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## Indian Ministry of Science & Technology and CBC to launch Green Oorja Clean Energy Initiative

To celebrate the '2008 Technology Day' on the 11<sup>th</sup> May, to be held at New Delhi, India, the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC) in partnership with Indian Ministry of Science and Technology (Technology Development Board) will launch a major new initiative called **Green Oorja**. The programme is aimed at combating climate change and reducing Green House emissions in India, through the development and commercialisation of key renewable energy technologies and conservation techniques, in partnership with the private sector.

Green Oorja intends to strengthen the already strong culture of innovation and technological development present in India by ensuring that information is shared between relevant partners and a sufficient level of investment is provided for continued advancement.

As can be expected in the field of green technology, there is considerable Government, corporate and academic interest in the programme from all over the world. In this multi-country initiative the CBC has already secured the formal support of British Petroleum (BP), Tata International, The Indian Institute of Technology (Bombay), Bird & Bird, The Carbon Trust and the Indian Government (Technology Development Board, Ministry of Science & Technology) as core founding partners of the program.

Green Oorja initiative will have four key outputs.

The first and immediate aim of the program is to draw up a comprehensive map of clean energy eco-system in India. This will include investigating the current research capabilities across all sectors and identifying organisations or institutions currently undertaking clean energy development. A study of the Indian market to identify its needs will be simultaneously undertaken and organisations actively seeking to bring foreign technology into the market will be identified. The research will be presented at a major conference on Clean Energy that will be organised later in the year 2008.

Secondly, concurrent to the mapping process, the program will aim to develop partnerships and disseminate information. Partners will be encouraged to collaborate ensuring the sharing of information and knowledge, while promoting joint innovation.

Thirdly, Green Oorja will seek to promote energy conservation by propagating successful techniques from around the world to Indian industry.

Finally, with the completion of the first phase of the programme, the initiative would look to mobilising significant investments in the further development of clean energy technologies.

### NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Further information can be found on [www.greenoorja.com](http://www.greenoorja.com)
2. For more information regarding the programme, contact Sanmit Ahuja, CBC Director of Investments & Ventures, at : [Sanmit.ahuja@cbcgloba.org](mailto:Sanmit.ahuja@cbcgloba.org), or call +44 20 7024 8242;
3. CBC is headed by its Director General & CEO, Dr. Mohan Kaul. The Chairman of the management board is Paul Skinner who is also Chairman of Rio Tinto.
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