



## SUMMARY OF THE FOURTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY: 17-19 JANUARY 2014

The fourth Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) took place from 18-19 January in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Assembly was preceded by a ministerial meeting on Friday, 17 January, on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor initiative. A ministerial roundtable discussion took place on Sunday in parallel to the IRENA Assembly.

More than 1,200 participants attended the Assembly. Key issues considered included: the work programme and budget for 2014-15 and procedure for appointing the Director-General; IRENA's annual publication, *Rethinking Energy*; the IRENA Renewable Energy and Jobs Report; a report on IRENA's Global Roadmap to 2030 (REmap 2030); Renewable Readiness Assessments; the IRENA/Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) Project Facility; and the Project Navigator, an online tool to support the development of renewable energy projects.

During the ministerial meeting on Friday, agreement was reached to endorse the IRENA Communiqué on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor, an initiative launched by the third session of the IRENA Assembly with the objective of developing clean, indigenous, cost-effective, renewable power to support Africa's economic development.

On Saturday, a signing ceremony took place at the Assembly for 23 new members to join the Global Renewable Energy Atlas initiative. On Sunday, a high-level event on public support for renewable energy and launch of the Coalition for Action took place, along with a high-level event on the costing of renewable energy and launch of the Renewable Costing Alliance.

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF IRENA

The statute establishing the International Renewable Energy Agency was adopted on 26 January 2009, and entered into force on 8 July 2010. IRENA's purpose is to promote the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy. IRENA currently has 124 member states, including the European Union (EU), with 43 states in the process of becoming members.

**PREPARATORY CONFERENCE:** The Preparatory Conference for the Foundation of IRENA was held from 10-11 April 2008, in Berlin, Germany. Delegates from 60 countries expressed support for the creation of an international agency for renewable energy, and discussed issues such as objectives, activities, organizational structure, and financing for the new agency. Two preparatory workshops for IRENA followed in Berlin, Germany, on 30 June and 1 July 2008, focusing on IRENA's work programme, statutes and finances.

**FINAL PREPARATORY CONFERENCE:** This meeting took place from 23-24 October 2008, in Madrid, Spain. Delegates concluded discussions on IRENA's statute, resolving issues such as financing, the criteria and procedures for selecting the Interim Director-General and the interim headquarters, and the design of the initial phase of IRENA.

**FOUNDING CONFERENCE:** IRENA's Founding Conference took place on 26 January 2009, in Bonn, Germany, where 75 countries signed the IRENA statute.

**PREPCOMS 1-5:** The Preparatory Commission of IRENA met five times between January 2009 and April 2011, following the founding conference. During these meetings, delegates discussed next steps for IRENA, designated Abu Dhabi, UAE, as the interim headquarters, and appointed Adnan Amin (Kenya) as Interim Director-General. Delegates also decided that Bonn, Germany, would host IRENA's Innovation and Technology Centre, and Vienna, Austria, would host IRENA's liaison office for cooperation with other organizations active in the field of

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renewable energy. Delegates further addressed issues such as the initial work programme, financial regulations, staff regulations and the budget.

**FIRST ASSEMBLY:** The first session of the IRENA Assembly was held from 4-5 April 2011, in Abu Dhabi. The Assembly focused, among others, on the election of the Council; the work programme and budget for 2011; rules of procedure; transitional arrangements; staff and financial matters; and organization of the second session of the Assembly. The Assembly also elected Adnan Amin as the Director-General. The Assembly included a High-Level Segment attended by over 50 ministers.

**SECOND ASSEMBLY:** The second session of the IRENA Assembly was held from 14-15 January 2012, in Abu Dhabi. Delegates adopted decisions on, *inter alia*: work programme and budget for 2012, the secondment of personnel, ethics and conflict of interest, and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development. Two ministerial roundtables were also held on the proposed medium-term strategy of IRENA, and IRENA's cooperation with the private sector.

**THIRD ASSEMBLY:** The third session of the IRENA Assembly took place on 13-14 January 2013 in Abu Dhabi. Delegates adopted the Agency's 2013 budget and work plan, along with a Medium-term Strategy. Members, taking into account the multi-year nature of IRENA's activities, also endorsed a two-year programming and budgeting cycle. The third Assembly also confirmed IRENA's commitment to action based on the UN Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative. Two ministerial roundtables also took place on "Financing of Renewables for Development," and "Renewable Energy Costs and Benefits."

## REPORT OF THE MEETING

This report summarizes discussions and outcomes of the fourth session of the IRENA Assembly, the ministerial discussions on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor initiative, and the ministerial roundtables.

### AFRICA CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDOR MINISTERIAL MEETING

On Friday afternoon, 17 January, IRENA Director-General Adnan Amin opened the ministerial meeting to consider an Action Agenda for the Africa Clean Energy Corridor. He urged participants to advance the main pillars of the draft communiqué on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor to: establish zones for development of renewable power plants; improve planning processes; support enabling frameworks for financing; and implement capacity building.

**BENEFITS OF THE AFRICA CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDOR:** A ministerial roundtable discussion on the benefits of the Africa Clean Energy Corridor was facilitated by Carlos Lopes, Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Ali Yacoub Mahamoud, Minister of Energy, Djibouti, highlighted the recent establishment of a body in Djibouti to realize the potential of geothermal energy, and

outlined other developments in solar and wind energy, saying these "exemplify strong sub-regional cooperation to achieve sustainable development."

Ato Alemayehu Tegenu, Minister of Water and Energy, Ethiopia, underscored the need for ambitious political commitment and determination, coupled with the consideration of community needs, to develop renewable energy. He outlined the development of hydro-power, geothermal, wind and solar energy in Ethiopia, as well as connecting other countries in the region to the grid.

Salvador Namburete, Minister of Energy, Mozambique, highlighted renewable energy mapping activities. Acknowledging impacts, including displacement and resettlement due to coal mining activities, he stressed the need to develop a balanced energy mix of fossil fuel and renewable energy resources.

Dikobe Benedict Martins, Minister of Energy, South Africa, stressed challenges facing renewable energy in Africa, notably that most countries do not have adequate financial resources to make renewable energy projects bankable. He emphasized the lack of clear energy policy and planning, identifying the need to work with various stakeholders to create innovative funding arrangements.

Tabitha Boutros, Minister of State for Electricity and Dams, Sudan, pointed to Sudan's use of hydropower and ongoing studies with Kenyan energy companies regarding Sudan's geothermal energy potential. She emphasized the need to focus on off-grid areas and to work with local communities.

Harry Kalaba, Minister of Lands, Natural Resources and Environment, Zambia, stated that his country is "not landlocked, but land-linked" concerning its renewable energy potential. He emphasized the need for renewable energy resource assessments and mapping with regards to the type, potential generation capacity and location of possible renewable energy resources.

