MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Government of the Portuguese Republic ("Portuguese Republic") and the Government of the State of California of the United States of America ("California"), hereinafter referred to as "the Participants," declare as follows:

WHEREAS the Portuguese Republic and the State of California share strong historical and cultural ties; agricultural and environmental similarities; common geographic and climatological characteristics; and a commitment to economic prosperity, scientific and technological advancement, and energy and climate goals;

WHEREAS the Participants recognize that climate change presents worldwide challenges and risks to the environment and economic prosperity; impacting human health, increasing extreme weather events and wildfires, and threatening natural resources of the affected territories;

WHEREAS climate change threatens every nation and, for the sake of our collective future health and wellbeing, must be addressed at all levels of government through urgent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and preparation for climate impacts;

WHEREAS climate change is expected to increase the frequency and magnitude of water scarcity and drought hazard;

WHEREAS the implementation of sustainable development initiatives related to low-carbon, clean energy generation and management; climate-smart agriculture and land use; sustainable pest management; climate resiliency; and blue/ocean economy measures have the potential to increase economic, environmental, public health, and job creation potential;

WHEREAS the Participants will identify areas of cooperation related to prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery from disasters through mutual exchange among scientific and technical experts;

WHEREAS cooperation between the Participants plays a fundamental role in fostering collaboration among the public and private sectors and civil society to prevent, prepare, respond, mitigate, and recover from disasters; and,

WHEREAS this joint partnership between the Portuguese Republic and California may provide a broad framework for cooperation and support between the Participants in reducing vulnerabilities and increasing resilience to climate change and wildfire threats

and builds on a solid foundation that enhances initiatives in wildfire management and prevention, and fire and resource assessment.

Therefore, the Participants have reached the following understanding:

SECTION I
Objective

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a flexible framework between the Participants in order to permit them to develop mutually beneficial partnerships in the fields of low-carbon, clean energy development; policies and practices for the decarbonization of agriculture, industry, and land-use; climate change adaptation and mitigation; zero emission mobility and transportation; emergency response and management; wildfire management and prevention; sustainable blue/ocean economy, cybersecurity; scientific and technological advancement; and, trade, investment and economic development. In doing so, the Participants share the following common objectives:

a) Accelerating the transition to clean, renewable, carbon-free energy sources;

b) Sharing best practices, policies, and information about technologies to achieve rapid decarbonization across multiple sectors of the economy – including energy, transportation, industry, agriculture, and the built environment;

c) Encouraging and promoting technical bilateral cooperation in sustainable water management practices in agricultural and urban settings, including more efficient use and the development of healthy soils;

d) Identifying and promoting joint opportunities for technical exchange, training, and sharing best practices related to extreme weather events;

e) Promoting cooperation on blue/ocean economy through technical meetings and sharing best practices to identify economic opportunities.

f) Enhancing and promoting wildfire prevention and wildland-urban interface awareness to at-risk populations, according to available economic and technical resources, including through the use of high-resolution Earth observation data;

g) Improving capacity to enhance wildfire prevention, response, and recovery efforts in coordination with the relevant authorities of each Participant;

h) Promoting the organization of trade and investment missions by sector, supporting business-to-business engagement, and identifying economic development opportunities between the Participants; and

i) Engaging in mutually beneficial economic, commercial, and innovation activities through increased business, research, and academic cooperation that strengthens the reliability of the trading relationship between the Participants.

SECTION II
Areas of Cooperation

The Participants intend to develop mutually beneficial partnerships through initiatives focused particularly on, but not limited to, the following areas of cooperation:

a) Low-carbon, clean energy development;

b) Policies and practices for the decarbonization of agriculture, industry, and land-use;

c) Climate change adaptation and mitigation, including extreme heat resilience;

d) Sustainable blue ocean economy;

e) Zero-emission mobility and transportation;

f) Emergency response and management;

g) Wildfire management and prevention;

h) Cybersecurity;

i) Scientific and technological advancement;

j) Trade, investment, and economic development; and

k) Educational innovation and curriculum development

SECTION III
Coordination

The Participants respectively designate the Consulate General of Portugal in San Francisco and the California Environmental Protection Agency to establish the creation of an action plan to implement the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding.

