

Note from the Office of Legal Counsel. On 6 April 2020, the Governing Board approved and adopted the Framework for the Technology Collaboration Programme [IEA/GB(2020)11] replacing the 2003 Framework, reproduced below. The Governing Board requested that each TCP Executive Committee amend its Implementing Agreement to incorporate the new Framework at the earliest possible opportunity. In the meantime, the 2003 Framework will continue in force for any TCP that has not yet made the necessary amendments to its Implementing Agreement..

IEA FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CO-OPERATION

Adopted by the IEA Governing Board, 3 April 2003 [IEA/GB(2003)6/REV2, Annex 1].

I. General Principles

Article 1

Mandate

- 1.1 In fulfilment of Chapter VII of the Agreement on an International Energy Program and in light of the Shared Goals of the IEA, the IEA operates Implementing Agreements to enable IEA Member countries to carry out programmes and projects on energy technology research, development and deployment.
- 1.2 An Implementing Agreement is a contractual relationship established by at least two IEA Member countries, and approved by the Governing Board, for the purpose set out in Article 1.1.
- 1.3 Participants in an Implementing Agreement shall contribute as fully as possible to the achievement of its objectives and shall endeavour to secure, through public and private support, the necessary scientific, technical and financial resources for the programmes and projects carried out under such an Implementing Agreement.
- 1.4 Each Implementing Agreement shall have an Executive Committee composed of representatives of all participants.

Article 2

Nature of Implementing Agreements

- 2.1 The activities of an Implementing Agreement may include, *inter alia*:
 - (a) co-ordination and planning of specific energy technology research, development and deployment studies, works or experiments carried out at a national or international level, with subsequent exchange, joint evaluation and pooling of the scientific and technical results acquired through such activities;
 - (b) participation in the operation of special research or pilot facilities and equipment provided by a participant, or the joint design, construction and operation of such facilities and equipment;
 - (c) exchange of information on (i) national programmes and policies, (ii) scientific and technological developments and (iii) energy legislation, regulations and practices;

- (d) exchanges of scientists, technicians or other experts;
 - (e) joint development of energy related technologies; and
 - (f) any other energy technology related activity.
- 2.2 Participation in an Implementing Agreement shall be based on equitable sharing of obligations, contributions, rights and benefits. Participants in an Implementing Agreement shall undertake to make constructive contributions, whether technical, financial or otherwise, as may be agreed by the Executive Committee.
- 2.3 Some or all of the participants in an Implementing Agreement may choose to execute specific projects and/or programmes through Annexes to the Implementing Agreement.

II. Rules Applicable to IEA Implementing Agreements

Article 3

Participation, Admission and Withdrawal

- 3.1 An Implementing Agreement can be established by two or more IEA Member countries subject to approval of the Committee on Energy Research and Technology (CERT) and of the Governing Board. There are two possible categories of participants in Implementing Agreements: Contracting Parties and Sponsors.
- 3.2 Contracting Parties may be
- (a) the governments of both OECD member or OECD non-member countries;
 - (b) the European Communities;
 - (c) international organisations in which the governments of OECD member countries and/or OECD non-member countries participate; and
 - (d) any national agency, public organisation, private corporation or other entity designated by the government of an OECD member country or an OECD non-member country, or by the European Communities.
- 3.2.1 Participation in any Implementing Agreement for OECD non-member countries or for international organisations requires prior approval by the CERT. However, should the CERT consider a first time application by an OECD non-member country or an international organisation to be sensitive, it may refer the decision to the Governing Board as it deems appropriate.
- 3.2.2 Prior to CERT approval of participation of OECD non-member countries or international organisations in any Implementing Agreement, the Executive Committee shall:
- (a) have voted in favour of the applicant to join the Implementing Agreement and provide evidence of the same to the CERT;
 - (b) provide the CERT with a copy of the terms and conditions of the applicant's participation in the Implementing Agreement; and

- (c) provide the CERT with a letter from the applicant expressing the applicant's desire to join the Implementing Agreement and specifying which Annexes it wishes to join; its acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Implementing Agreement; the name of its designated entity if it is not the applicant itself; and the name of the entity that will sign the Implementing Agreement.
- 3.2.3 The terms and conditions for the admission, participation and withdrawal of Contracting Parties, including their rights and obligations, in Implementing Agreements and their Annexes, if any, shall be established by the Executive Committee of each Implementing Agreement.
- 3.2.4 Notwithstanding Article 3.2.3, no Contracting Party from an OECD non-member country or international organisation shall have greater rights or benefits than Contracting Parties from OECD member countries.
- 3.3 Sponsors may be
 - (a) entities of OECD member countries or OECD non-member countries who are not designated by the governments of their respective countries to participate in a particular Implementing Agreement; and
 - (b) non-intergovernmental international entities in which one or more entities of OECD member countries or OECD non-member countries participate.
- 3.3.1 Participation of Sponsors in Implementing Agreements requires prior approval by the CERT.
- 3.3.2 Prior to CERT approval of Sponsor participation in any Implementing Agreement, the Executive Committee shall:
 - (a) have voted in favour of the applicant to join the Implementing Agreement and provide evidence of the same to the CERT;
 - (b) provide the CERT with a copy of the terms and conditions of the applicant's participation in the Implementing Agreement; and
 - (c) provide the CERT with a letter from the applicant expressing the applicant's desire to join the Implementing Agreement and specifying which Annexes it wishes to join; its acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Implementing Agreement; and the name of the entity that will sign the Implementing Agreement.
- 3.3.3 The terms and conditions for the admission, participation and withdrawal of Sponsors, including rights and obligations, in Implementing Agreements and their Annexes, if any, shall be established by the Executive Committee of each Implementing Agreement.
- 3.3.4 Notwithstanding Article 3.3.3, no Sponsor shall have greater rights or benefits than Contracting Parties from OECD non-member countries and no Sponsor shall be designated Chair or Vice-chair of an Implementing Agreement.
- 3.3.5 The CERT shall have the right to not approve participation of a Sponsor if the terms and conditions of such participation do not comply with this Framework, any Decisions of the CERT or the Governing Board and the Shared Goals of the IEA.

