**Memorandum of Understanding between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Cuba on enhancing cooperation in the energy sector.**

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Ministry of Energy and Mines, hereinafter referred to as the participants;

Recognising the maturing bilateral relationship and the importance of enhancing mechanisms for consultations on issues of mutual interest;

In the context of the updating of Cuba’s social and economic model, including the implementation of the Foreign Investment Law, ongoing resolution of foreign debt; continued development of the Mariel Special Development Zone; and plans to develop the national infrastructure;

Welcoming Cuba’s commitment to developing its national energy infrastructure, including the use of renewable technologies;

Have reached an understanding to enhance bilateral dialogue and cooperation in the area of energy by:

* Facilitating expert exchanges, training and development programmes;
* Improving links between relevant UK and Cuban institutions and businesses that work in the energy and renewable energy sectors.

The information provided and managed for the purpose of the signing of this Memorandum of Understanding is confidential, therefore its management should be restricted, in virtue of which, neither participant will disclose it or disseminate it to third parties without the written consent of the other participant.

The personnel sent to the country of either participant and in accordance with this Memorandum will be subject to the provisions of the national law applicable in the host country.

Costs and other expenses necessary for the implementation of the cooperation programme will be determined by the participants in accordance with the alternatives that are more feasible.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not governed by the international law and does not constitute or create (and it is not the purpose of it to create) obligations under international or domestic law. It will not lead to legal process or constitute or create any binding or enforceable (express or implied) obligation.

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of its signature and remain in force unless one of the participants, upon written notice to the other participant, decides to terminate it. In that case this Memorandum will be without effect ninety days from the date of receipt of such communication.

Signed in Havana, on 28 April 2016, in English and Spanish, in two original copies, both texts being equally valid.

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| **The Rt Hon Philip Hammond, MP,****Secretary of State for****Foreign and Commonwealth****Affairs of the United Kingdom****of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** | **HE Alfredo López Valdés****Minister of Energy and Mines of the Republic of Cuba** |