

**Joint declaration between the European Union, the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the United Kingdom and the Republic of Nigeria on reinforced cooperation in the field of sustainable energy**

1. Considering that, in a logic of combining both Climate and Development concerns, the legitimate demand to substantially increase both access to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Sub-Saharan Africa has been identified as one of the major issues of Paris COP 21 Climate Summit 2015;
2. Acknowledging that expanding access to reliable supplies of electricity has been identified by the Republic of Nigeria in the Government's reform programme as a priority and a fundamental objective in the promotion of economic and social development, particularly for the disadvantaged population in rural areas;
3. Building on Nigeria's 2005 Electricity Sector Reform Act (EPSR), which was based on the 2001 National Electric Power Policy and sought to privatise the sector through market-oriented policies, as well as the Electricity Sector Roadmap which sets an ambitious agenda to increase generation capacity from the current 12,000 MW to about 30,000 MW by 2020;
4. Welcoming the Government of Nigeria's 2015 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy, an ambitious national development policy that intends to scale up access to modern, affordable and sustainable energy services;
5. Noting that this strategy is in line with the objectives of Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL)<sup>1</sup> and acknowledging the significant challenge to scale up access to modern, affordable and sustainable energy services to reach a large majority of the population in Nigeria;
6. Considering that the Commission communication "Agenda for Change"<sup>2</sup>, endorsed by Council conclusions of 14/05/2012, calls on the European Union to assist partner countries in poverty reduction and to accompany them on a path to sustainable growth, namely through clean energy supply;
7. Considering that the European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom already provide considerable support to the development of the electricity sector in Nigeria through substantial technical assistance, concessional loans and grants, and that the European Commission has allocated a financial contribution of EUR 150 million in support of Nigeria's energy programs for the period 2014-2020, in addition to the contribution to the sector by other European donors;

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/sustainableenergyforall/home/Initiative>

<sup>2</sup> COM/2011/637 final

8. Taking into account the complementarity of the actions of the European Union and its Member States with those of other partners and the need to use limited public sector funds to leverage further significant amounts of financing as well as to promote partnerships to avoid duplication and dispersion of funding;
9. Confident that an enhanced co-operation between the Republic of Nigeria, the European Union, the French Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Italian Republic, the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom can accelerate the achievement of national objectives for the electricity sector, substantially increasing access to sustainable energy, achieving reliable and cost effective electricity generation and helping to supply affordable and modern energy services to the population, while improving the efficiency of energy infrastructure and use;
10. Acknowledging that the West African Power Pool (WAPP) will benefit from better governance, regulations and infrastructure in the Nigerian electricity and gas sectors, and regional interconnection of electricity markets will increase efficiency of national systems;
11. Considering the potential for mutually beneficial commercial ties leading to an increase in investment and technological upgrading in the sector;
12. The European Union and other signatories (DE, ES, FR, IT, UK) intend to:
  - a. Contribute to an improved sector dialogue on energy together with all relevant actors in the energy sector across the whole value chain (from research and innovation to market access)
  - b. Provide technical assistance to the Government of Nigeria in order to implement the broad energy sector reform agenda, establish a conducive environment for investments in clean and innovative energy technologies by fine-tuning the regulatory framework, develop structured support schemes and facilitate the technical knowledge sharing with Nigeria
  - c. Help to identify and bring forward potential, possibly innovative, electricity projects that could be financed with the assistance of the Development Partners in order to increase access to modern and sustainable energy services, improve electricity transmission and distribution, develop on/off-grid renewables' solutions, implement energy efficiency measures and foster regional integration of power markets
  - d. Support the development, promotion and the mobilisation of the private sector and civil society in the field of energy through the organisation of business fora, technical assistance programmes and other strategic capacity building activities to inform and attract the EU and Nigerian private sector and financing institutions towards sustainable energy investments in Nigeria
  - e. Support the Government of Nigeria in achieving sustainable energy development goals by including capacity building where clear capacity constraints are present.

13. The Government of Nigeria intends to:

- a. Provide a legal and regulatory environment that contributes to the development of a financially viable, sustainable and modern energy sector
- b. Establish an efficient framework to channel government and donor financing to support the development of on/off grid renewable energy projects and access to sustainable energy especially in rural areas
- c. Promote private sector investment and engagement in the sector, by supporting economically viable business models
- d. Encourage investments in large scale renewables and the use of sustainable energy technologies and solutions
- e. Lead, coordinate sector dialogue and share information relating to the progress of energy sector reforms as well as funding and project preparation in the sector
- f. Promote the highest standards of transparency and governance in all areas of energy production, transport and distribution, in both publically and privately owned companies
- g. 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.

14. The recently prepared SE4All Action Agenda and other programming documents committing other Donors will constitute an indicative Roadmap for this reinforced cooperation, outlining possible actions with a view to increase the provision of modern, competitive and sustainable energy services to the Nigerian population and businesses, with a provisional timeline for implementation.

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 7 December, 2015

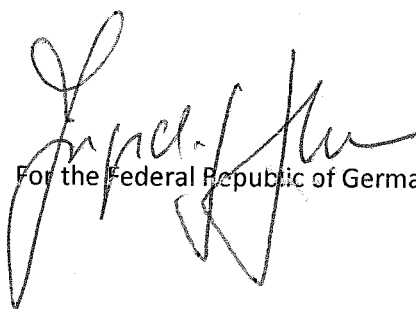
in Paris



On behalf of the European Union



For the Republic of Nigeria



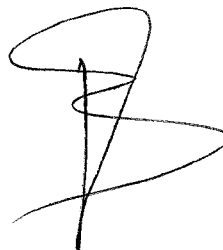
For the Federal Republic of Germany



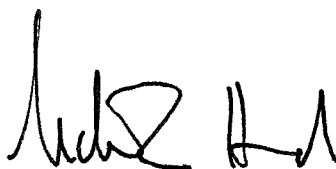
For the French Republic



For the Italian Republic



For the Kingdom of Spain



For the United Kingdom

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