

**LETTER OF INTENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY FOR THE ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION, BIODIVERSITY, AND
INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE AND NATURE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE FRENCH
REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT**

The Ministry for the Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, and International Climate and Nature Negotiations of the French Republic (“MTE”) and the Government of the State of California of the United States of America (“California”), hereinafter referred to as “the Participants,” declare as follows:

RECOGNIZING the devastating local impacts caused by climate change, including catastrophic wildfires and flooding, increased frequency of extreme heat and drought, and the spreading of pests and diseases, that threaten our residents, economies, businesses, and public health;

RECOGNIZING the imperative for climate action to provide economic and human health benefits to communities;

RECOGNIZING the progress achieved on sustainable development through the previous fruitful cooperation between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the State of California, notably under the Joint Declaration signed on December 7, 2015, and the benefits of continuing such cooperation;

WHEREAS France and California face similar environmental challenges from the impact of climate change, including drought, flooding, wildfire, heat waves, and coastal erosion;

WHEREAS France is committed to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including Target 3, conserving 30% of its lands and coastal waters by 2030 for the benefit of biodiversity, and California has an executive order and legislated target to also achieve the 30% target by 2030;

WHEREAS France is legally bound to reach carbon neutrality by 2050, and California has a legislated target to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible and no later than 2045;

Therefore, the Participants have reached the following understanding:

SECTION I Objective

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to establish a flexible framework between the Participants in order to permit them to collaborate in the fields of climate action and environmental protection. In doing so, the Participants share the following common objectives:

- a) Exchange information and best practices regarding climate action and environmental protection policies;
- b) Promote exchanges between the public and private sectors to stimulate innovation, support research exchange and partnership, deepen trade and commercial ties, and promote economic development.

SECTION II Areas of Cooperation

The Participants intend to collaborate in the fields of climate action and environmental protection through initiatives focused particularly on, but not limited to, the following areas of cooperation:

- a) Climate change mitigation, and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including short-lived climate pollutants such as methane and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs);
- b) Clean energy, including the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on energy demand and using AI to promote the modernization of electric grids;
- c) Climate change adaptation, including the prevention and mitigation of wildfires and heat related illnesses;
- d) Transportation decarbonization, including high-speed rail;
- e) Building energy efficiency;

- f) Nature-based climate solutions, including sustainable pest management and efforts to conserve biodiversity such as the 30x30 commitment;
- g) Climate-smart agriculture and agricultural technology;
- h) Circular economy; and
- i) Air quality.

SECTION III Coordination

The Participants respectively designate the Directorate for European and International Action of the MTE General Secretariat and the California Environmental Protection Agency to establish the creation of an action plan to implement the objectives of this Letter of Intent.

SECTION IV Specific Activities

Specific activities to achieve the objectives of this Letter of Intent for the key sectors and initiatives identified in Section II may include:

- a) Conducting dialogues regarding best practices and policies for climate action and environmental protection;
- b) Facilitating exchanges between Réseau de Transport d'Électricité, the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the California Independent System Operator;
- c) Facilitating exchanges on clean transportation, including high-speed rail;
- d) Facilitating exchanges between the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development and the Consulate General of France in San Francisco to support engagement on research, innovation, trade, and commercial ties; and

- e) Facilitating public-private partnerships between government and commercial entities to drive innovation and help implement solutions in climate action and environmental protection, including clean energy and related technologies.

SECTION V

Points of Contact

The Directorate for European and International Action of the MTE General Secretariat and the California Environmental Protection Agency will also serve as the respective contact points for communication and information exchange, as well as any notice submitted under this Letter of Intent.

Directorate for European and International Action of the MTE General Secretariat:
Mr. Michaël MASTIER, director, any successors or designees

California Environmental Protection Agency: Deputy Secretary of Climate Policy Sarah Izant, or any successors or designees

SECTION VI

No Legal Obligations, Rights, or Remedies

This Letter of Intent is a voluntary initiative. It does not create any legally binding rights or obligations and creates no legally cognizable or enforceable rights or remedies, legal or equitable, in any forum whatsoever. In addition, the commitments in this Letter of Intent are not conditioned upon reciprocal actions by other Participants; each Participant retains full discretion over implementation of its commitments in light of the Participant's individual circumstances, laws, and policies; and each Participant is free to terminate the Letter of Intent.

SECTION VII

Availability of Personnel and Resources

This Letter of Intent does not involve the exchange of funds, nor does it represent any obligation of funds by either Participant. All costs that may arise from activities covered by, mentioned in, or pursuant to this Letter of Intent will be assumed by the Participant that incurs them, unless otherwise expressly stated in a future written arrangement in

accordance with applicable laws. All activities undertaken pursuant to this Letter of Intent are subject to the availability of funds, personnel and other resources of each Participant.

The personnel designated by a Participant for the execution of this Letter of Intent will work under the orders and responsibility of that Participant and any other organization or institution to which the personnel already belongs, at all times maintaining any preexisting employment relationship only with that Participant and organization or institution, and not with any other Participant.

SECTION VIII

Compliance with Applicable Laws

This Letter of Intent will be construed consistent with all applicable laws, and activities undertaken in connection with this Letter of Intent will be subject to, and will be undertaken in a manner consistent with, all otherwise-applicable laws.

SECTION IX

Interpretation and Application

Any difference that may arise in relation to the interpretation or application of this Letter of Intent will be resolved through consultations between the Participants, which will endeavor in good faith to resolve such differences.

SECTION X

Final Provisions

This Letter of Intent is effective from the date of its signature, for a five-year period, unless renewed or extended by the Participants in the same manner that the Participants may otherwise modify this Letter of Intent.

This Letter of Intent may be modified at any time by mutual consent of the Participants. Any modification will be made in writing and specify the date on which such modification is to become effective.

Any of the Participants may, at any time, terminate this Letter of Intent by providing written notice to the other Participant(s). A Participant that intends to terminate this Letter of Intent

will endeavor to provide notice of such termination to other Participants 30 days in advance.

The termination of this Letter of Intent will not affect when activities initiated while this Letter of Intent is in effect will conclude, unless a Participant expressly states otherwise. A Participant that intends to terminate a previously initiated activity will endeavor to reach an understanding with the other Participant concerning such termination.

Signed in San Francisco on October 8, 2026, in two original copies in English and French, both versions being equally valid.

**FOR THE MINISTRY FOR THE
ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION,
BIODIVERSITY,
AND INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE
AND NATURE NEGOTIATIONS
OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Monique Barbut
Minister**

**Gavin Newsom
Governor**