

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

*REGIONE LAZIO-DIREZIONE TERRITORIO URBANISTICA E
MOBILITA*

AND THE

*FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN 2 JOINT UNDERTAKING
(FCH 2 JU)*



2016

1. **The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking**, hereinafter referred to as the FCH 2 JU, represented for the purposes of signing this agreement by Mr Bart Biebuyck, Executive Director

And

2. The **Regione Lazio -Direzioe Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità**, represented for the purpose of signing this agreement by Ms Manuela Manetti - Director

together referred to as “the Parties”

PREAMBLE

There is a clear trend towards setting increasingly ambitious targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants in the medium term. Examples include: the global Paris Agreement (within the COP21 Forum) with pledges from signatory countries to curb emissions; the EU 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030, now followed by the European Commission's proposal for the Effort Sharing Regulation with significant GHG emissions cuts for individual Member States; the new Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy and the C40 Climate Leadership Group and their efforts to lead the fight against man-made climate change and urban pollution. All of these initiatives point to a massive level of penetration of intermittent renewable power sources generating green electricity to form the backbone of a sustainable future. In order to use that green power, energy storage solutions such as the use of batteries and hydrogen will be a clear requirement to power all needs and applications that society now takes for granted, from heating homes and businesses to transporting goods and people. Specifically for hydrogen, a number of products are entering the commercialisation phase, and can start proving their added value in contributing to the environment goals.

The FCH 2 JU is the result of long-standing cooperation between representatives of industry, academia, research organisations, and public authorities, in the field of research, development and deployment strategies for fuel cells and hydrogen energy technologies. The FCH 2 JU is a Public Private Partnership established under Council Regulation (EU) 559/2014 of 6 May 2014¹ between the European Union represented by the European Commission, the industry grouping "Hydrogen Europe" and the research grouping "N.ERGHY". It is mandated, amongst others, to contribute as a funding body, to the implementation of Horizon 2020 (H2020) and to complete the implementation of the actions of the Seventh Framework Programme initiated by the FCH JU under the former regulation (EC) 521/2008. Its mission is to accelerate the commercialisation of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. It acts as a platform bringing together public and private stakeholders to pool resources around the key priorities, identify the most promising hydrogen and fuel cell applications, and build partnerships with other entities to leverage available funding and financial mechanisms.

Realising that regions and cities are key drivers in the implementation of initiatives to decarbonise their energy and transport systems, the FCH 2 JU considers an enhanced coordination of priorities and activities with European regions and cities as a key step to achieve its goals. An improved alignment of strategic priorities and financing schemes is a common goal of the European Union, the FCH 2 JU and regional and local actors managing European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and other funding schemes.

¹ Official Journal of the European Union of 7.6.2014, L 169/108

This Memorandum of Understanding provides the framework for this improved collaboration amongst the parties.

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Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 559/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the FCH 2 JU and in particular recital (24)¹ thereof;

Whereas

1. the FCH 2 JU plays a strategic role as implementing body in Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, of activities related to fuel cells and hydrogen technologies;
2. in view of developing close synergies and interactions with other financing programmes, in particular ESIF and other financing mechanisms to support smart specialisation strategies, the FCH 2 JU wishes to establish bilateral relations with the interested regions or municipalities;
3. the Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità, is committing to implement policies and measures to meet its environmental goals and places innovation and competitiveness at the heart of its economic development policies over the long term in one or more of the following areas:
 - regional innovation strategy for a smart specialisation
 - regional pattern of economic development
 - regional environmental plans
 - sustainable plan for urban planning and development
4. the Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità considers implementing specific measures, including policy initiatives, aimed at supporting the introduction of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and products as part of its goals to decarbonise its transport and energy systems;
5. the Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità wishes to promote and support the complementarity and synergies between H2020 and other funding programmes and financing sources in particular in the field of fuel cells and hydrogen technologies;
6. the Parties are determined to establish an active cooperation framework with consideration to their respective legislation,

the Parties have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1:

