

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT OF THE FLEMISH REGION**  
**AND**  
**THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR THE NORTH SEA OF BELGIUM**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTER FOR CLIMATE, ENERGY AND UTILITIES OF DENMARK**  
**ON COOPERATION ON CARBON CAPTURE UTILISATION AND STORAGE (CCUS)**

The Minister for Environment of the Flemish Region, the Federal Minister for the North Sea of Belgium, and the Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities of Denmark (hereinafter referred to individually as a “Participant” and collectively as the “Participants”);

Acknowledging the importance of the historical relationship between Belgium and Denmark, and the common interest of the Participants;

Underlining the objective of climate neutrality in the European Union by 2050, and emphasising CCUS as an important technology for achieving the objective.

Emphasising the need for reaching the goals of the Paris Agreement, and the obligation to deliver on the Participants' respective Nationally Determined Contributions.

Recognizing the emphasis by amongst others the UN International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the International Energy Agency (IEA), on the role of CCUS in achieving global climate goals.

Emphasising the important role of CCUS in meeting national Belgian and Danish climate targets, CCUS technology can help reduce emissions that are otherwise difficult to reduce and where no other viable options exist.

Acknowledging that the importance of CCUS technology in the fulfilment of national climate policy goals is not an expression of diminished ambitions in relation to the green transition.

Wishing to promote mutually beneficial cooperation on the development of CCUS. Noting in that respect the decision in the Danish Roadmap for CO<sub>2</sub> storage from June 2021 to work towards establishing the possibility of transporting and storing CO<sub>2</sub> across countries through bilateral agreements. Also noting in that respect the 2021 CCUS concept note issued by the Flemish Government.

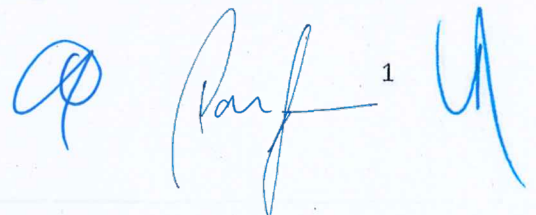
Supporting the integration of CO<sub>2</sub> removals from negative emission technologies into EU climate policy and to further incentivise the development and deployment of these technologies.

Recognizing the importance of regional cooperation in supporting cross-border CCUS infrastructure.

Acknowledging the importance of science in the promotion and development of CCUS, and the shared aim of strengthening international cooperation on CCUS innovation, research and technology development.

Recognizing the importance of preserving the marine environment in the North Sea.

Bearing in mind that this MoU provides a general framework for cooperation between the Participants and expresses the mutual intent of the Participants to advance bilateral relations and support CCUS development and deployment, including cost reductions and facilitating cross-border CCUS solutions;

  
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Have reached the following understanding:

*Section 1 – Objective*

The objective of this MoU is to promote the development of CCUS and the Participants' cooperation in this field by creating a framework for cooperation between the Participants to facilitate their sharing of technical knowledge, advice, skills and expertise in the field of CCUS.

*Section 2 – Cooperation*

The cooperation between the Participants under this MoU will be operationalized through a Joint Working Group established and presided by representatives of the Contracting Parties.

The Joint Working Group will in particular work on the following topics of mutual interest:

- a. Promoting the establishment and development of necessary regulatory frameworks to enable the safe and commercial deployment and technological development of CCUS both nationally and internationally, including under the London Protocol, the OSPAR Convention and relevant EU regulatory frameworks.
- b. Consideration and preparation of a bilateral agreement or arrangement between the Participants enabling cross-border transportation and storage of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- c. Knowledge exchange on, inter alia, the latest technologies, geological infrastructure, safe storage, and relevant experiences.
- d. Collaborate to promote the availability of funding sources for CCUS infrastructure and projects.
- e. Exchanging information and data about the safety and environmental impact of CCUS.
- f. Other subject areas as the Participants may jointly decide.

The Joint Working Group shall meet at regular intervals as decided by the Participants and as appropriate, alternately in Belgium and Denmark.

*Section 3 – Arrangements of the Participants*

This MoU does not create any rights and obligations under international law and does not impose any financial obligations on the Participants.

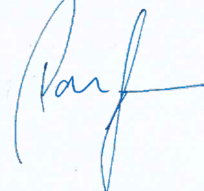
All costs resulting from cooperation under this MoU are to be borne by the Participant that incurs them, unless otherwise mutually agreed.

Each Participant intends to conduct the cooperation under this MoU subject to all applicable laws and regulations and subject to availability and deployment of resources and personnel.

The designated authorities responsible for the participation under this MoU will be the Flemish Energy and Climate Agency and the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, working jointly, and the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities of Denmark. Each Participant will designate a primary point of contact to coordinate the overall cooperation between the Participants for the areas described in Section 2.

*Section 4 – Amendment Procedures and Dispute Resolution*

This MoU may be amended at any time by jointly written consent of the Participants.



At any time, the Participants will consult, at the request of any of them, on any matter relating to this MoU, in the spirit of cooperation, good faith and mutual trust, to resolve quickly any difficulties or misunderstanding that may arise.

*Section 5 – Final Provisions*

This MoU will come into effect upon signature and remain effective for a period of 4 (four) years. The MoU may continue to have effect after this initial period if the Participants so jointly decide at least three (3) months prior to the end of the initial period.

This MoU will be jointly reviewed upon written request of one of the Participants.

This MoU may be terminated by either Participant giving three (3) month's written notice to the other Participant. The termination of this MoU will not affect any on-going activities under this MoU, unless otherwise decided by the Participants.

Signed in duplicate in Copenhagen and Brussels on the 13th of September 2022 each in the English language.

*For the Flemish Region:*

*The Minister of Justice and Enforcement,  
Environment, Energy and Tourism*



*Zuhair Demir*

*The Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities of  
Denmark*



*Dan Jørgensen*

*For the Federal Government:*

*The Minister of the North Sea*

*Vincent Van Quickenborne*