Article 4

Specific Provisions

- 4.1 Unless the CERT otherwise agrees, based on exceptional circumstance and sufficient justification, Implementing Agreements shall be for an initial term of up to, but no more than, five years.
- 4.2 An Implementing Agreement may be extended for such additional periods as may be determined by its Executive Committee, subject to approval of the CERT. Any single extension period shall not be greater than five years unless the CERT otherwise decides, based on exceptional circumstances and sufficient justification.
- 4.3 Notwithstanding Paragraph 4.2, should the duration of the programme of work of an Annex exceed the term of the Implementing Agreement to which it relates, the CERT shall not unreasonably withhold approval to extend the Implementing Agreement for such additional period to permit the conclusion of the work then being conducted under the Annex.
- 4.4 Either the Contracting Parties or the Executive Committee of each Implementing Agreement shall:
 - 4.4.1 approve the programme activities and the annual programme of work and budget for the relevant Implementing Agreement;
 - 4.4.2 establish the terms of the contribution for scientific and technical information, know-how and studies, manpower, capital investment or other forms of financing to be provided by each participant in the Implementing Agreement;
 - 4.4.3 establish the necessary provisions on information and intellectual property and ensure the protection of IEA copyrights, logos and other intellectual property rights as established by the IEA;
 - 4.4.4 assign the responsibility for the operational management of the programme or project to an entity accountable to the Executive Committee of the relevant Implementing Agreement;
 - 4.4.5 establish the initial term of the Implementing Agreement and its Annexes;
 - 4.4.6 approve amendments to the text of the Implementing Agreement and Annexes; and
 - 4.4.7 invite a representative of the IEA Secretariat to its Executive Committee meetings in an advisory capacity and, sufficiently in advance of the meeting, provide the Secretariat with all documentation made available to the Executive Committee members for purposes of the meeting.

Article 5

Copyright

- 5.1 Notwithstanding the use of the IEA name in the title of Implementing Agreements, the Implementing Agreements, the Executive Committee or the entity responsible for the operational management of the programme or project may use the name, acronym and emblem of the IEA as notified to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) only upon prior written authorisation of the IEA and solely for the purposes of executing the Implementing Agreements.

- 5.2 The IEA shall retain the copyright to all IEA deliverables and published or unpublished IEA material. Implementing Agreements wishing to use, copy or print such IEA deliverables and/or material shall submit a prior written request of authorisation to the IEA.

Article 6

Reports to the IEA

- 6.1 Each Executive Committee shall submit to the IEA:
- 6.1.1 as soon as such events occur, notifications of any admissions and withdrawals of Contracting Parties and Sponsors, any changes in the names or status of Contracting Parties or Sponsors, any changes in the Members of the Executive Committee or of the entity responsible for the operational management of the programme or project, or any amendments to an Implementing Agreement and Annex thereto;
 - 6.1.2 annual reports on the progress of programmes and projects of the Implementing Agreement and any Annex;
 - 6.1.3 notwithstanding Article 6.1.1, in addition to and with the Annual Report, annually provide the IEA with the following information:
 - (a) the names and contact details of all current Contracting Parties and Sponsors;
 - (b) the names and contact details of all Contracting Parties and Sponsors who may have withdrawn from the Implementing Agreement or any Annex in the year covered by the Annual Report;
 - (c) the names and contact details of all new Contracting Parties and Sponsors who may have joined the Implementing Agreement or any Annex in the year covered by the Annual Report;
 - (d) any changes in the names or status of any Contracting Parties or Sponsors;
 - (e) the names and contact details of the Executive Committee members and the entity responsible for the operational management of the programme or project; and
 - (f) any amendments to the text of an Implementing Agreement and any Annex thereto.
 - 6.1.4 End of Term Reports, which shall include all the information and documentation required by Decisions of the CERT then in effect and relating thereto; and
 - 6.1.5 at the request of the IEA, any other non-proprietary information as may be requested by the IEA in connection with the IEA's mandate.

Article 7

Effective Date

This Framework shall take effect and become binding on all participants in the Implementing Agreements and Annexes from the date of its approval as a decision by the Governing Board.