For each area of cooperation and specific activities outlined below, specific main points of contact within the relevant authority, entities, and/or stakeholder will be identified in the

action plan to help facilitate communication and information exchange. The action plan could include cooperative actions, projects, studies, research, match- making, and joint ventures, depending on funding to be identified outside this Memorandum of Understanding. The organizations will endeavor to meet at least once a year to develop and review the action plan.

SECTION IV
Specific Activities

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

1. Clean Energy

a) Sharing information, policies, practices, and information about technologies related to increasing energy efficiency and the decarbonization of new and existing buildings, appliances, and industrial processes;

b) Sharing information about and expertise on renewable energy policy, including offshore wind energy development;

c) Engaging in policy and technical exchanges to explore increased energy reliability, flexibility, demand-response technologies, distributed energy resources, and grid connections;

d) Sharing information related to clean energy technical development, including the use of electrofuels, energy storage technologies, and microgrids;

e) Identifying opportunities for information sharing in the prospecting and exploration of lithium mineral reserves and the safe and effective handling and recycling of existing lithium;

f) Promoting exchanges and cooperation in the area of smart, clean, and grid-responsive energy cities;

g) Identifying opportunities to develop joint projects in renewable energies, battery technology, battery recycling, and networks management;

h) Identifying industry-led solutions on workforce and port development requirements/management issues to promote environmentally appropriate offshore wind activity;

2. **Natural Resources, Agriculture, Climate, and Environment**

   a) Promoting exchanges on best practices and policies regarding circular economy and decarbonization;

   b) Exchanging technical expertise related to more efficient and sustainable water use in economic activities, including a focus on the water-energy nexus and water-wise agricultural practices;

   c) Promoting the secure, sustainable, and resilient management of water resources, including agricultural and urban water conservation, thus minimizing the impacts of water stress on people and the environment;

   d) Encouraging cooperation in the acquisition, integration, and processing of multiple sources of data (in-situ and earth observation satellite data) for sustainable water management for agriculture irrigation, precision agriculture, and agriculture inventory;

   e) Promoting cooperation and the exchange of information on sustainable agriculture, sustainable pest management, and climate adaptation for farmers and ranchers;

   f) Engaging in a community of practice for extreme heat warning systems by sharing research, messaging, information about technology, policies, and other information relevant to the development of these systems.

3. **Goods Movement and Zero Emission Transportation**

   a) Supporting the adoption of zero-emission vehicles and charging infrastructure, including mid- and heavy-duty vehicles, maritime transportation, and rail;

   b) Encouraging cooperation and information exchange on decarbonizing port operations;

   c) Promoting the Transport Decarbonization Alliance as a forum to accelerate the worldwide transformation of the transport sector towards a net-zero emission mobility system before 2050;

   d) Promoting cooperation and the exchange of information on sustainable mobility, namely urban sustainable mobility;

4. **Emergency and Disaster Risk Management and Response**

   a) Promoting partnership and cooperation to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience due to climate change;

b) Improving efficiency and capabilities within emergency management by sharing best practices, expertise, trainings, and research in emergency and disaster risk management;

c) Encouraging opportunities for joint trainings and exercises of mutual interest in emergency and disaster risk management to develop expeditious communication and coordinated strategies during disasters;

d) Encouraging the exploration, development, and promotion of future activities and collaborations in emergency and disaster risk management;

e) Enhancing and promoting safety and preparedness awareness to at-risk populations by sharing best practices, collaborations, and training opportunities;

