

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF HAINAN PROVINCE OF
THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The Government of Hainan Province of the People’s Republic of China (“Hainan”) and the Government of the State of California of the United States of America (“California”), hereinafter referred to as “the Participants,” agree as follows;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Hainan and California have expressed intentions to cooperate on climate change, environmental protection, and zero emission vehicle deployment;

WHEREAS Hainan is committed to improving air quality and aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ban the sale of fossil fuel vehicles by 2030, peak carbon emissions by 2030, and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060;

WHEREAS California has committed to targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 85% by 2045, achieve 60% renewable electricity and double energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end-uses by 2030, 100% renewable and zero-carbon electricity by 2045, 100% zero-emission new light duty vehicle sales by 2035, and carbon neutrality by 2045;

WHEREAS the Participants are committed to enhancing actions and policies to further strengthen and coordinate efforts to combat climate change and protect the environment;

CONSIDERING the opportunities for economic growth and the human health co-benefits that accompany the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution;

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 collaborate on protecting the environment, combating climate change and advancing clean energy development. In doing so, the Participants share the following common objectives:

- a) To promote the protection of the natural and built environment and reduce air pollution and carbon emissions;
- b) To combat climate change, advance medium- and long-term low-carbon development and the development and implementation of carbon neutrality plans and improve climate change adaptation strategies;
- c) To advance clean energy research, development and innovation;

- d) To accelerate the deployment of zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and new energy vehicles (NEVs) in both economies and the phase-out of fossil fuel vehicles;
- e) To facilitate cooperation in nature-based carbon solutions and strengthen awareness of nature-based carbon cooperation.

SECTION II Areas of Cooperation

On the basis of the principles of equality and mutual benefit, the Participants intend to cooperate on protecting the environment, combating climate change and advancing clean energy development through initiatives focused particularly on, but not limited to, the following areas of cooperation:

a) Climate Action and Air Quality;

- i. Reducing emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases,
- ii. Reducing air pollution while enabling sustained economic growth,
- iii. Strengthening institutions and governance structures for emissions reductions and air pollution control programs, including compliance and enforcement,
- iv. Carbon neutrality visions and plans,
- v. Research and experience exchange on climate change mitigation and adaptation;

b) Clean Transportation;

- i. Accelerating the deployment of ZEVs and NEVs,
- ii. ZEV/NEV charging and refueling infrastructure for both passenger and commercial vehicles,
- iii. Market development for ZEVs and renewable energy;

c) Clean Energy and Clean Technologies;

- i. Supporting and promoting clean and efficient energy technologies, including applications in energy-intensive industries, agriculture and agricultural processing,
- ii. Advancing renewable and zero-carbon energy, including but not limited to solar, wind and geothermal; technologies that increase energy efficiency, flexibility, reliability and affordability; and energy storage systems, including battery storage and hydrogen storage,
- iii. Accelerating low-carbon development in the construction industry and improving the energy efficiency of commercial and residential community buildings;

d) Nature-Based Climate Solutions

- i. Strengthening academic exchanges and cooperation in nature-based carbon solutions and exploring new ideas, models and formats of nature-based carbon solutions development and cooperation.

SECTION III Coordination

The Participants respectively designate the Hainan Provincial Development and Reform Commission, the Department of Ecology and Environment of Hainan Province, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of Hainan Province, the Department of Industry and Information Technology of Hainan Province, the Department of Education of Hainan Province, the Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Hainan Province, the Department of Transport of Hainan Province, and the Hainan Provincial Administration for Financial Regulation, as well as the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Natural Resources Agency, in coordination with sister agencies such as the California State Transportation Agency, to establish the creation of an action plan to implement the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Participants intend to designate a point of contact (or Secretariat) that will serve as the primary liaison for communication and information exchange, as well as for any notice to be submitted under this Memorandum of Understanding. The joint office of the California-China Climate Institute at the University of California, Berkeley and the China Center for Energy and Transportation at the University of California, Davis and the joint office of the Hainan Foreign Affairs Office and the Department of Ecology and Environment of Hainan Province are designated as points of contact for California and Hainan respectively under this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Participants, by common agreement, may seek the collaboration of third parties, including universities, businesses, and other public and private academic institutions whose activities may contribute to achieving the goals of this Memorandum of Understanding.

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:

- a) Providing mutual advice on emissions reductions and air pollution control programs and policies, including strategies for legal compliance and enforcement;
- b) Sharing information and experiences regarding policies, programs, and incentives to strengthen low carbon development, reduce air pollution and accelerate ZEV/NEV deployment across economic sectors and regions;
- c) Co-organizing policy seminars and informational exchanges on best practices, new technologies and business models for the decarbonization of transport, energy and industry;
- d) Organizing annual meetings focused on carbon neutrality planning, climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- e) Activities that advance exchange and mutual visits among concerned personnel, businesses, universities and academic institutions of the Participants, including but not limited to field visits, meetings and webinars;
- f) Organizing symposia, seminars, workshops, informational exchanges, exhibitions, trainings, and other mutually agreed engagements, as appropriate.

SECTION V
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 pledges in this Memorandum of Understanding are not conditioned upon reciprocal actions by other Participants; each Participant retains full discretion over implementation of its pledges in light of the Participant's individual circumstances, laws, and policies; and each Participant is free to withdraw from the Memorandum.

SECTION VI
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 agreed 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 VII Compliance with Applicable Laws

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed in consistency with all applicable laws, and activities undertaken in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be subject to, and shall be undertaken in a manner consistent with, all otherwise-applicable laws.

SECTION VIII 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, who will endeavor in good faith to resolve such differences.

SECTION IX Final Provisions

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective from the date of its signature for a four-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 shall be made in writing and specify the date on which such modification is to become effective.

Any of the Participants may, at any time, withdraw from this Memorandum of Understanding by providing a written notice to the other Participant(s). A Participant that intends to withdraw from this Memorandum of Understanding shall endeavor to provide notice of such withdrawal to other Participants 30 days in advance.

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

Nothing contained in this Memorandum of Understanding shall limit each Participant's right to enter into similar agreements with other institutions. Any cooperation hereunder shall not affect each Participant's rights and obligations under other international agreements.

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Sacramento on this 3rd day of August, 2023, in two original copies in Chinese and English, both of which are equally valid.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF HAINAN PROVINCE OF
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

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



**Chen Huaiyu
Vice Governor**



**Toks Omishakin
Agency Secretary**