

Joint Declaration of Intent
of
the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building
and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany
and
the Ministry of Environmental Protection
of the State of Israel
on
the Implementation of Best Available Techniques
in the Permitting of Industrial Installations

The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany (hereinafter referred to as "BMUB") and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the State of Israel (hereinafter referred to as "MoEP", together referred to as "the two Sides")

- **commemorate** the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between their two countries and the unique relationship between them;
- **share** the desire to further promote the friendly relations and enhance cooperation between the two Sides;
- **recognise** the need to improve environmental performance in industries;
- **wish to follow up on** the Twinning Project "Support to the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection in the Establishment and Implementation of a System of Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) and a Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)" which ended in February 2015 and for which the Federal Environment Agency of the Federal Republic of Germany (hereinafter referred to as "UBA") provided expertise, and based on the "Financing Agreement" in support of the ENP Action Plan 2013 (Israel), signed on December 11, 2014;
- **based** on the interest of the MoEP to gain deeper knowledge of the European Best Available Techniques (hereinafter referred to as "BAT") reference documents (hereinafter referred to as "BREFs") and the expertise of the UBA, particularly in relation to:
 - The use of BREFs for checking potential solutions regarding environmental problems from an industry or a sector, or for setting standards;
 - The use for benchmarking the needs for improvement in different sectors;
 - The consultation/dialogue with stakeholders on possible improvements;

and

- **consider** that according to Article 11 of the EU Industrial Emissions Directive (hereinafter referred to as "IED") (2010/75/EU), EU Member States shall set permit conditions on the basis of the BAT that installations have to comply with to get the required permit. BAT in this Directive means the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation, which indicates the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing the basis for emission limit values and other permit conditions.

I.

The two Sides declare their intention to cooperate in order to facilitate the implementation of BAT according to the Implementing Decisions of the IED in relevant industry sectors in Israel.

II.

The cooperation under this Joint Declaration of Intent may include:

- The exchange of knowledge and experiences with regard to the elaboration and interpretation of the BREFs and BAT conclusions;
- The enhancement of the basis for appropriate use of BREF documents and implementation of BAT conclusions for Israel;
- The promotion of a dialogue among various stakeholders;
- The training of MoEP staff on specific topics related to BREFs and BAT conclusions.

III.

The two Sides intend to conduct their cooperation in this field in the following manner:

The MoEP:

1. Intends to identify the industry sectors and the needs for exchange of knowledge and experiences related to BREF reference documents and their respective BAT conclusions;
2. Intends to develop a road map of the cooperation between the two Sides, taking into account the interrelationship with the Israeli-German-Austrian-UK Twinning Project “IL 11 Support to the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection in Improving and Implementing the Environmental Regulatory and Management Framework for Industry and Business – Strengthening the Environmental Framework for SME, Resource Efficiency, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme”;
3. Intends to share the experience of Israeli use of BAT conclusions published in the Official European Journal for the identified industry sectors;
4. Intends to promote dialogue among various stakeholders on BAT;
5. Intends to make available its staff for training or exchange of experiences with UBA experts;
6. Intends to make available to the UBA, information on the current situation of the identified industries in Israel, as well as information on initiatives, in order to improve their environmental performance.

The BMUB:

Intends to assign to the UBA:

- The exchange of knowledge and experiences, including on BREFs for various sectors, with MoEP, industry associations or other stakeholders. The preferred technique for conducting this activity should be video conferences.
- The provision of advisory support to MoEP for development of customised BAT conclusions for Israel by MoEP. The preferred techniques for conducting this activity are video conferences or phone conversations.
- The provision of advisory inputs on identified specific technical issues related to specific sectors.

IV.

The cooperation under this Joint Declaration of Intent may lead to:

- A strengthened knowledge base of MoEP regarding the elaboration of BREF documents and their respective BAT conclusions;
- Customised commentaries on BAT conclusions for identified industry sectors developed by Israeli experts based on German knowledge and experience;
- The promotion of a dialogue among various stakeholders, as well as better understanding of the BAT concepts;
- The development of an increased knowledge by industries, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders on BAT for facilitating environmental improvements in industries.

V.

Cooperation deriving from this Joint Declaration of Intent will be carried out within the framework of the laws, regulations and procedures of the two Sides respectively.

VI.

This Joint Declaration of Intent is not intended to create legally binding obligations or financial commitments.

VII.

The two Sides may specify details of the cooperation by mutual consent.

Signed in Tel Aviv on July 14 2015, which corresponds to the 27 day of Tamuz 5775, in the Hebrew calendar.

For the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany **For the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the State of Israel**

Dr. Barbara Hendricks
Federal Minister

Mr. Avi Gabbay
Minister