

## DECLARATION

We, the participants of the 5th International Conference for Small and Medium Wind Energy, representing public utilities, universities, the private sector and NGOs, have developed the following declaration

Micro, mini, small and medium wind has a future. Several manufacturers have already reached mass production, often with products that are properly tested, certified and proven in operation. There is demand for the products, especially on a few markets, like Arctic and rural areas, but there are also considerable potentials in most parts of the world.

Micro, mini, small and medium wind is for different applications – on-grid, off-grid, grid-backup and water supply, often in combination with other innovative ideas and technologies, such as in hybrid energy systems. Regarding water supply, not only can wind be used for water pumping, but also for desalination. Among other things, this is useful in agriculture, for irrigation and providing clean water for people and livestock.

Micro, mini, small and medium wind is of special importance for many islands and other remote locations, which often have good wind conditions, but are conventionally supplied by energy depending on imported fossil fuels; these are both costly and dangerous solutions, which are certainly not sustainable on the long run.

Micro, mini, small and medium wind can contribute to local empowerment, for example by local manufacturing, creating local jobs and by helping to achieve a lower carbon footprint; they can also lead to a “green profitability”, when replacing fossil fuels in conventional generators on remote sites. Additionally, they can provide good possibilities for Community Power and local ownership.

Micro, mini, small and medium wind are key for energy independence, especially in areas with good wind conditions and where there is a long dark winter. This is the situation for example in the Arctic areas.

There is however a need to increase the awareness of the opportunities of small wind, as well as to inform the potential buyers on the parameters to look at when selecting a model. These type of wind turbines can be very reliable if tested and certified by independent authorities. Nevertheless, despite testing being affordable, the cost of certification is still too high for the small market players involved in this industry, so there is a wish to simplify the process, following, for example, the new American NREL system.

We believe that this will allow the industry to lower its development costs and, at the same time, keep the quality of their products high.