

Joint declaration between the European Union, the Kingdom of Norway and the
Republic of Liberia on reinforced cooperation in the field of sustainable energy

1. Acknowledging that energy has been identified by Liberia as a fundamental tool for the promotion of technological advancement and social welfare.
2. Welcoming the development by Liberia of an ambitious Poverty Reduction Strategy – the Agenda for Transformation and Liberia Rising 2030 - that in the energy sector intends to provide energy access to a significant part of the population by 2030.
3. Taking advantage of the large untapped potential for deployment of renewable energy resources like hydropower, biomass and solar power in Liberia.
4. Noting that this strategy is complementary with the objectives of the joint UN-World Bank Sustainable Energy for All initiative but taking into account that the roll-out of this ambitious cooperation strategy will require broad efforts in terms of means and capacity.
5. Considering that the EU's 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.
6. Considering the EU's political support to the Liberian energy objectives for the period 2014-2020.
7. Building on the National Energy Policy approved by the Government of Liberia in 2009 aiming to ensure universal access to modern energy in an affordable, sustainable and environmentally friendly manner in order to foster the economic, political and social development of Liberia.
8. Taking into account the complementarity of the actions of the EU, Norway and other donors in using limited public sector funds to leverage more significant amounts of private financing, and to put the right sustainable technologies to the benefit of as many citizens as possible.
9. Recognising that reinforced cooperation with the Government of Liberia will create the necessary framework conditions for increased investment, will avoid duplication and dispersion of funding and can leverage individual efforts.
10. 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 promoting the inclusion of as many portions of the Liberian population as possible, it will revitalize the economy by maximizing economic, financial, social and environmental benefits, and will contribute to increased resilience to crises and disasters.

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

12. The EU intends to:

- a. Continue the sector dialogue on energy, which it has led since end of 2012, together with Norway and other donors in the energy sector.
- b. Provide technical assistance to Liberia to refine its policies, promote and prepare relevant projects and provide the technical knowledge transfer between EU and Liberia.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.
- e. 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 Liberia.

13. The Government of Norway intends to:

- a. Continue its broad bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, supporting both generation of renewable energy, distribution and capacity building.
- b. In addition to general support to the World Bank and African Development Bank support to concrete multilateral energy related initiatives in Liberia including Energy+/Scaling-up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) and Energizing Development (EnDev).
- c. Focus both on increasing access to modern energy services for the poor and on creating an enabling environment for socioeconomic development, through sector dialogue and donor coordination.

14. The Government of Liberia intends to:

- a. Constructively engage with partners in sector dialogue and its steering of the implementation of energy programs, and facilitate frank and open exchange of information related to funding and project preparation in the sector.
- b. Continue accelerating its ongoing efforts to prioritize implementation of legislative and regulatory reforms aimed at establishing an appropriate environment enabling private

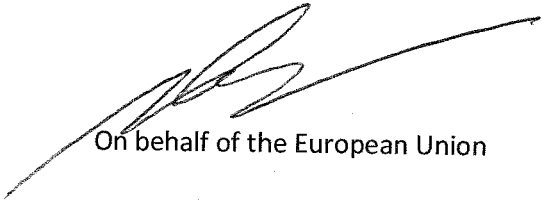
sector investment in the energy sector and supporting economically viable business models.

- c. 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.
15. An indicative Roadmap between the EU and Liberia will outline planned and possible actions with a view to increase the provision of modern, secure, competitive and sustainable energy services to the Liberian population and enterprises. This Roadmap, open to all partners, will aim at mutually strengthening the individual efforts of the different partners, bearing on the existing programming exercise in the national, regional and thematic allocations.
16. The attached Memorandum of Understanding between the Republic of Liberia and the Kingdom of Norway on "Cooperation aimed to increase access to sustainable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions" describes how Norway, through the International Energy and Climate Initiative – Energy+, intends to support implementation of renewable energy and energy efficiency based on a national comprehensive energy and climate plan. The basic Energy+ principles are: Sectoral approach, payment by results, and development of results-based policy measures to enable a better environment to leverage private and commercial investments.

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 Liberia



For the Kingdom of Norway

Done in three original copies – Each signatory retains one copy