

Joint Declaration between the European Union and Niue on reinforced cooperation in
the field of sustainable energy

1. Acknowledging that energy has been identified by Niue as a fundamental tool for the promotion of economic and technological advancement and social welfare.
2. Welcoming the development by Niue of an Energy Roadmap that intends to provide sustainable energy to a significant part of the population by 2020.
3. Noting that this strategy is in line with the objectives of Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL)¹ and taking into account that the roll-out of this ambitious strategy will require important efforts in terms of means and capacity.
4. Considering that the Agenda for Change² encourages the EU to assist partner countries in poverty reduction and to accompany them on a path to sustainable growth. Key issues addressed in the Agenda for Change include good governance, inclusive and sustainable growth, agriculture, food security, clean energy, and improving resilience to natural disasters and to the consequences of climate change.
5. Considering the EU's intention to allocate a financial contribution of EUR 0.25 million in support of Niue's energy programmes for the period 2014-2020.
6. Building on Niue's Draft Energy Roadmap (2015) and National Energy Action Plan³ (2005).
7. Taking into account the complementarity of EU actions with those of other partners and the need to leverage limited public sector funds to more significant amounts of financing partnerships, and to put the right sustainable technologies to the benefit of as many citizens as possible.
8. Recognising that a reinforced cooperation between Niue and the EU can help to create the necessary framework conditions for increased investment, will avoid duplication and dispersion of funding and can leverage individual efforts.
9. Confident that a reinforced cooperation can accelerate national energy objectives, substantially increase sustainable energy access, achieve reliable and cost effective electricity generation and can help to supply affordable and modern energy services to the population while improving the efficiency of energy infrastructure and use. This effort will revitalise the economy by maximising economic, financial, social and

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

² COM/2011/637 final

³ http://www.preventionweb.net/files/28164_niuenationalenergyactionplan.pdf

environmental benefits, and will contribute to increased resilience to crises and disasters.

10. Recognising and building upon previous and existing cooperation within the national and regional context.
11. Welcoming the progress in establishing the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) under the umbrella of the SE4ALL as a positive step towards supporting countries with these special vulnerabilities.
12. The EU will endeavour to:
 - a. Contribute to an improved sector dialogue on energy together with all relevant actors in the energy sector.
 - b. Provide technical assistance to the Government of Niue to promote and prepare relevant projects and provide the technical knowledge transfer between EU and Niue.
 - c. Help to identify and bring forward potential energy projects that could be financed with the assistance of the development partners in order to increase the access of the population to modern energy services.
 - d. Promote the mobilisation of the private sector and civil society in the field of energy i.e. through the organisation of business fora, industrial attachment programmes, and other strategic capacity building interventions to inform and attract the private sector and financing institutions towards sustainable energy investments in Niue.
 - e. Support the Government of Niue in achieving sustainable energy development goals by considering capacity building where clear capacity constraints are present.

13. The Government of Niue will endeavour to:

- a. Provide a regulatory environment that contributes to the development of a sustainable and modern energy sector.
- b. Lead and coordinate the sector dialogue through programme steering on energy ensuring transparency of information related to funding and project preparation in the sector.
- c. Promote private sector investment and engagement in the sector i.e. by supporting economically viable business models.
- d. 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. An indicative roadmap will outline possible actions with a view to increase the provision of modern, secure, competitive and sustainable energy services to the Niuean population and enterprises, with a provisional timeline for implementation. This roadmap will as well aim at mutually strengthening the individual efforts of the different partners, bearing on the existing programming exercise in the national, regional and thematic allocations.

This Joint 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 8th September 2015 in Papua New Guinea

On behalf of the European Union



For the Government of Niue



Done in two original copies – Each signatory retains one copy