

## **Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”)**

**Between**

**“The National Energy Secretariat of the Republic of Panama” and**

**“The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE),**

**Incorporated”**

### **1. SIGNATORIES**

This Memorandum of Understanding between the “The National Energy Secretariat” (hereinafter referred to as “The Secretariat”) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated, (hereinafter referred to as “IEEE” and, together with The Secretariat, the “Parties”) is has the objective of promoting mutual understanding and enhancing the development of long-term, stable, and comprehensive friendly cooperation between The Secretariat and IEEE.

**The National Energy Secretariat** is an entity of the Executive Branch of the Government, part of the Ministry of the Presidency. It has the mission of formulating, proposing and promoting the national energy policy in order to guarantee the security of supply, a rational and efficient use of energy resources according to the national development plan and within economic, competitive, quality and environmental parameters.

Founded in 1963, **The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated** is a public charity incorporated under the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation law, headquartered at Three Park Avenue, 17th Floor, NY, NY 10016. Recognized as a tax exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, IEEE has more than 400,000 collegiate and professional members.

IEEE is dedicated to advancing innovation and technological excellence for the benefit of humanity. It is designed to serve professionals involved in all aspects of the electrical, electronic, and computing fields and related areas of science and technology that underlie modern civilization.

## **2. INTEREST IN COOPERATION**

The Secretariat and IEEE have common objectives in international activities in the areas of power and energy, especially renewable energy and other relevant aspects. Both Parties would benefit from the cooperation to achieve the goals of improving, guiding, innovating, and promoting the development of technology in the areas of power and energy. The Secretariat and IEEE recognize the importance of establishing and strengthening their relationship and both Parties wish to foster closer cooperation resulting in the development of a long-term, stable, and comprehensive collegial peer-to-peer relationship for their mutual benefit.

## **3. COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES**

- 1) IEEE and The Secretariat may, from time to time as they may agree, exchange without cost, non-proprietary information directly relevant to this initiative.
- 2) It is the interest of The Secretariat to have IEEE experts as participants of the Panamanian Energy Transition Council to exchange information and objective advice during the execution of the Panamanian Energy Transition Agenda.
- 3) It is in the interest of The Secretariat to facilitate meetings with IEEE experts and the Panamanian Energy Transition Council to exchange information and objective advice during the execution of the Panamanian Energy Transition Agenda.
- 4) The Secretariat and IEEE will each appoint a liaison representative. These two representatives will take charge of all interactions between the two Parties. As of the signing date of this MOU, the appointment of the two liaison representatives is as follows:

IEEE –  
Ing. Enrique Tejera  
Email: e.tejera@ieee.org

The Secretariat – Dr. Guadalupe González  
National Electricity Director  
Email: gugonzalez@energia.gob.pa

Both Parties will explore exchange visits of high-level executives from their respective organizations at suitable times in the US or other locations as mutually agreed by them. The purpose of such exchanges is to improve communication between both Parties, review existing cooperative activities and explore new cooperative projects.

The head office of IEEE is located at:  
*Three Park Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10016*

The head office of The Secretariat is located at  
*50st and 74st, PH 909 building, 11 floor, San Francisco, Panamá City, Republic of Panamá.*

- 5) Both Parties will exchange a joint activity report via liaison representatives on a yearly basis.
- 6) The Secretariat will encourage its employees under the Director of Electricity to join IEEE and the IEEE Power & Energy Society (PES) as professional individual members.
  - a) The Secretariat will inspire its employees under the Director of Electricity to become members of IEEE and PES. Consecutively, they will encourage other members of the Panamanian energy sector to join as well. The list of names for membership in The Secretariat will be provided to the IEEE.
  - b) The Full Members will receive the full benefits of a higher-grade (electronic) IEEE and higher-grade IEEE PES membership including access to the IEEE PES Resource Center, IEEE Power & Energy Magazine, IEEE Electrification Magazine, and much more. As part of the closer collaboration, IEEE PES can assist and train The Secretariat PES members on Technical Committee participation and processes.
- 7) Both Parties may cooperate to hold international conferences, workshops, seminars and executive luncheons on power and energy fields of interest.

The Secretariat event participation can include hosting and joint sponsorship of an event, assisting in technical program design, panel session participation, paper submission as well as paper reviews, and executive session participation. The Secretariat IEEE PES Members will enjoy IEEE conference and event registration membership discounts as specified by the conferences and events.