To work together for the identification of synergies amongst programmes, funding schemes and other financing sources through:

¹ Horizon 2020 should contribute to the closing of the research and innovation divide within the Union by promoting synergies with the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). Therefore the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking should seek to develop close interactions with the ESIF, which can specifically help to strengthen local, regional and national research and innovation capabilities in the area of the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking and underpin smart specialisation efforts;

- The active participation of the Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità in initiatives launched by the FCH 2 JU for said purpose, including:
 - participation in working groups of common interest, to be decided upon on an *ad hoc* basis, collaborating with members of industry and research
 - identification of those hydrogen and fuel cell applications that are of highest interest to achieve its goals
 - providing information necessary to build attractive business models that may draw additional investments
- Recommendations for specific areas of interest to be included in FCH 2 JU annual calls for proposals stemming from such initiatives referred to herein above, to be considered by the FCH 2 JU stakeholders, notably its industrial members represented by Hydrogen Europe, its research members represented by N.ERGHY and the European Commission. Such recommendations may be made by members of Hydrogen Europe, the Research Grouping, the European Commission or the Programme Office
- Implementation of regional or local co-funding and financing schemes that complement projects funded by the FCH 2 JU
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ARTICLE 2:

To establish working arrangements between their respective instruments and frameworks to accompany the fuel cells and hydrogen sector by promoting synergies and complementarities between the European funds managed by FCH 2 JU in the fuel cells and hydrogen sector and other sources of funding/financing, such as the structural and investment funds. In this regard, ESIF programmes may also be designed and implemented to:

- support infrastructural investments to be combined with R&I activities in fuel cells and hydrogen.
- take up and potentially launch calls for proposals for thematic objectives and topics agreed with the FCH 2 JU and provide financing for high quality project proposals for which there is not enough budget available in the respective FCH 2 JU Programme area and FCH 2 JU Calls, but which are important for both the fuel cells and hydrogen sector and the region/city;

ARTICLE 3:

To promote their respective activities and support mechanisms through an outreach and dissemination policy aimed towards economic, industrial and other interested actors through an online update, on the website ww.regione.lazio.it managed by the Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità, of relevant information regarding the launched calls for projects by FCH 2 JU, and by a description on the website of FCH 2 JU of the regional policy of Regione Lazio -Direzione Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità supporting fuel cells and hydrogen;

ARTICLE 4:

The parties will ensure the protection of any sensitive information and the confidentiality of any document and information related to the parties or the participants to the technical activities under the present Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 5:

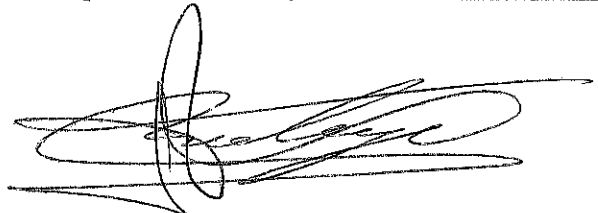
This Memorandum may be amended with the consent of the Parties and every amendment or addendum must be done in writing.

ARTICLE 6:

1. This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of last signature of the Parties.
2. Each Party may terminate this Memorandum by notifying the other Party in writing at least six months before the date of termination.

Done in two originals in the English language.

Signed in Brussels, on 03/02/17



Mr. Bart BIEBUYCK

Executive Director

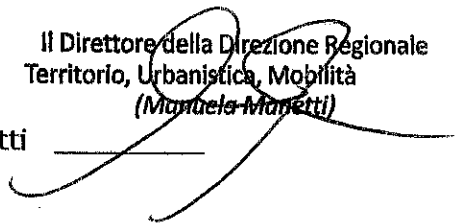
Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking

Signed in ROMA, on 12.10.2016



Mrs. Manuela Manetti

Il Direttore della Direzione Regionale
Territorio, Urbanistica, Mobilità
(*Manuela Manetti*)



Title: Director

Region - REGIONE LAZIO Direzione
Territorio Urbanistica e Mobilità