



DECLARATION OF INTENT

between

the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts

and

the Queensland Department of Environment and Science

The Bavarian State Government and the Queensland Government (the Participants) recognise the importance of developing cooperation and collaboration for mutual benefit.

The Queensland Government has been investing in science, research, and innovation over many years in recognition of their importance for the state's economic growth. The collaboration with the Bavarian State in research topics closely relevant to the State's industry development priorities directly supports the Queensland Government's economic development strategies including the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, the Industry Roadmaps & Action Plans, and the Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy. The collaboration helps achieve the economic development goals of diversifying the economy, supporting increased jobs in more industries, driving investment and business growth.

The Free State of Bavaria is one of Europe's leading innovation hubs and economic centres. Devising a strategy for a sustainable and prosperous future, the Bavarian State Government has launched the Hightech Agenda Bavaria (HTA), a unique campaign for large-scale investments in high-tech-related research and innovation, providing answers to the pressing questions of our time. The collaboration with the Queensland Government manifests our states' shared understanding that diversified international cooperation in innovation and the transfer of knowledge and technology is of paramount importance in order to remain in the vanguard of technological progress.

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to advance relations between the Participants to strengthen cooperation in research, development and industry collaboration at higher education level and to facilitate mutually beneficial outcomes in mutually agreed priority industry sectors, including but not limited to:

- energy (including green hydrogen, synthetic fuels and energy storage)
- cleantech and emission reduction technologies
- artificial intelligence
- quantum technologies
- additive manufacturing

- life sciences, biomedical research and bioeconomy
- aerospace

The Participants understand that there is potential to collaborate on joint research and development endeavours as well as joint PhD education. This may include projects that are to be jointly undertaken by at least one Bavarian state-funded higher education institution and at least one Queensland higher education institution. It is intended that preference is given to projects with significant industry partner(s), which can be located at either destination or country.

The potential for this collaboration will be further explored through the cooperative efforts of the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts, the Queensland Department of Environment and Science and Trade and Investment Queensland.

The Participants recognise that this is a general overview regarding the intent of cooperation. Individual collaborative programs or projects may be agreed upon between relevant parties, in their respective discretions and under separate arrangement(s). Any agreed projects will be implemented with recognition of the Participants' respective Government policies, research priorities and existing bilateral agreements.

The Participants, through its representatives intend to jointly coordinate dialogue and facilitate any resultant activities.

Either Participant may propose action plans linked to the proposed activities that may be added as appendices to this Declaration of Intent. Any such activities will be at the discretion of and subject to the available resources of each Participant.

The Participants intend that this Declaration of Intent

- starts on the date of the last signature and continues for an initial period of six years,
- may be amended or extended upon mutual consent in writing by the Participants and
- will not create a legal relationship or legal partnership between the Participants, demonstrate an intention to enter a legal relationship, or create any legal, contractual or financial rights or obligations for either Participant.

Given the Declaration of Intent is not intended to be legally binding, each Participant may end its involvement in the Declaration of Intent at its discretion. However, in the event a Participant wishes to end its involvement, it will endeavour to provide the other Participant with at least three months' notice in writing.

The Participants intend any dispute arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Declaration of Intent will be settled amicably by consultation and negotiation in good faith between the Participants.

Signed in Munich and Brisbane on 25 May 2023 in duplicate in the languages German and English, both texts being equivalent.

For the Bavarian State Ministry
of Science and the Arts

For the Queensland Department
of Environment and Science

Hon Markus Blume
Bavarian State Minister of Science
and the Arts

Hon Leanne Linard MP
Queensland Minister for the
Environment and the Great Barrier
Reef, Minister for Science and
Minister for Multicultural Affairs