5. Wildfire Prevention, Response, Suppression, Research, Analysis, and Monitoring

a) Sharing best practices, communication strategies, research, and training opportunities in California and Portugal that enhance and promote wildfire prevention and wildland-urban interface awareness to at-risk populations;

b) Sharing advances in training materials and opportunities, technical expertise, information about geographic information systems and communication strategies, and simulations in all phases of wildfire protection and management, including projects in the area of community risk and hazard assessment, and exchange programs, including the preparation of community-level wildfire protection plans;

c) Sharing best practices, expertise, and technical assistance to improve the capacity in all areas of wildfire suppression, including Incident Command System operations, to enhance response and recovery efforts in coordination with the relevant authorities of each territory;

d) Sharing best practices, expertise, training material, and opportunities to improve wildfire prevention and reduce wildfire ignitions through wildfire cause investigations, public education, community preparedness, information programs, fire suppression cost recovery, as well as effective regulations;

e) Sharing and exploring innovations in fuel management methods, including policy developments, and best practices on prescribed burning, pre-fire management, data collection and analysis, and tools and equipment, to mitigate and lessen effects of increased wildfires due to climate change, enhance community and ecosystem resilience to climate impacts, and improve the coordination of resources;

f) Sharing and collaborating on sustainable forest management and wood utilization techniques that enhance and contribute to long-term climate benefits;

g) Promoting cooperation in utilizing Earth observation satellite data, such as through the use of the Atlantic Constellation, for creating maps of land cover, soil occupation, and fire risks and in utilizing new satellite-based and in-situ data, data-driven carbon mapping, and sustainable land-use monitoring systems to dynamically map fire risk regions and, in particular, forest structures, vegetation fuel loads at the individual tree level, and carbon stock and sequestration levels;

6. Cybersecurity

a) Encouraging the opportunity for collaboration and initiatives of mutual interest, including exchanges of experts, open-source information, and best practices in cybersecurity;

b) Working together to strengthen cybersecurity cooperation to increase cyber resilience, promote responsible government behavior in cyberspace, and counter malicious cyber activity;

7. Trade, Investment, and Economic Development

a) Providing support and encouragement for economic and trade cooperation in the areas of renewable energy development, zero-emission transportation, clean technologies, and innovation;

b) Promoting the organization of mutually beneficial and industry-oriented trade and investment missions, business matchmaking activities, commercial exchanges, government delegations, conferences, and other activities;

c) Exchanging ideas and knowledge on how to stimulate innovation and facilitate entrepreneurship in the renewable energy and clean tech sectors, including innovative financing mechanisms and workforce development;

d) Collaborating and promoting partnerships in the field of emerging technologies.

e) Exchanging innovative financing mechanisms and structures that engage private capital in the broad scale deployment of these transformative efforts; and

f) Encouraging public and private sector dialogue on best practices and approaches to sustainable tourism;

SECTION V
Points of Contact

The Consulate-General of Portugal in San Francisco and the California Environmental Protection Agency of the State of California will serve as the respective contact point for communication and information exchange, as well as any notice under this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Portuguese Republic:
Consul-General of Portugal in San Francisco, or their designee

The State of California:
Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy at the California Environmental Protection Agency, or their designee

SECTION VI
No Legal Obligations, Rights, or Remedies

This Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum.

SECTION VII
Availability of Personnel and Resources

This Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding will be construed consistently with all applicable laws, and activities undertaken in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved through consultations between the Participants, which will endeavor in good faith to resolve such differences.

SECTION X
Final Provisions

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

This Memorandum of Understanding 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 Memorandum of Understanding by providing a written notice to the other Participant. A Participant that intends to terminate this MOU will endeavor to provide notice of such termination to the other Participant 60 days in advance.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect when activities initiated while this Memorandum of Understanding 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 Antalya, Türkiye, on November 12, 2026, in two original copies in Portuguese and English both versions being equally valid. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC

João Manuel Esteves

Secretary of State for the Environment

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

Wade Crowfoot

Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency