidies and supporting economically viable business models.
- c. To 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.
- d. To foster regional cooperation regarding the provision of efficient, reliable and competitive energy sources to all ECOWAS Member States through the common exploitation of traditional and alternative energy sources, thereby serving as a model for the creation of networks of regional renewable energy and energy efficiency centres.

14. An indicative Roadmap will outline possible actions with a view to increase the provision of modern, secure, competitive and sustainable energy services to the Cape Verdean 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.

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



On behalf of the European Union



For the Republic of Cape Verde



For the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



For the Kingdom of Spain



For the Portuguese Republic



For the Republic of Austria

Done in six original copies – each signatory retains one copy