- 8) Resource sharing
  - a) The Secretariat IEEE PES members would be encouraged to contribute articles, participate in the editorial, and review processes for IEEE PES transactions, magazines, newsletter, and other opportunities.
  - b) The Secretariat IEEE PES members could use the data in IEEE PES Resource Center. The IEEE PES Resource Center contains a wealth of practical information that would help The Secretariat engineers and their technologist to perform their duties. It can also display the The Secretariat best practices to the world.
- 9) Education

IEEE shall actively introduce the service and membership benefits to The Secretariat employees.

IEEE PES offers custom training for companies, which could be one or two days in topics of interest as identified by The Secretariat. The Secretariat can also offer experts to provide instruction for the IEEE PES global community.

Based on mutual communication, both Parties can identify other areas of common interest for future collaboration, which may include initiatives related to Smart Grid, Smart Cities, Internet of Things, Transportation Electrification, Cyber Security, Big Data, and Green ICT, as well as

others.

10) Awards

IEEE and PES have many opportunities to recognize outstanding contributions to the industry as well as humanity in general. The Secretariat PES Members would have the opportunity to nominate its PES Members for these globally recognized awards.

11) Humanitarian

IEEE's mission is to advance technology for the benefit of humanity. In that spirit, there are opportunities for The Secretariat and its members to support and participate in IEEE humanitarian projects, such as the IEEE Smart Village program.

**4. PERIOD OF VALIDITY**

This MoU shall be effective for five years, effective from the date of the final signature, and may be renewed for further periods by written agreement of the Parties.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this MoU may be terminated by either Party upon 90 day's written notice to the other. Upon termination or expiration of this MoU, all the rights granted pursuant to this MoU shall cease immediately and both Parties shall cease from distributing any information received pursuant to this MoU.

On expiration or early termination, each Party shall return to the other Party all Confidential Information as defined in Section 6 hereof, and proprietary information, documents and reference material of the other Party in its possession.

All such obligations and terms of this MOU that are required to survive the expiration or early termination of this MOU shall survive such event including, but not limited to, those described in Sections 5, 6, and 7 hereof.

**5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

Each Party or its licensor shall continue to own the intellectual property developed by it prior to or independently of this MOU.

By entering into this MOU, both Parties undertake:

- 1) Not to use each other's intellectual property without the prior express written consent of the other;
- 2) Ensure the confidentiality of such intellectual property of the other within their respective organizations; and
- 3) Not to use each other's intellectual property other than for the purpose of this MOU.

Both Parties agree that neither of them shall gain by virtue of this MOU any rights of ownership or any other interest, right, or title to copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, or any other intellectual property rights owned by the other Party. Except as otherwise explicitly agreed between the Parties, any and all works developed in the course of performing obligations and commitments pursuant to this MOU and all new inventions, innovations, or ideas developed by a Party in the course of performance of its activities under this MOU will belong to that Party who develops the same. To the extent such intellectual property is created, the owning Party shall grant a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license to the other Party for the use of the intellectual property solely in connection with the activities under this MOU. If the Parties undertake any joint development in the course of providing services under this MOU, any such joint development will be governed by a separate agreement to be negotiated in good faith by both Parties prior to the commencement of any joint development efforts.

## **6. CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Secretariat and IEEE may, from time to time as they may agree, exchange without cost, non-proprietary information directly relevant to the MOU. During the term of this MOU, each Party may also disclose to the other its Confidential Information. “Confidential Information” shall mean all information marked “Confidential” or under any similar legend indicating the confidentiality of the information, or information which by its nature is confidential, except such information as is (a) previously known to the receiving Party at the time of disclosure, or (b) independently developed by the receiving Party without reference to Confidential Information of the disclosing Party, or (c) disclosed to the receiving Party by a third party without an obligation of confidentiality, or (d) already in or subsequently comes into the public domain (other than as a result of a breach of this MOU); or (e) required to be disclosed by the receiving Party by law, regulation, court order or other legal process.

The receiving Party shall hold such Confidential Information in strict confidence for the disclosing Party and shall not use it except in furtherance of the relationship set forth in this MOU, or except as it may be authorized by the disclosing Party in writing. The receiving Party shall further be responsible for compliance with the foregoing by its employees or agents.

