

Joint Statement of future cooperation on hydrogen and fuel cell technologies among the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI), the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy (ENER) and the Department of Energy of the United States (DOE)

Today, METI, ENER and DOE affirmed their shared desire to strengthen trilateral cooperation on hydrogen and fuel cell technologies.

METI, ENER, and DOE (hereinafter referred to as “the organizations”) share a strong interest in hydrogen and fuel cell technologies which could bring significant benefits to the energy sector, the economy and to the environment. Hydrogen and fuel cells are part of a broad and sustainable energy portfolio and could be a key to opening up opportunities and value in all sectors, from transportation to industry, as well as enabling reliable, clean and affordable electricity.

The organizations have been world leaders in funding hydrogen and fuel cell programs over more than three decades and intend to strengthen their unity to accelerate the development of sustainable hydrogen and fuel cell technologies in the world. The organizations recognize the importance of reducing the cost of hydrogen for its affordability as well as reliability. The organizations strongly believe that their envisaged cooperation can lead to expansion of international collaboration and contribute to scale-up hydrogen in the global economy. While continuing to work with many countries through other international partnerships and collaborations, the organizations believe that they have much to gain from working together.

To this end, the organizations intend to explore how to best initiate and implement, consistent with their energy dialogues, an effective framework for cooperation on hydrogen, possibly through developing a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) in preparation for the 2nd Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting which will be held on September 25th, 2019. The organizations would plan to work together and with other countries, to accelerate progress in hydrogen technologies globally. The envisaged MOC would facilitate the development of concrete actions through cooperation in the following possible areas which are listed in the “Tokyo Statement” that was released as a Chair’s summary at the Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting, held in Tokyo on October 23rd, 2018.

- a. Cooperation on Application of Technologies and Coordination on Harmonization of Regulations, Codes and Standards.
- b. Promotion of Information Sharing, International Joint Research and Development Emphasizing Hydrogen Safety and Infrastructure Supply Chain.
- c. Study and Evaluation of Hydrogen’s Potential across Sectors Including Its Potential for Reducing Both CO₂ Emissions and Other Emissions.
- d. Communication, Education and Outreach