

Background Information and Duties of the German National Designated Entity

Preliminary Remarks

The **basis** for setting up the Office of the National Designated Entity comes primarily from the Conference of the Parties to the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change** held in **Cancún at the end of 2010**. The decision to establish the Technology Mechanism (TM) was taken at this conference. The TM is made up of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC, the "political arm") and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN, the "implementation arm"). The CTCN provides the basis for intensified practical collaboration on climate technologies and is hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The resolutions adopted at the 2013 Climate Change Conference in Warsaw formally ended the start-up phase, and since then, the CTCN's substantive work has taken centre stage. At the **21st Climate Change Conference in Paris**, the establishment of the TM was confirmed by the Paris Agreement, where **efforts were also made to strengthen** the TM. The TM provides a suitable foundation for strengthening collaboration in the field of climate technologies so that the **national NDEs** are able to play a **much more active role**. Meanwhile 152 NDEs have been established.

The German NDE serves as a **central point of contact** for all enquiries coming from the CTCN or other national contact points **regarding climate technologies, Federal Government programmes, services or possible collaborations between the industrial and research sectors** relating to the Technology Mechanism.

A "**Working Group on Climate Technology Transfer**" (**Arbeitskreis Klimatechnologietransfer** or **AKT**), was founded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy in 2012, whose purpose is to promote the work of the TEC and the NDE from a German perspective. For its participants, the AKT also serves as an

information source about the work of the TEC and CTCN. Represented in the AKT are the relevant departments of the Federal Government, the GIZ, the KfW and business and science sectors.

One of the NDE's tasks is to make the **German offerings in the field of collaboration in climate technologies more easily accessible**.

Core Duties

a) The creation and maintenance of a portal (website) about climate technologies in Germany

A web portal is to be created that will give an overview of the relevant climate technologies and technology service providers in Germany and provide assistance to the relevant providers in contacting potential collaboration partners. First and foremost, existing directories and sector-specific platforms will be processed so that they may be used by the Technology Mechanism of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and their discoverability and accessibility will be simplified. Among other things, this should allow potential participants' enquiries to be referred conveniently to the Federal Government's existing offerings, in so far as their requests match the corresponding profile of the existing offerings.

b) Evaluating Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

On the basis of current and future TNAs, the Head Office shall conduct studies to analyse which technology fields or application areas will allow German suppliers and international enquirers to develop new, promising international collaboration fields beyond the existing collaborations. The results of these analyses will allow recommendations for the NDE for further action. Collaboration concepts and strategies shall be derived in cooperation with interested actors from the business and research sectors.

c) Point of contact for foreign enquiries into German climate technologies and enquiries from German companies and investors who are interested in international collaboration.

Here, the results produced in b. and **any ongoing activities carried out by the Federal Government** will be taken into account and any **gaps** in the consultation and collaboration offerings **will be identified**, which can be filled by the NDE with its own activities and information offerings. **Enquiries made by other NDEs** can be directed to the German NDE, directly or via the CTCN, who **will then forward** these enquiries to potentially interested partners in Germany so that they may contact each other.

d) Taking on Non-ministerial Duties at the CTCN and TEC

This includes participating in the CTCN's activities (cf. <http://ctc-n.org/>), including participation in TEC and CTCN workshops, supporting studies oriented towards collaborations, etc. in order to implement current and future resolutions passed by the Technology Mechanism's institutions under the Framework Convention on Climate Change and to identify the resulting actions that are required of the NDE.

e) Conception, planning, preparation, and, if necessary, implementing climate technology workshops in emerging and developing countries and studies

"Matchmaking Workshops" have been planned in close cooperation with the NDE and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, starting in 2016 there will be one and in 2017 two per year. These will be held in countries where a clear potential has been identified for intensifying collaboration work in the field of climate technology (collaboration intensification is one of the TM's main objectives). The **objective** of the workshop is to present the range of **German technology offerings, bring together** decision makers from the

above-mentioned identified countries **with potential collaboration partners from Germany** and provide political support for initiating collaborations.

f) Providing experience reports

The Head Office will provide an experience report once a year that will show inter alia collaboration opportunities and barriers and point out possible solutions. The reports shall also show areas where political action could be taken (e.g. unnecessary customs barriers, inadequate or outdated regulations, inconsistent standards, etc.), identify gaps in the collaboration offerings and offer suggestions for solutions to fill these spaces.

By exercising non-ministerial duties at the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the Head Office will undertake additional duties, which will only be able to be specified over the course of time.

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