Magdy Sady, Assistant Minister, Egypt, underscored the growing interest in renewable energy investments across the African continent that offers the political will and critical mass needed to move forward on renewable energy. He noted the Africa Clean Energy Corridor is not just about energy, but also about connectivity, including trade and transport.

During the discussion, the Democratic Republic of Congo highlighted its renewable energy potential at local and national levels, and identified the need to learn from others, such as Kenyan experts on geothermal energy. In closing, Moderator Lopes highlighted, *inter alia*, the need for political determination, bankable projects, capacity building, planning, and improved connectivity.

**PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE POWER INFRASTRUCTURE:** The partnership panel on promoting investment in renewable power infrastructure was facilitated by Lopes, who noted the shift in focus to infrastructure development.

Daniel Schroth, African Development Bank (AfDB), reflected on the AfDB's role in leveraging public resources in the region to attract investments, citing examples including: mitigating risk through partial risk guarantees; supporting project preparation

to increase the number of bankable projects with instruments, such as the Africa50 Infrastructure Fund; and providing advisory services to strengthen and build credibility for utility companies.

Wang Zhongying, National Renewable Energy Center, China, highlighted the importance of sound renewable energy infrastructure, including transmission infrastructure that accounts for diverse sources of renewable energy; and meeting the local energy demand and providing benefits to local economic growth.

Jesca Eriyo, Deputy Secretary General, East African Community, highlighted: plans for a regional renewable energy center; establishment of associations among the private sector to develop templates for power purchase; and harmonization of policies for clear implementation mechanisms. Drawing attention to existing challenges, she appealed to ministers to take the matter seriously and urgently sign the communiqué to support implementing the Africa Clean Energy Corridor.

Ingolf Dietrich, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany, underscored the importance of, *inter alia*: good sectoral governance; clear national targets; and appropriate legal frameworks. He outlined best-practice examples, including the “Get FiT Programme Uganda,” which includes premium payments to project developers to make renewable energy projects financially more attractive and bankable, and the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility with co-financing to offset high financial risks associated with geothermal energy.

Amb. Giorgio Starace, Italy, highlighted the Italy-Africa initiative to promote environmental, economic and social development. He outlined intentions to organize a workshop in cooperation with IRENA, the International Energy Agency and African countries to address issues, including diversification of energy sources, energy efficiency and the development of electricity grids.

Mosad El Missiry, New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), highlighted the importance of regional organizations that are able to promote regional solutions. He emphasized the need to consider synergies with existing programmes, including the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and NEPAD’s renewable energy programme for Africa.

Thani Al Zayoudi, UAE, identified the lack of project promotion, including towards international institutions, as a problem in Africa. He suggested that IRENA play a matchmaking role with respect to African renewable energy projects, and identified an annual forum as a potentially useful approach.

Rémy Lauranson, France, expressed strong support for the Africa Clean Energy Corridor as an important regional initiative with the potential to take advantage of economies of scale.

IRENA Director-General Amin highlighted Africa’s young population as “a tremendous opportunity” and current economic growth as a possibility to do things differently, stressing the importance of regional growth and integration.

**IRENA COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE AFRICA CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDOR:** On Friday evening, ministers considered endorsement of the IRENA Communiqué on the

Africa Clean Energy Corridor. IRENA Director-General Amin explained that the Communiqué had already undergone several rounds of discussion. Additional discussions addressed, *inter alia*, how IRENA could be more supportive of renewable energy development in Africa, including through partnerships with relevant institutions, such as UNECA.

Participants agreed to endorse the Communiqué to be taken up by the IRENA Assembly. Moderator Lopes commended the endorsement of the Communiqué, stating that this will create visibility for the renewable energy agenda in Africa. IRENA Director-General Amin thanked ministers and delegates for their commitment to renewable energy and closed the meeting.

**Final Outcome:** The communiqué calls on the African Union Commission, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the East African Community, the Southern Africa Development Community, and NEPAD, as well as the African Energy Commission, the Eastern African Power Pool and its Independent Regulatory Board, the Southern African Power Pool, and the Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa, with support from the UNECA, the AfDB and other multilateral financial institutions, to cooperate with IRENA in bringing the Africa Clean Energy Corridor to fruition by committing to:

- zoning and resource assessment through partnerships with expert institutions, with IRENA expanding the Global Renewable Energy Atlas;
- planning at the country and regional levels to promote and strengthen integrated resource-planning to optimize investments in generation and transmission infrastructure with IRENA supporting the inclusion of more renewable power in countries and regional plans by providing targeted information and data, especially on the declining costs of renewable energy technology;
- enabling frameworks for investment to encourage innovative financing structures that leverage government and donor resources with IRENA supporting development of government policies to enable investments in renewables and develop bankable project proposals through the Project Navigator;
- capacity building to plan, construct, and operate power systems with a greater share of renewable generation with IRENA facilitating the sharing of best practices and lessons learned; and
- raising awareness and public information on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor at the global, regional and country levels.

#### **IRENA ASSEMBLY**

The fourth session of the IRENA Assembly opened on Saturday morning, 18 January. Vice-President of the third session of the Assembly, Dato’ Seri DiRaja Mahdzir Khalid, Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Malaysia, welcomed participants, emphasizing the need for an intergovernmental agency to address renewable energy and confirming Malaysia’s commitment to IRENA.

Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of State, UAE, emphasized commitment to IRENA and announced a contribution of US\$41

million to the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development to support renewable energy projects in developing countries.

**ORGANIZATION OF WORK: Election of Officials:** The Assembly confirmed designations made at the previous meeting, electing Pedro Joaquín Coldwell (Mexico) as President of its fourth session, and Tariq Ibrahim (Maldives), Hans Brattskar (Norway), Dikobe Benedict Martins (South Africa) and Walter Steinmann (Switzerland) as Vice-Presidents. The Assembly elected Tabitha Boutros (Sudan) as Rapporteur.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** The Assembly adopted the agenda (A/4/L.1) with amendments concerning the order in which agenda items will be taken up and adding items on: a signing ceremony for the Global Renewable Energy Atlas; sharing the main findings of IRENA's Renewable Energy and Jobs report; and considering a report on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor initiative.

**Credentials Committee:** The Assembly appointed the following nine members to the Credentials Committee: Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Germany, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Switzerland.

**Observer Participation:** The Assembly agreed to grant observer status to the listed applicants (A/4/L.4).

**Report of the third session of the Assembly:** The Assembly adopted the draft report of the third session of the Assembly (A/3/SR/L.1).

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET:** IRENA Director-General Amin presented the report on the implementation of the work programme and budget for 2013 (A/4/2), highlighting the increase to 167 members as a sign of the expanding role of renewable energy in a sustainable future. Quoting Nelson Mandela, he reflected on ambitious achievements in 2013, saying "it always seems impossible until it is done." Director-General Amin highlighted national, regional and global activities that support the advancement of policies, research and development, analysis and deployment of renewable energy, supporting progress to meet goals for SE4ALL.