## **7. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

Each Party represents and warrants that such Party has all necessary corporate power and authority to enter into this MOU and to perform its obligations hereunder. Each Party warrants to the other Party that all materials, data, information and other assistance provided by it shall not, to the best of its knowledge, infringe third party intellectual property rights and agrees to hold the other Party fully indemnified and harmless and keep the other Party indemnified against any loss, damages, costs and expenses including attorney’s fee, which may be incurred as a result of any action or claim that may be made or initiated against it as result of any action on the part of the first Party.

## **8. PUBLICITY**

Any press release or other publicity issued by either Party regarding this MOU shall be reviewed and approved in writing by the other Party prior to release. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

## **9. GENERAL**

Both Parties understand that nothing herein shall be construed as a binding contract between the Parties until such time as duly authorized representatives of the Parties hereto execute a formal written agreement (“Definitive Agreement”) with respect to the various activities to be undertaken thereunder including details of the engagement, any additional roles/responsibilities and specific work that needs to be performed by each Party. Both Parties further understand that (a) the activities intended by this MOU may not be successfully completed; and/or (b) the results achieved may not be as anticipated. Except for breach of confidentiality obligations and intellectual property right infringement indemnification obligations, neither Party shall be liable for any indirect, punitive, special, incidental or consequential damages arising out of or in connection with this MOU, whether for breach of this MOU or in torts, including loss of business, data, revenue, profits, or for any third party claims against the other whatsoever. Further, the Secretariat and IEEE acknowledge and agree that this MOU is a non-exclusive engagement and except as specifically agreed in a Definitive Agreement with respect to an activity, nothing contained herein shall be construed as preventing or restricting either Party from pursuing any opportunity with clients or prospective clients without involving the other Party or from entering into similar alliance agreements with other third parties.

This MOU shall not be construed to be an agency or a legal partnership or joint venture or an employment relationship whether for tax or any other purpose. Neither Party shall be entitled to bind the other Party with any third party by its actions, unless it has specifically obtained the prior written consent of such other Party to do so.

Each Party is an independent contractor, and no provision of this MOU grants either Party any express or implied right of authority to assume or create any obligations or responsibility on behalf of or in the name of the other Party or bind the other Party in any manner or thing whatsoever. Each Party warrants to the other Party that in performing their duties required under this MOU, they will comply with the applicable law and shall take no action which constitutes a violation of applicable law and which would subject the other Party to penalties under applicable law.

Neither Party shall assign or transfer this MOU without the prior written consent of the other Party.

This MOU supersedes all prior oral or written communication, discussions and representations communicated between the Parties hereto in respect of the subject matter of this MOU. Any modification to this MOU shall only be made by way of a written document duly executed by representatives of both Parties hereto.

Any notice under this MOU will be in writing and delivered by hand or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the other Party at the registered office or as may be substituted by the notice. If any notice is sent by mail, notice will be effective on the date of mailing. Alternatively, an email, a facsimile transmittal, or an express mail transmittal with a confirmation of receipt shall be acceptable.

#### **10. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

The Parties agree that they shall comply with applicable laws. In no event shall either Party be required to export or deliver any services or products or any technical or scientific information (the “Deliverables”) pursuant to this MOU if such export or delivery is prohibited or restricted by any law or regulation of the United States or any other country having jurisdiction over the Deliverables and no authorization to export the Deliverables has been obtained from the applicable government authorities.

#### **11. FORCE MAJEURE**

Neither Party shall be responsible for any delay or failure in performance resulting from force majeure. Force Majeure shall be understood to include acts of God, government authority, riots, epidemics, unusually severe weather, fire, floods, war, terrorism, embargoes, labor disputes or strikes, or other cause beyond the Parties’ control, which make it inadvisable, commercially impracticable, illegal or impossible to perform as originally contemplated under this MOU. It is provided that this MOU may be terminated for any one or more of such reasons by written notice from one party to the other without liability.

#### **12. GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATION**

The Parties agree that any dispute, controversy, claim, or disagreement arising out of or relating to this MOU shall be negotiated between them in good faith in an attempt to reach a just and equitable solution satisfactory to both Parties.

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Signed on this **10** day of **August 2021**, in duplicate, in the English and Spanish languages.

Timothy Licitra  
(IEEE PES Executive Director)

*Timothy Licitra*  
Timothy Licitra (Aug 18, 2021 22:09 EDT)

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The Institute of Electrical and Electronics  
Engineers, Incorporated

Dr. JORGE RIVERA STAFF

*JR Staff*

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National Energy Secretary  
Republic of Panama

# IEEE MOU\_ SNE Panamá\_English\_Final

Final Audit Report

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