EU-INDIA JOINT STATEMENT ON
CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

New Delhi, 6 October 2017

1. The EU and India consider climate action and the clean energy transition as an imperative for the future development of our societies. They confirm their commitments under the historic Paris Agreement, adopted under the UNFCCC, and recognise that the Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. They agree to step up co-operation to enhance its implementation and meet its ambitious goals. Climate change is exerting increasing stress on people, ecosystems and infrastructure and calls for a decisive response.

2. The EU and India are committed to lead and work together with all stakeholders to combat climate change, implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and encourage global low greenhouse gas emissions, climate resilient and sustainable development. They underline their resolve to combat climate change and promote the global clean and low greenhouse gas emission energy transition, towards sustainable, affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

3. The EU and India welcome the progress on the Clean Energy and Climate Partnership and reiterate their commitment to its implementation, in accordance with the work programme agreed in October 2016.

Climate Action and the Paris Agreement

4. The EU and India underline their highest political commitment to the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC in all its aspects, including, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of actions and support. Stepping up action will provide both sides with significant opportunities for modernising our economies, enhancing competitiveness, and ensuring socio-economic benefits of increased clean energy access.

5. The EU and India welcome the rapid signature and entry into force of the Paris Agreement, as a testimony of the international community’s unwavering determination to confront this common challenge and as a clear signal to industry and investors, as confirmed by the Marrakech Action Proclamation for our Climate and Sustainable Development, adopted at the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 22) in November 2016.

6. The EU and India are determined to ensure the effective implementation of their respective nationally determined contributions (NDCs). We call on all Parties to uphold the Paris Agreement, to implement their NDCs and to strengthen efforts over time, in accordance with the purpose and provisions of the Agreement.
7. The EU and India will work with other Parties to achieve, at the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 24) in Poland in 2018, a successful and meaningful outcome under the agreed work programme to prepare for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

8. The EU remains committed to the goal of developed countries to jointly mobilise USD 100 billion annually by 2020, from a wide variety of sources, and urges other developed country Parties to contribute to this collective goal.

9. The EU and India emphasise the urgency of accelerating the implementation of pre-2020 commitments including the ratification of second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol, and mobilization of means of implementation for developing countries and actions to build mutual trust amongst Parties.

10. The EU and India welcome their respective domestic policies for the clean energy transition, including the EU Energy Union’s Framework Strategy and 2030 climate and energy targets and India’s ambitious renewable targets as well as policies to develop an electricity system which can reliably integrate large shares of renewable energy.

Collaborating in Other Multilateral Fora

11. The EU and India welcome the adoption of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol for phasedown of HFCs and look forward to its rapid, universal ratification. The Kigali Amendment is a reaffirmation of the global intent to mitigate climate change and exemplifies international co-operation in this regard. The EU and India will facilitate a smooth transition to environment-friendly alternatives used in heating, refrigeration and air conditioning systems.

12. The EU and India reiterate their commitment to co-operation and co-ordination in international fora and organisations in the area of energy, such as the International Energy Agency, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the G20.

13. The EU and India recognise the global dimension of technological and scientific collaboration, underlining the benefit of multilateral cooperation. They reaffirm their cooperation in the frame of the Clean Energy Ministerial and, will explore possible pathways to enhance their cooperation in the frame of Mission Innovation and ISA, in particular regarding its aim to accelerate the clean energy transition.

14. The EU and India are committed to jointly further the objectives of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), including through synergies with other international initiatives to promote renewable energy, as in the frame of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and will explore concrete activities on arranging affordable finance, training activities and disseminating best practices for solar deployment as well as on de-risking finance.

Bilateral cooperation
15. The EU and India are confident that their collaboration on climate change and clean energy will become a main pillar of their bilateral partnership, including in their economic relations. In particular, the EU and India will further strengthen their bilateral cooperation in the following areas:

a. The EU and India will intensify their cooperation in the frame of International Solar Alliance, including through concrete activities on training, arranging affordable finance, and disseminating best practices for solar deployment as well as on de-risking finance. They will facilitate strong business-to-business interaction on clean energy and climate.

b. Both sides endeavour to establish an India-EU climate change dialogue, to support the dialogue by working groups and events on areas of mutual interest and to further the objectives of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

c. The EU and India agree to cooperate on the formulation of mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies through regular technical dialogues including mitigation and adaptation solutions, capacity-building and climate legislation.

d. The EU and India agree to cooperate on increased energy efficiency of products and industrial processes, as well as on further develop their existing cooperation on energy efficiency in buildings.

e. Building further on the existing cooperation regarding solar parks and smart grid demonstrations, the EU and India will further cooperate on the smart integration of renewable energy in the electricity system, including the enabling policy and regulatory aspects.

f. The EU and India are committed to continue their cooperation in view of the cost-effective development of offshore wind in India, including by involving the European Investment Bank in mobilising finance with adequate provisions for risk mitigation, and technical assistance for development and deployment of offshore wind.

g. The EU and India will step up their dialogue on low-carbon energy security in the frame of the meetings of the EU – India Joint Working Group on Energy Security.

h. Recognising that cities and towns are key actors in the fight to mitigate climate change and adapt to it, the EU and India express their willingness to reinforce cooperation on low-greenhouse gas emissions cities’ development in the framework of the Global Covenant of Mayors, where appropriate, and through the development of more city pairings between Indian and European cities, with a strong focus on sustainable urbanisation, including pathways towards low-emission mobility.

i. The EU and India furthermore intend to step up cooperation in areas of mutual importance to the clean energy transition, including:
i. The implementation of climate action commitments
ii. Green cooling and sustainable refrigeration technologies
iii. Grid integrated Solar Pumping
iv. Off shore wind
v. Energy storage technologies
vi. Next generation solar cell
vii. Electric mobility
viii. Advanced biofuels