Many members commended IRENA for its work and progress, stressing the Agency's central role in promoting renewable energy. Many also thanked the UAE for its support of the Agency.

China encouraged the consideration of: free trade in renewable energy technology and products; promotion of advanced technology globally; and further dissemination of knowledge to raise public awareness. Norway called for the elimination of fossil fuel subsidies and stressed the importance of promoting women's rights and gender equality. He announced a voluntary contribution of US\$2 million to IRENA. Belgium applauded IRENA as the "most important source of information on renewable energy and a global voice shaping policy debate," pledging €750,000 for 2014.

The Maldives discussed national challenges and programmes to convert electricity systems to renewable energy, acknowledging the leadership of IRENA for setting clear priorities for the future. India welcomed IRENA's work, offering

the availability of his country's technical institutions to support the ambitious work programme and accepting the offer to become a Vice-Chair of IRENA's Council for 2014.

Egypt highlighted his country's new constitution, which supports a continued commitment to achieve the target of increasing the use of renewable energy by 20% by 2030.

Germany highlighted its new government's strong support for renewable energy. He expressed satisfaction that IRENA has started to deliver and "grown up," emphasizing the need for IRENA to be an implementing agency that makes changes on the ground. He highlighted the Second High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership that will take place in Ethiopia in February.

New Zealand highlighted the importance of considering the Pacific region and announced a contribution of NZ\$500,000 to support renewable energy initiatives in the Pacific. Turkey explained that renewable energy accounted for 50% of his country's total energy investments in 2013 and stressed the importance of incentives, new technologies, and reducing the investment and operating costs of renewable energy.

Highlighting that the EU climate and energy package for 2030 will be finalized in the coming months, Portugal called for the EU to adopt: a 40% emission reduction target; 40% target for renewable energy; and a 30% binding target for energy efficiency by 2030. Stressing the importance of transmission capacity, he also called for EU member states' interconnection capacity target of 25%.

Japan highlighted his country's financial and knowledge-sharing contributions to IRENA, as well as assistance in its human resources development. He noted that Japan will run for the Presidency of the fifth session of the IRENA Assembly in 2015. France announced intentions to continue strong relations with IRENA, highlighting the French Prime Minister's recent letter to IRENA announcing intentions to have permanent representation.

Australia emphasized support for IRENA's activities, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, and commended its achievements, such as the Global Energy Atlas, Global Renewable Energy Islands Network and costing studies. Vanuatu outlined priorities, including: scaling up investment; regional data repositories; sharing expertise to develop realistic policies and regulatory and financial frameworks; offering scholarships; considering disadvantaged regions; and increasing funding. Stressing the need for concrete outcomes, the Republic of Korea called for identifying IRENA's priorities and practical projects.

Iran expressed hope that the expert plans and programmes of IRENA could be translated into action. He announced readiness for cooperation and discussed provisioning for sustainable access to renewable energy to his country's remote areas to improve livelihoods. Malaysia identified the need for support from IRENA in the East Asian region, highlighting biomass and ocean thermal energy conversion. Singapore lamented his country's limited access to renewable energy sources while highlighting several national initiatives, including viability of solar systems in tropical and urban settings, and tidal energy.

Seychelles commended IRENA for its support for small island developing states and outlined progress in his country, including the commissioning of the first wind farm in 2013 and new measures to promote solar energy. Mauritius emphasized five priority areas—a focus on energy, economy, education, the environment and equity—emphasizing that Mauritius aims to achieve a 35% renewable energy target by 2025 and a 10% improvement in energy efficiency in nonresidential and public buildings, together with improvements in the renewable energy jobs sector.

Colombia identified energy development as a constitutional principle with three pillars: energy efficiency, reliability and sustainability. Peru highlighted the Renewables Readiness Assessment (RRA) conclusions on Peru to be presented on Sunday and noted fairness and sustainability as key principles of national energy development.

Sudan commended the Africa Clean Energy Corridor as an excellent initiative that will promote, *inter alia*, peace, stability, capacity building, women's empowerment, poverty reduction and access to energy. Ethiopia emphasized considerable renewable energy potential, including in geothermal, solar, wind, biomass and hydro, expressing commitment to continue the renewable energy revolution with IRENA.

Italy identified a market-based approach as the most appropriate for renewable energy in national contexts where universal access to energy has already been reached. Greece voiced its support for the Global Renewable Energy Atlas as a landmark of IRENA and noted legislation to achieve the EU's 2020 targets on renewable energy, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Acknowledging current economic austerity measures, Spain confirmed its support for IRENA and highlighted the role of Spanish companies working in the renewable energy sector. Cyprus highlighted his country's recent achievements with a growth of renewable energy from almost zero to 10% in 2008-13.

Bangladesh shared examples of national commitment to overcome challenges and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency in order to provide electricity for all citizens by 2021. Uganda reviewed the national objective to increase renewable power production through policy, power sector reform, refurbished networks, rural electrification and rural renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes, calling on investors to support the energy development sector in Uganda.

Noting that IRENA has become a mature organization in a short period of time, Uruguay discussed domestic policies to meet the goal of 95% of energy produced from non-traditional renewable resources by 2016 and expressed interest in sharing experiences with others.

The Assembly agreed to adopt the Director-General's report (A/4/2).

**GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY ATLAS INITIATIVE:** On Saturday afternoon, a signing ceremony took place for the 23 new members joining the Global Renewable Energy

Atlas initiative. The Secretariat highlighted that the Atlas is an instrument for international cooperation that is available to all and is the largest information node on renewable resource maps.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) emphasized that as renewable energy increasingly becomes the technology of choice for developing countries, the Global Atlas provides important access to datasets required to aid government and project developers in decision making, noting positive feedback in West Africa.

**RETHINKING ENERGY – IRENA'S ANNUAL PUBLICATION:** IRENA Director-General Amin presented on IRENA's annual publication *REthinking Energy*. He underscored the need for IRENA to be an authoritative voice in favor of renewable energy in the international arena based on unbiased knowledge and data. He identified an annual publication as a means to achieve this objective and recalled that the third session of the Assembly decided to proceed with such a publication.

Director-General Amin reported that the report's shape and outline have been clarified and that it will be published in April 2014. On key messages, he emphasized that the share of renewable energy can double from current levels to 36% by 2030, stressing that transformative change is possible and that renewable energy can develop faster than before. He outlined steps towards the report's finalization.

For the next annual report, Japan proposed considering specific regions, such as the Asian region.

