As recognized by the global community in the Paris Agreement, addressing climate change requires action by all countries at the national and sub-national level. With this in mind, Sweden and California have set ambitious climate and clean energy goals.

Sweden and California recognise the vital importance of leadership at all levels and support the Under2 Coalition – the ambitious commitment to bold and decisive climate action covering more than one billion people and one third of the global economy – as a key mechanism to guide deep, ambitious emission reductions to 2050.

Sweden and California furthermore recognise the value of existing initiatives aiming for radically reduced emissions from transportation, such as the Zero-Emission Vehicle Alliance. There is potential for Sweden and California to support, through this and other initiatives, the efforts of other state, regional and city signatories to share ideas and best practices on the reduction of greenhouse gases and to promote the development and expansion of renewable energy. In addition, Sweden and California recognise the pivotal role of research and innovation and will strive to further develop ongoing cooperation in these areas.

There has never been a greater need for international cooperation. In the coming years, Sweden and California will push for higher global ambitions on climate change through the UNFCCC and Under2 Coalition, and will work individually and together to link and align efforts between the two, as well as to draw more international attention to the actions and ambitious reduction goals that are needed. Furthermore, they will also support climate leaders at the national and sub-national level around the globe, including at key upcoming international climate and energy conferences and summits, in the run-up
to 2018 and beyond. Sweden and California will work to convey the outcomes of the 2018 Summit to other fora such as the UN General Assembly and the UNFCCC to ensure that the voices of non-state actors reach these important fora in the lead-up to COP24.

The cooperation between Sweden and California, as outlined in this letter, is a demonstration of the collective leadership and impact of commitments across states, regions, cities, and countries to combat climate change.

Sweden and California will explore further ways to materialize the ambitions set out in this Letter of Cooperation.

Signed on 19 April 2017 in Sacramento, in English.

Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate, and Deputy Prime Minister
Kingdom of Sweden