

Joint Statement of Participants of the Parliamentary Breakfast on the role of Renewable Energy for the implementation of the Paris Agreement

9 DECEMBER 2019, MADRID, SPAIN

In the 2015 Paris Agreement, UN Member countries committed to limit global warming to “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C”. The IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C confirms that exceeding these temperature limits would have disastrous consequences for life on Earth, from more and increasingly severe extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts, to irreversible changes to ecosystems and thus the way we live, produce and consume. Global greenhouse gas emissions are first and foremost resulting from an energy sector heavily dependent on the combustion of fossil fuels.

Upscaling Renewable Energy therefore represents one of the biggest industrial transformations of our times. Simultaneously, it offers a number of co-benefits such as stable jobs, increased health conditions and opportunities for economic development in rural areas and can provide quick access to electricity. Furthermore, over the course of the last ten years, the price of renewable energy has fallen dramatically reaching full cost competitiveness in almost all parts of the world.

Therefore, Renewable Energy is one of the most relevant action areas with regard to enhancing the ambitions of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) within the Paris Agreement. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, **140** NDCs (or 90%) mention renewable energy measures for the power sector and **105** NDCs (or 67%) include quantified targets for renewable electricity. However, existing local renewable energy targets exceed targets set forth in existing NDCs suggesting a gap of up to 2TW.

1. We, the Participants of the Parliamentary Breakfast hosted by the Global Renewables Congress (GRC) have gathered in Madrid, Spain during the UN Climate Change Conference – COP25 – taking place in Madrid, Spain under the Chilean Presidency, from 2 to 13 December 2019 to continue the exchange among Legislators, Members of Parliament and experts to discuss the role of Renewable Energy for the swift and just implementation of the Paris Agreement.

2. We reaffirm our commitment and determination to create an enabling policy framework for renewable energy and to further accelerate the growth of renewable energy generation towards a 100% share within the coming years and to embed this into a process built on the principles of public participation and just transition to leave nobody behind.
3. We acknowledge the key role the private and investment sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing in the renewable energy sector. Therefore, we resolve to encourage greater direct investment into renewable energy project and related infrastructure such as grid- maintenance, expansion and technology.
4. We reaffirm that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development. Nevertheless, we recognise that national efforts should be complemented by supportive sub-national and global initiatives on renewable energy while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty.
5. We recognise that current global developments and specific circumstances require that we urgently build consensus on renewable energy rather than treating renewable energy as a subject of partial preferences. Therefore, we resolve to work on a harmonised enabling policy and regulatory framework, and facilitate efforts aimed at sustaining sufficient and stable private financial flows
6. We dedicate ourselves to take concrete action to support efforts to better attract companies and scaling up innovative financing mechanisms and taking joint action to tackle market barriers in the sub-region.
7. We call on all parliamentarians around the world to take actions in line with the Paris Agreement and implement adequate, swift and just climate change and renewable energy legislation.

Signed by,

The Participants of the parliamentary meeting of the Global Renewables Congress, 9th December, Madrid



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