The Assembly agreed to take note of the presentation.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT:** IRENA Council Chair Karsten Sach (Germany) reported on Council matters since the third session of the Assembly. He highlighted the main elements of the report, including discussions on the new biennial work programme for 2014-15. He reported on informal discussions on overcoming the financial constraints facing many countries and encouraging additional voluntary contributions from members. He also announced that due to new government arrangements, he and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety will no longer be responsible for issues relating to IRENA. IRENA Director-General Amin thanked Sach for his important personal support for IRENA and its establishment.

The Assembly took note of the Council Chair's Report.

**2014-15 WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET:** IRENA Director-General Amin presented the proposed work programme and budget for 2014-2015 (A/4/3; A/4/DC/L.1/Rev.1). He emphasized that member support is required to implement an effective, focused and results-oriented work programme. He explained that the new work programme focuses on costing measures, new business models, institutional capacity, as well as communication and outreach. He highlighted: the Global Energy Renewable Atlas; REmap 2030 – IRENA's Global Roadmap to 2030; SE4ALL; the annual publication, *REthinking Energy*; and intentions to work with the ADFD.

Mexico offered to host the next international off-grid energy conference in 2016, underscoring the need to bring energy and electricity to remote areas. Japan pledged support to IRENA

in terms of technical cooperation, data-collection, and human resources development through a financial contribution of US\$820,000 in 2014. While expressing support for IRENA's work programme and budget, the Republic of Korea proposed the inclusion of monitoring to ensure transparency.

Greece pointed to the Global Bioenergy Partnership, underscoring IRENA's role in biofuel standardization. The UAE suggested a study be conducted on the GCC countries because of their high renewable energy potential.

Turkey reminded delegates of the competition facing renewable energy from the fossil fuel industry. Ecuador underscored the necessity of capacity building. Iran announced plans to host the 6th International Renewable Exhibition on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency from 26 February to 1 March 2015 in Tehran, and the 10th International Conference on Energy in August 2014 in Tehran.

Argentina requested future inclusion of bodies that cooperate with IRENA in Latin America and questioned whether IRENA should address the topic of standards. France expressed preference for priority actions in the future, such as: focusing on the most vulnerable developing countries; training and sharing of best practices; and enhancing the image of IRENA as a credible institution.

Uruguay warned against allowing diverse aspirations to diffuse the success of IRENA. He called for capacity building and consideration by the Council of ways to increase the budget. Malaysia called for an increased focus in Asian regions and biomass, and constant review of programmes to improve deliverables, mentioning the Centre for Education and Training in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CETREE) as a potential model.

Thanking delegates for positive feedback and support, IRENA Director-General Amin expressed interest in further exploring these ideas, inviting members to continue to provide guidance.

The Assembly agreed to the proposed work programme and budget for 2014-2015.

**Final Outcome:** The decision on the work programme and budget for 2014-2015 (A/4/DC/L.1.Rev.1) includes:

- core budget appropriations of US\$40 million to cover core activities and administrative costs, across the biennium;
- voluntary contributions resulting from the UAE bid implementation agreement of US\$14.8 million, across the biennium; and
- voluntary contributions from Germany for the IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre in Bonn of US\$9.2 million across the biennium.

The decision also:

- invites members, signatories, states in accession and other potential members to provide additional voluntary contributions;
- requests the Director-General to establish cooperative arrangements with bilateral, multilateral and international initiatives and entities to jointly implement elements of the work programme;

- requests the Director-General to work with the Council to seek innovative funding options and report on the progress made at the fifth session of the Assembly; and
- authorizes the Director-General to make transfers between appropriations sub-programmes up to the limit of 15% of the amount appropriated or the sub-programme in question.

The Assembly also adopted the proposed work programme and budget for 2014-2015, report of the Director-General (A/4/3), and an 81-page document prepared in light of Assembly Decision A/3/DC/12. The report, *inter alia*, lists IRENA objectives of:

- mainstreaming renewable energy options and strategies in energy plans;
- making renewable energy knowledge accessible to all;
- improving policy frameworks and enabling market conditions for accelerated deployment of renewable energy;
- contributing to sustainable livelihoods through access to renewable energy;
- transforming island energy systems through renewable energy; and
- regional cooperation on increasing deployment of renewables, to meet growing energy demand.

The report identifies six thematic areas:

- planning for the global energy transition;
- gateway to knowledge on renewable energy;
- enabling investment and growth;
- renewable energy access for sustainable livelihoods;
- islands: lighthouses for renewable energy deployment; and
- regional action agenda.

**REMAP 2030 – IRENA'S GLOBAL ROADMAP TO 2030:** The Secretariat presented on the report "REmap 2030 – IRENA's Global Roadmap to 2030," which considers: pathways for doubling of the global share of renewable energy by 2030; technology options; and opportunities for international cooperation. He identified an 18% share in 2013 as the starting point, saying business-as-usual would lead to 21% in 2030. He explained that additional efforts will lead to 30%, while also noting that energy access and efficiency will achieve a 34-35% share. The Secretariat indicated that going beyond this is possible but would require "more extreme measures," such as breakthrough technologies and early retirement of existing generation capacity.

The Secretariat underscored the transition to renewable energy is less expensive than continuing on the non-renewable energy path. He highlighted other benefits, including: achieving the 2°C climate target; creating 3.5 million new jobs; and producing other socio-economic benefits, such as improved trade balance and economic activity gains. The Secretariat stressed synergies between energy efficiency and renewable energy.

China welcomed the report, saying it serves policymakers and provides support to government strategy and plans. The US welcomed new perspectives from the exercise. Tonga drew attention to implementation difficulties, stressing the importance of "a lot of political will." The Republic of Korea expressed hope that more countries will join the initiative. Japan announced

intentions for a voluntary contribution on biomass, subject to legislative approval. India identified the need to understand the methodology used in the study and validate the report's findings concerning India. While noting his country's commitment and support for energy access for all, and for increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy, India underscored that timelines and targets may not be desirable. France highlighted the importance of conveying the report's positive message that doubling the share of renewable energy is possible.

The Assembly took note of the presentation and discussion.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY AND JOBS REPORT:** The Secretariat presented the new "Renewable Energy and Jobs" report. She noted that in 2012, approximately 5.7 million people were employed in the renewable energy sector worldwide and highlighted estimates that by 2030, 9.5 million jobs could exist in the renewable energy sector. She explained that this number could go up to 16.7 million if the share of renewable energy is doubled by 2030.

The Secretariat highlighted key recommendations, *inter alia*, the need for: a tailored policy mix; education and training programmes; dedicated policies to address the multidimensional challenge of energy access; opportunities for women's employment; and the need for sound data and information to enable policymaking and maximize socio-economic benefits.

