

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
NUCLEAR ENERGY**

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND CLIMATE
POLICY OF THE NETHERLANDS**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENERGY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

December 13, 2023

The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy of the Netherlands

and

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea

(hereinafter referred to as the "Participants")

Recognising the existing friendly relations between their peoples and strong cooperative ties between the two countries;

Recalling the Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the Netherlands signed on 23 November 2022;

Acknowledging the role civil nuclear energy can play in the transition towards a more sustainable, secure and carbon-neutral energy mix and reaching climate neutrality;

Affirming their determination to identify and develop areas of cooperation in which the two countries have shared interests with a view to enhancing mutually beneficial nuclear energy-related cooperation;

Striving to further strengthen cooperation in the field of nuclear energy and industry based upon the principle of reciprocity and balance of interests between the Participants; and

Sharing a commitment to the development and application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

Have reached the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH 1

Objective

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provides a framework for the Participants to strengthen and develop bilateral cooperation between their respective government bodies, enterprises, and research institutions in policies and Research and Development (R&D) activities aimed at the sustainable development of civil nuclear energy. The cooperation will be guided and facilitated by the Participants and delivered by the businesses and other enterprises of the two countries.

PARAGRAPH 2

Areas of Cooperation

1. The Participants express their intention to explore bilateral cooperation on civil nuclear energy in areas including the following:
 - (a) nuclear energy policy developments;
 - (b) construction and operation of nuclear power plants, supply chain development and decommissioning of nuclear facilities;
 - (c) innovation: research and development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and other advanced nuclear technologies, such as Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs);
 - (d) knowledge infrastructure, research, education, training and workforce development in the field of nuclear energy;
 - (e) nuclear fuel and radioactive waste management;
 - (f) safety, radiation, physical protection and environmental protection;
 - (g) enhancing the perception and engagement of the public in nuclear energy;
 - (h) production and application of medical isotopes;
 - (i) private sector involvement; and

- (j) other areas mutually decided upon by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH 3

Forms of Cooperation

1. The Participants understand that cooperation may take the following forms, where appropriate and of mutual interest:
 - a) operating annual Joint Steering Committee meetings to monitor and review the progress made under this MoU;
 - b) operating annual expert-level discussions in accordance with the Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership of 23 November 2022. Specifics including agenda, date and location of the meetings will be determined as mutually decided by the Participants;
 - c) organisation of incoming and outgoing working visits, trade missions, workshops, seminars and other events; and
 - d) co-organising events to enhance public awareness and support for the peaceful use of nuclear energy technology, including through engagement during events organised by multilateral institutions and existing multilateral cooperation frameworks.

2. The Participants may **encourage and promote**, as applicable, the following activities between relevant stakeholders from the nuclear energy ecosystem:
 - a) **Research and Development**
 - i. Exchanges between research and education institutions, such as student exchanges between universities, joint R&D projects and the exchange of publicly available scientific and technical information;
 - ii. exchange of information between operators related to the safety and security of manufacturing, operation, maintenance refurbishment, and decommissioning of nuclear reactors; and
 - iii. further arrangements on specific topics.

b) Business to Business

- i. Deepening industry partnerships through organising innovation and trade missions;
- ii. actively supporting voluntary cooperation between the private sectors of both countries, including small and medium enterprises and individuals; and
- iii. encouraging the participation of companies and individuals of the two countries in seminars and workshops held in the two countries.

PARAGRAPH 4

Implementation and General Provisions

1. This MoU will be implemented within the framework of the domestic laws and regulations of the Participants and will not affect the two countries' respective rights and responsibilities under international or domestic law.

Joint Steering Committee

2. With a view to coordinating the cooperative activities foreseen under this MoU, the Participants will establish a Joint Steering Committee, led by the Director Generals for the nuclear departments or their deputies.
3. Meetings of the Joint Steering Committee will be held annually. Specifics including the agenda, date and location of the meetings will be jointly decided by the Participants.

Confidential Information

4. Each Participant is to treat as confidential information provided by the other Participant in relation to the cooperation under this MoU, to the extent permitted under its national law.
5. The Participants will not divulge to any third parties any confidential or proprietary information received under this MoU, without the other Participant's prior written consent unless required by law.

Financial Arrangements

6. All costs resulting from the cooperation under this MoU are to be borne by the Participant that incurs them, unless otherwise jointly decided by the Participants.

7. The Participants may explore, on a case-by-case basis, options to provide financial and technical resources to support any cooperation pursuant to this MoU.

PARAGRAPH 5

Status

This MoU does not create any legally binding obligations or confer any rights on the Participants under international or domestic law.

PARAGRAPH 6

Resolution of Differences

Any differences arising in relation to the interpretation, application or implementation of this MoU will be resolved amicably through consultations or negotiations between the Participants through diplomatic channels.

PARAGRAPH 7

Commencement, Amendment & Termination

1. This MoU will come into effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years.
2. This MoU may be amended upon the mutual written consent of the Participants.
3. This MoU will remain in effect unless terminated with the mutual written consent of the Participants or by either Participant providing three (3) months' written notice of termination to the other Participant.
4. The termination of this MoU will not affect the validity or duration of any ongoing programs and projects established under this MoU until the completion of such programs and projects, unless the Participants jointly decide otherwise.

Signed in duplicate at the Hague, on the 13th day of December, 2023, in the English language.

**For the Ministry of Economic
Affairs and Climate Policy of the
Netherlands**

**For the Ministry of Trade,
Industry and Energy of the
Republic of Korea**

Micky Adriaansens

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Minister of Economic Affairs and
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Minister for Trade