China proposed that the report be updated every few years and future reports include comparative studies on how growth in the renewable energy job sector affects jobs in traditional energy industries. Germany praised the report as the "most comprehensive study" to date, stating it provides valuable insights. Germany also acknowledged the need to study skill gaps, and support for international cooperation and dialogue. Greece recognized the report as a good tool for politicians to understand renewable energy issues.

The Assembly took note of the presentation and discussion.

**INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS: Credentials Committee's report:** The Assembly took note of the Credentials Committee's report (A/4/5).

**IRENA's financial regulations and procedures:** The Assembly endorsed the draft financial regulations (A/4/L.7), took note of the draft financial procedures (A/4/L.8), and adopted the draft decision on financial regulations (A/4/DC/L.2).

**Final Outcome:** The decision A/4/DC/L.2 approves the draft financial regulations for IRENA contained in document A/4/L.7. The regulations govern the financial administration of IRENA, including on the definitions for statute, Agency, Assembly, Council, Secretariat, Member, appropriations, budget, contributions, *ex gratia* payment, financial regulations, commitment, programmes, short-term investments, open commitment and Working Capital Fund. Also included are regulations for: financial and budget periods; appropriations; contributions; assessed contributions and payment modalities; voluntary contributions; custody of funds; procurement; internal control; internal oversight; financial statements and accounts; and general provisions.

**Audited financial statements for 2012 and status of the implementation of audit observations and recommendations:**

The Secretariat reported that it has implemented several of the audit observations and recommendations identified in the audited financial statements for 2012. The US expressed appreciation for the report.

The Assembly took note of the audited financial statements for 2012, together with the related reports of the external auditor (A/4/6) and the Director-General's report on the status of the implementation of the audit observations and recommendations (A/4/9).

**Report of the Ethics Officer:** The Secretariat presented the report of the ethics officer on the implementation of the policy on ethics and conflict of interest (A/4/10), noting one request for advice during the reporting period and subsequent satisfactory service provided. She reported on ethics trainings in Abu Dhabi on 13-16 May 2013. The Assembly took note of the report.

**Selection and appointment of the Director-General of IRENA:** On Sunday evening, Council Chair Sach presented a proposal on possible amendments to the selection and appointment procedures of the Director-General (A/4/L.11/Rev.1). Noting that this involved procedural matters regarding the interim position of the Director-General, he proposed two options: to proceed with an open vacancy announcement wherein interested candidates could apply; or, if the Assembly was satisfied with the incumbent and the incumbent decides to seek renewal, s/he should submit a letter to the members, wherein members could then make their positions heard. Highlighting that the latter option could save time and resources while ensuring a transparent procedure, he emphasized the position would be renewed only if IRENA members were satisfied with the incumbent's leadership.

France and other members voiced concerns about the negotiating process, expressing concern that the necessary consultations were not carried out in time and underscoring that the procedures to nominate and designate the next Director-General are critical to IRENA's organizational structure.

Many members stressed that the issue under consideration was a procedural one and not related to members' views on the current Director-General. Sudan, Turkey and others expressed satisfaction with Director-General Amin's leadership, noting his "vast accomplishments" in a short period of time.

After informal consultations, Council Chair Sach reported on compromise language, including that the Council be alerted at least three months in advance on whether or not the incumbent decides to seek renewal of his/her appointment and that this information be forwarded to all IRENA members.

Council Chair Sach underlined that there were two divergent opinions and that countries of the other opinion requested that their views be reflected in the meeting's report. He commended the members and France in particular for the spirit of compromise. France abstained from the final decision and asked that this be reflected in the meeting's report.

The Assembly adopted the draft decision (A/4/DC/L.3/Rev.1), as orally amended.

Argentina proposed and read out a resolution commending Karsten Sach for his important work for IRENA.

**Final Outcome:** The decision (A/4/DC/L.3/Rev.1) adopts the document on the selection and appointment of the Director-General of IRENA (A/4/L.11/Rev.1) as an addendum to the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and the Council (A/3/6).

The document on the selection and appointment of the Director-General addresses:

- statutory requirements and general principles;
- roles and responsibilities of the Assembly and the Council in the selection process;
- the appointment procedure; and
- guiding principles on the qualification of candidates.

On the appointment procedure, the document provides that the President of the Assembly is to notify the membership of the forthcoming end of the Director-General's four-year term.

The document describes the functions of the Director-General Selection Committee, including: preparing a vacancy announcement; reviewing applications; and interviewing selected candidates. When shortlisting candidates, due regard is to be paid to equitable geographical representation and gender balance, while bearing mind of the criteria of merit as the overarching principle. Up to five shortlisted candidates are to be invited to give a presentation to the Council.

The document also provides that if the incumbent Director-General should decide to seek renewal of his/her appointment for a further term, s/he should submit "at least three months before the Council after the Assembly" a letter to the Council Chair expressing his/her intent to seek "or not to seek" renewal. The incumbent Director-General should then make a presentation at a session of the Council, open to all IRENA members, after which the Council may recommend the incumbent for renewal or initiate a new appointment procedure.

**RENEWABLES READINESS ASSESSMENTS:** On Sunday morning, IRENA Deputy Director-General Frank Wouters presented an overview of Renewables Readiness Assessments (RRAs) in 20 countries, reporting that RRAs have been successfully completed in 14 countries.

The Secretariat demonstrated how RRAs enable IRENA to strengthen ties at the country level. She framed future work on regional and global initiatives, sharing video messages from the field as evidence of positive progress.

Members shared their experiences with the RRA process. Mauritania noted support for the development of increased production capacity, grid infrastructure and increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy mix. Mongolia outlined positive progress, including: improving the use of resources; developing policy and stakeholder buy-in; promoting renewable sources of energy for export; and identifying transboundary potential for a "super-grid" in Asia.

Nicaragua reported its decrease in reliance on fossil fuels and an increase in renewable energy facilitated by the RRA. The Gambia reported progress in the development of legal and regulatory frameworks and commercial viability assessments for

hybrid mini-grids, calling on potential investors. Peru reported on experiences with the RRA supporting auction of renewable energy and thus supporting increased access in rural areas.

The Assembly took note of the presentations and discussion.

**PROJECT NAVIGATOR:** IRENA Deputy Director-General Wouters highlighted the Project Navigator, to be launched during the first half of 2014. He explained that this tool to improve the quality of renewable energy project proposals will benefit project developers and funding institutions.

The Secretariat explained that this online tool offers step-wise guidance, taking into consideration various funding options and project sizes from small individual-scale renewable energy projects to large utility-sized ones. He emphasized that while the Project Navigator focuses on project developers, including the private sector, state-owned companies and municipalities, it will also help IRENA members. He outlined steps for the tool's further development.

The UAE stressed the importance of the tool for presenting feasible projects with good funding possibilities, and called for cooperation between the Project Navigator and funding institutions. The Dominican Republic expressed a desire to become a pilot country for the Project Navigator's implementation.

The ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency noted a pipeline of 730 renewable energy projects developed since 2011. Stressing the time-consuming nature of the assessment process, he explained that only 35 projects have been assessed. He confirmed that lack of expertise by project developers as an important problem, noting the potential of Project Navigator to address this, while stressing that country-specific considerations must also be included.

The Assembly took note of the presentations and discussions.

**HIGH-LEVEL EVENT ON PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND LAUNCH OF THE COALITION FOR ACTION:** IRENA Director-General Amin acknowledged "the missing compelling narrative" for the renewable energy sector, requiring an authoritative voice to help articulate the existing business case to promote policy change and increase project development.

The Secretariat announced 36 signatories to the Coalition for Action, underscoring the need to develop consistent messages to debunk myths on renewable energy and engage public support. He summarized the aim of the Coalition for Action to: communicate facts supported with images; follow a proactive, not reactive, approach in messaging; and address the undecided majority.

Greenpeace welcomed the goal to provide unbiased information across the world on renewable energy, predicting that the platform will be able to reach a diverse audience and play an important role in the future energy debate. Vestas Wind Systems voiced support for the Coalition, acknowledging the current time to act and "ensure that the myths do not define the future." WWF International declared the initiative as a positive and inclusive step to overcome the "addiction to fossil fuels."



Peru highlighted the value of providing access to public information. Japan, supporting the initiative, posed a question regarding the role of academia. Burkina Faso invited support to help mobilize stakeholders in international conferences to promote renewable energy resources in Africa. Argentina identified the positive influence of the Coalition for Action to help governments implement policies for renewable energy, supporting the idea to work with the banking sector to overcome financing “grid-lock.” Yemen stated support for clear strategies and policies adaptable to the nature and climate of each region.

The Assembly took note of presentations and discussions.

**HIGH-LEVEL EVENT ON THE COSTING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND LAUNCH OF THE RENEWABLE COSTING ALLIANCE:** Director-General Amin introduced the IRENA Renewable Costing Alliance, an analysis on the costs and performance of renewable energy technologies, challenging the assumption that “renewables are too expensive.”

The Secretariat emphasized the need for up-to-date cost data to communicate the message regarding the increasing cost-competitiveness of renewable energy. He listed several benefits, *inter alia*: renewables are increasingly grid competitive; biofuels and electricity offer cleaner transportation fuel solutions; and the costs of renewable energy are declining. Stating that IRENA wants to be the source of renewable energy cost data, he underscored that the Alliance is about pooling data, confidentially, for the members’ mutual benefit.

Italy reflected on the need to express the real and full cost of renewable energy, including the value added in terms of jobs, trade, and environmental and social impacts. The European Investment Bank expressed desire to collaborate with IRENA, such as on joint studies on local renewable energy costing. Remarking that its energy provision is controlled by private companies and energy data remains confidential, Turkey questioned how to still contribute to the Alliance.

A signing ceremony for the Renewable Costing Alliance took place with the participation of Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Tanzania, UAE, US, Uruguay and Zimbabwe as the eight founding members.

**IRENA/ADFD PROJECT FACILITY:** IRENA Director-General Amin introduced the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility general principles transmittal note (A/4/L.13), highlighting the inclusion of a refined set of procedures based on lessons learned.

Advisory Committee Chair Ilona Antoniszyn-Klik (Poland) reported on the first project cycle (A/4/12), sharing a short video presentation. Discussing the projects, she highlighted energy security, improved energy access, and positive social impacts. She underscored that the Facility provides support to improve lives in places where it is most needed and called for applications for the second project cycle.

Maldives discussed a project proposal in the waste management sector, saying it will transform the energy sector to use renewable sources, benefiting a third of the population and addressing environmental challenges. Mali highlighted that

the project funded through the Facility is supporting increased stability, improved health conditions, and development of electrification in rural areas with solar power.

Mauritania expressed gratitude for support for projects that will provide good economic return. Ecuador discussed efforts to change consumer patterns of energy empowered with the approval of a project for the development of mini-power plants in rural areas.

Samoa expressed gratitude for endorsement of projects that will create opportunities for rural communities, decrease reliance on imported energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

UAE presented on the ADFD, reviewing the US\$350 million commitment over seven years to support partner countries to overcome economic challenges to achieve sustainable development, noting that remaining funds from the first cycle will carry over to the second cycle.

Japan urged that the second project cycle continue to account for geographical and energy source diversity by selecting projects in Asia and geothermal energy. The Republic of Korea shared national activities influenced by the Facility, pledging commitment to continue as a member for increased deployment of renewable energy.

The Assembly appointed Argentina, Fiji, Japan, Poland, Sierra Leone, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Sudan to serve on the Advisory Committee for the second project cycle. Benin, France, India, the Republic of Korea, and South Africa were appointed as alternates.

The Assembly endorsed the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility – General Principles Transmittal note (A/4/L.13) and adopted the related draft decision on the general principles for the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility (A/4/DC/L.4).

**Final Outcome:** The draft decision (A/4/DC/L.4) approves the Draft General Principles for the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility and invites the Director-General to continue, as necessary, to further develop the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility, in consultation with the Advisory Committee and the ADFD, with a view to maximize the Facility’s benefit for the members of the Agency.

The IRENA/ADFD Project Facility – General Principles Transmittal note (A/4/L.13) sets out general principles for the implementation and further development of the Facility including: eligibility and selection criteria; the funding cycle roles and responsibilities and selection process; Advisory Committee; and Panel of Experts.

**REPORT FROM THE MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE:** On Sunday morning, a ministerial roundtable took place in parallel with the Assembly. The roundtable was organized in two parts. The first part focused on the theme “Renewables – Extending the frontier” and the second part addressed “Regional initiatives for scaling up investment in renewable power.” These discussions were reported to the Assembly on Sunday evening. The Assembly took note of the oral report.

**Renewables – Extending the frontier:** IRENA Director-General Amin emphasized the role of science, technology and innovation to stimulate the expansion of renewable energy

while increasing competitiveness and creating a business case to increase the use of renewable energy. The roundtable was moderated by Walter Steinmann, Switzerland.

**Panel Presentations:** Maria van der Hoeven, International Energy Agency, stressed the importance of focusing not only on individual technologies, but also considering system integration. She emphasized collaborative technology networks, such as SolarPACES.

Steve Sawyer, Global Wind Energy Council, underscored wind energy as the “cheapest way to add new generation capacity to the grid.” He challenged government authorities to provide policy certainty and noted that IRENA can help the industry by encouraging countries to develop their research and development (R&D) capability and catered approaches based on country-specific characteristics.

Christopher Somerville, University of California, Berkeley, presented on “non-food” advanced biofuels, highlighting a budget of US\$1 billion from private and public sources. He stated that IRENA can support this development, providing a trusted source of technical advice and encouraging policy stability.

**Ministerial Discussion:** India identified the need for cheaper storage capacity at a larger scale and to stabilize current grid fluctuations. Bahrain pointed to the use of reverse osmosis for water desalination, questioning how to incorporate renewable energy in this process. Colombia emphasized that the viability of biofuels depends on efficiency, environmental sustainability and social inclusiveness. Sudan encouraged members to invest more in R&D, while making use of existing technologies.

Highlighting financial support of US\$125 million to R&D in the renewable energy sector, Mexico asked how to improve technology upscaling and create the necessary conditions for the private sector to participate in the renewable energy market. Nicaragua emphasized the need for “vigorous lobbying and intelligent strategies” to combat entrenched interests and address political and policy constraints facing renewable energy grid integration.

Pointing to feed-in tariffs and policy incentives, China asked how long such approaches should be utilized. Mauritania asked about IRENA mechanisms to share best practices. Zimbabwe presented its strategy on mandatory blending rations in ethanol from sugar cane. Argentina asked if synergy between paper production and advanced biofuels is possible.

**Panel Presentations:** Eicke Weber, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems, presented a grid integration study based on an assumed 100% supply from renewable energy. While stating that this is possible, he underscored the need to include both decentralized renewable energy production and large-scale storage.

Peter Joergensen, Energinet.dk – TSO Denmark, noted that approximately 33% of all electricity in Denmark is produced by wind thanks to a flexible generation system and being part of the European grid. Expressing the need for long-term solutions, he reminded delegates that building grids takes time.

**Ministerial Discussion:** Israel described its experience in wind and solar energy, and noted strong political commitment to renewable energy from different ministers. The Republic of Korea highlighted its long-term energy plan aiming to quadruple the supply of renewable energy by 2035. Mali identified investments in solar energy, while pointing to challenges, such as damage to solar panels from dust and sand storms, and storage problems. He noted a new technique to clean solar panels, and to work with partner countries, such as Germany, to learn about storage of renewable energy.

Maldives noted recent interest in a commercial-scale biofuel industry. Zambia proposed: a center of excellence for research, development and deployment of renewables; and focusing on building capacity in communities and among consumers. Uruguay noted high interconnection levels, while seeking advice from IRENA concerning further improvement.

China highlighted its policy and legal frameworks supporting renewable energy, expressing willingness to share experiences. Ethiopia advised IRENA to work with universities in different countries to help build local capacity and accelerate local manufacturing. Mozambique highlighted mapping exercises for its renewable energy resources, while emphasizing the need for capacity-building activities in Africa. Italy welcomed IRENA’s region-based approach and noted the Italy-Africa initiative to build partnerships on renewable energy and green growth.

IRENA Director-General Amin noted: developments in renewable energy policies and technologies; an emphasis on sharing of knowledge and experiences; and IRENA’s role in promoting renewable energy and scaling up.

**Regional initiatives for scaling up investment in renewable power:** The second part of the ministerial roundtable focused on regional initiatives, moderated by Carlos Pascual, US.

Ato Alemayeh Tengu, Minister of Water and Energy, Ethiopia, reported on the ministerial meeting on the Africa Clean Energy Corridor. He highlighted opportunities to develop renewable energy sources in Africa, saying challenges can be overcome by regional cooperation and with international partners. He discussed the eastern African power pool and plans for interconnectivity. He explained that the power pool is “at an infant state” and each country has its own energy pricing policies.

Paddy Padmanathan, ACWA Power, highlighted a “compelling case for renewable energy” in the Middle East and North Africa corridor countries, explaining that during daylight hours, electricity produced from oil at market price costs 22-23 cents per kilowatt hour (kW/h), while solar amounts only to 18.9 cents per kW/h. He noted: interconnections between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries; and that Saudi Arabia is proceeding with an interconnection with Egypt across the Suez Canal and is in advanced discussions on how to link the GCC countries to the European grid through Turkey. Concerning key investment signals, he highlighted transparency in alternatives and price evaluations, and criticized subsidies and feed-in tariffs.

Paul Oquist, Minister-Secretary of National Policies, Nicaragua, highlighted that his country is on the path towards a 90% share in renewable energy by 2020, which means saving US\$600 million annually on imported oil. He stressed the importance of Central American energy integration. On investments, Oquist said that the investor rather than the government needs to assume the risk, and highlighted the importance of a legally-binding regulatory framework.

Dirk Biermann, 50 Hertz, reported a 25% share of renewable energy in Germany based on the “volatile technologies” of solar and wind energy. Acknowledging the challenges, he noted that technologies, including smart-metering and forecast tools, are available for addressing them. He recognized that renewable energy support schemes do not go well with a competitive market, saying the objective must be to integrate renewables with the market as much as possible. He explained that Europe had an interconnected energy market before the “renewables boom” and noted intentions for a new interconnection to Scandinavia.

Belgium highlighted the GRID initiative. Welcoming the Africa Clean Energy Corridor, Iran expressed interest in a similar regional initiative for Western and Central Asia through IRENA. Djibouti identified the need to consider challenges, such as: ensuring attractive institutional and legal frameworks; grid stability; and storage. China underscored the importance of considering storage technologies to offset fluctuation and called for further cooperation under IRENA.

Peru noted that while energy integration has not been achieved in Latin America for conventional sources, the issue could be revisited for renewable energy. He emphasized the importance of a competitive renewable energy industry and regulatory harmonization. Sweden noted energy as a matter of national security, saying the trend might be towards more regulation instead of deregulation. He identified renewable energy certificates as a technology-neutral and market-based international support system. Greece, as the European Union (EU) Presidency, noted the EU’s forthcoming 2030 roadmap for energy and climate change as the most important point for debate in the coming months.

Moderator Pascual thanked the panel for demonstrating that the regional concept is being put into practice and is cost-competitive.

**REPORT ON THE AFRICA CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDOR INITIATIVE:** The Assembly took note of the oral report (see page 2).

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY:** The Assembly agreed that its fifth session will be held on 18-19 January 2015 in Abu Dhabi. It designated Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Toshimitsu Motegi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, from Japan as Co-Presidents of the session, and Kazakhstan, Kenya, New Zealand and Peru as Vice-Presidents.

Japan indicated that it is a “great honor” to be designated as the President of the fifth session of the Assembly, noting intentions to make most of this Co-Presidency.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** Late on Sunday evening, Assembly Vice-President Dikobe Benedict Martins, Minister of Energy, South Africa, recalled the decision (A/4/DC/L.3/Rev.1) adopted by the Assembly a few moments ago on the procedure for appointing the Director-General and informed delegates that the end of the four-year term of the IRENA Director-General is approaching.

**ASSEMBLY CONCLUSIONS AND CLOSING OF THE MEETING:** Thanking delegates on behalf of the Director-General, IRENA Deputy Director-General Wouters highlighted good level of support and interest in the Assembly, and the showcasing of various new IRENA initiatives. He emphasized the 2014-15 work programme and budget as an important achievement. He expressed gratitude to Japan, New Zealand, Norway and Belgium for their financial contributions, and looked forward to working with members in completing the work programme.

Vice-President Martins closed the meeting at 8:40 pm.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**5th Biennial C40 Mayors Summit:** The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) is hosting this three-day summit to convene mayors from the world’s largest cities with hundreds of urban and climate change leaders for a series of roundtable discussions and working sessions focused on greenhouse gas measurements and climate adaptation. New York City Mayor and C40 Chair Michael Bloomberg and Johannesburg Mayor Mpho Parks Tau are leading the event. Started in 2005, C40 is a network of cities around the world looking to take concrete actions local actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation. **dates:** 4-6 February 2014 **location:** Johannesburg, South Africa **contact:** C40 Secretariat **email:** [contact@c40.com](mailto:contact@c40.com) **www:** <http://c40summitjohannesburg.org/>

**14th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit: Attaining Energy, Water and Food Security for All:** Organized annually by the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) since 2001, the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit serves as a platform to exchange global knowledge on sustainable development. In 2014 the conference theme is “Attaining Energy, Water and Food Security for All” and will hold thematic tracks on these specific areas of energy, water and food security. **dates:** 5-8 February 2014 **location:** New Delhi, India **contact:** Secretariat **phone:** +91-11-24682100, 4150 4900 **fax:** +91-11-24682144, 2468 2145 **email:** [dsds@teri.res.in](mailto:dsds@teri.res.in) **www:** <http://dsds.teriin.org/2014/index.php>

**Second High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership:** The second High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership, jointly organized by the Government of Ethiopia and the African Union Commission, will gather African and European Ministers, African Union and European Union Commissioners, and other high-level policy-makers, international organizations, the private sector, academia, and civil society to discuss Africa-EU cooperation on energy and foster further commitments and action on the energy challenges facing the two continents. **dates:** 11-13 February 2014 **location:** Addis Ababa,

Ethiopia **contact:** David Otieno, Secretariat **phone:** +49-61-96-79-1667 **fax:** +49-61-96-79-80-1667 **email:** secretariat@aep-conference.org **www:** <http://www.aep-conference.org>

**Water, Sanitation and Sustainable Energy in the Post-2015 Development Agenda:** This thematic debate is part of a series of three high-level events and three thematic debates to be convened by the President of the UN General Assembly. The events are organized the theme, “The Post-2015 Development Agenda: Setting the Stage!” and seek to initiate discussions on priority areas for the post-2015 development agenda through in-depth, interactive and participatory discussions, with the objective of generating concrete contributions to the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals. **dates:** 18-19 February 2014 **location:** UN Headquarters, New York **contact:** Tala Dowlatshahi, Office of the President of the UNGA **phone:** +1-917-367-4718 **email:** dowlatshahi@un.org **www:** <http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/settingthestage/>

**Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action:** The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will convene for the fourth part of its second session in March 2014. **dates:** 10-14 March 2014 **location:** Bonn, Germany **contact:** UNFCCC Secretariat **phone:** +49-228-815-1000 **fax:** +49-228-815-1999 **email:** secretariat@unfccc.int **www:** [http://unfccc.int/meetings/bonn\\_mar\\_2014/meeting/7979.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/bonn_mar_2014/meeting/7979.php)

**The Future of Energy Summit 2014:** This invitation-only summit will gather decision-makers from the private and public sectors to discuss the future of energy markets, industry, finance and policy. The 2014 theme will be “Driving System Change” and topics to be discussed include the development of new grid systems, cyber-security, clean energy integration and the addition of electric vehicles to the grid. **dates:** 7-9 April 2014 **location:** New York City, US **contact:** Dave Poritzky **phone:** +1-212-617-4050 **email:** dporitzkyl@bloomberg.net **www:** <http://about.bnef.com/summit/>

**International Conference on Sustainability in the Water-Energy-Food Nexus:** This conference will address linkages between water, energy and food security, seeking to assess available information, identify knowledge and gaps, share lessons, facilitate networks, and contribute to consensus on priorities, in order to consider joint improvement in efficiency as a win-win strategy for human development and environmental sustainability. **dates:** 19-20 May 2014 **location:** Bonn, Germany **contact:** Global Water System Project International Office **phone:** +49-228-73-6188 **email:** gwsp.ipo@uni-bonn.de **www:** <http://wef-conference.gwsp.org/>

**UNFCCC 40th Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies:** The 40th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies to the UNFCCC and the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) will take place in June 2014. **dates:** 4-15 June 2014 **location:** Bonn, Germany **contact:** UNFCCC Secretariat **phone:** +49-228-815-1000 **fax:** +49-228-815-1999 **email:** secretariat@unfccc.int **www:** <http://unfccc.int/>

**10th International Energy Conference:** This biennial conference, organized by Iranian National Energy Committee, will focus on the theme, “Efficiency in Resource Management, Excellency in Energy Industry.” **dates:** 26-27 August 2014 **location:** Tehran, Iran **contact:** UNFCCC Secretariat **phone:** +98-21-42917000 **fax:** +98-21- 42917100 **email:** info@iranec.com **www:** <http://www.iranec.com/English/>

**Local Renewables 2014 Conference:** Themed “Shaping your solar city and region-practical solutions from planning to implementation,” this conference will offer an international forum for policy-makers, energy experts, energy services providers, researchers and business representatives to gather to discuss the future of local renewable energy. **dates:** 22-24 October 2014 **location:** Freiburg, Germany **contact:** ICLEI **email:** lr2013@iclei.org **www:** <http://www.local-renewables-conference.org/>

**UNFCCC COP 20/CMP 10:** The twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties and the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies will meet in December 2014. Venezuela has offered to host a pre-COP ministerial meeting. **dates:** 1-12 December 2014 **location:** Lima, Peru **contact:** UNFCCC Secretariat **phone:** +49-228 815-1000 **fax:** +49-228-815-1999 **email:** secretariat@unfccc.int **www:** <http://www.unfccc.int>

**Fifth Session of the IRENA Assembly:** The fifth session of the IRENA Assembly is scheduled to take place in January 2015. **dates:** 18-19 January 2015 **location:** Abu Dhabi, UAE **contact:** Adnan Amin, Director-General **phone:** +971-2-4179001 **email:** secretariat@irena.org **www:** <http://www.irena.org>

## GLOSSARY

ADFD	Abu Dhabi Fund for Development
AfDB	African Development Bank
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
RRA	Renewables Readiness Assessment
SE4ALL	Sustainable Energy for All
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa