



## **UN-Energy Meeting**

**2 September 2020 – 9:00 to 10:00 AM (NY Time)**

### **Teleconference**

### **Meeting Summary**

Representatives of the UN-Energy member and partner organizations met via conference call on Wednesday, 9-10am EST, September 2, 2020. The list of the participants and the adopted agenda are attached in [Annex 1](#) and [Annex 2](#) respectively.

#### **1. Welcome remarks**

- a. Damilola Ogunbiyi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All and UN-Energy Co-Chair, welcomed all participants and highlighted the challenges we face to deliver on SDG 7 in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. She stressed the critical importance of universal energy access and clean energy transitions in the efforts to recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic. She also recalled her mandate from the Secretary-General to reinvigorate the UN-Energy as a platform to catalyse strong action on SDG7.
- b. On behalf of Achim Steiner, Administrator of UNDP and UN-Energy Co-Chair, Marcel Alers from UNDP emphasized that this is going to be a critical year for the UN system to get a grip with regard to closing the gap in SDG7 targets and that UN-Energy will have to rise to the challenge and act as one to pull all the actors together and push the agenda forward with an impact on the ground.

#### **2. Introduction and Adoption of the Agenda**

- a. The agenda items for the current meeting were adopted without amendments.

#### **3. The High-level Dialogue on Energy 2021 under the auspices of the General Assembly**

- a. The SRSG provided an overview of the High-level Dialogue on Energy to be convened by the Secretary-General at a summit level during the 76th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021 in New York, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/225.
- b. Underlining the significance of the Dialogue as the first global gathering on energy under the auspices of the General Assembly since 1981, she stressed that UN-Energy is expected to provide substantive support for the Dialogue, through, among others, identifying tracks (i.e. areas of focus), facilitating technical working groups for the tracks and compiling an inter-agency report on accelerating SDG7. UN-Energy will also support the development of “Energy Compacts” that will detail key outcomes, milestones and implementation timelines with clear tracking frameworks towards 2030. She called upon all UN-Energy members and partners to fully engage in and take advantage of this historic opportunity for the SDG 7 achievement.

- c. She informed that the Secretary-General made the following leadership arrangements: Under-Secretary-General of DESA has been designated as the Dialogue Secretary-General; the UN-Energy Co-Chairs have been designated as the Dialogue Co-Chairs; and the SRSR for Sustainable Energy for All has been designated as High-level Champion. She further informed that DESA as the secretariat for the Dialogue will share the concept note for the Dialogue, developed under the guidance of the Dialogue Secretary-General and the Dialogue Co-Chairs, through a dedicated website in due course.
- d. Following the SRSR's presentation, participants shared their initial thoughts and comments, including on the following points:
  - The Dialogue would be either half a day or a full day, before the General Assembly opens in 2021.
  - Energy is central in the fight against COVID-19. For example, WHO has been working on a manifesto for COVID-19 recovery, with two of the six points directly related to sustainable energy: phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and the promotion of clean energy to clean up air pollution.
  - IRENA welcomed the presentation and expressed its interest to contribute to the preparatory process with its analytical and convening capacities as well offering to utilize the IRENA Assembly as a moment during the preparatory process.
  - UNIDO welcomed a potential cooperation to leverage the Vienna Energy Forum 2021 as a global milestone towards the Dialogue.
  - The SDG7 Initiative for Africa, spearheaded by ECA, could be leveraged, especially for the development of Energy Compacts with African countries.

#### **4. Towards a UN-Energy Action Plan 2021-2022**

- a. The Secretariat noted the Action Plan 2019-2020 and its key elements that came into fruition, and stated the need to come up with a new workplan for the period of 2021-2022 focusing on how to enhance engagements to deliver results on the ground.
- b. Participants underlined the criticality of the health-energy interlinkages including the work of the Energy-Health Platform and the need for a tangible initiative on capacity building.

#### **5. AOB**

- a. The 5<sup>th</sup> UN Conference on LDCs in Doha Qatar would be held in 2022. Its focus would include the linkages between energy and development in LDCs and LLDCs (OHRLLS).
- b. An event on the role of nuclear power in the energy transition will be held on 23 September (IAEA).

#### **6. Next Steps**

- a. A detailed UN-Energy Meeting focused on High-level Dialogue on Energy will take place on 15 September 2020, likely lasting for 90 minutes to allow time for detailed brainstorming.

#### **7. Closing**

- a. The UN-Energy Co-chairs and the Secretariat thanked the participants for their valuable inputs and participation, emphasized the need for urgent action, and concluded the meeting.

**Annex 1 - List of participants**

	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Name</u>
1.	SRSB for Sustainable Energy for All (co-chair)	Damilola Ogunbiyi
2.	UNDP (co-chair)	Marcel Alers
3.	CEB secretariat	Federica Pietracci
4.	EOSG	Kerry Constabile
5.	IAEA	Wei Hang; Bertrand Magne; Henry Paillere
6.	UNECA	Linus Mofor
7.	UNECLAC	Rene Osvaldo Salgado Pavez; Diego Messina
8.	UNESCAP	Hongpeng Liu
9.	UNESCWA	Radia Sedaoui
10.	UNEP	Mark Radka
11.	UNICEF	Rakshya R Thapa
12.	UNIDO	Rana Ghoneim
13.	UNITAR	Mark Gibson
14.	UNOHRLLS	Shifaana Thowfeequ
15.	WB	Elisa Portale; Stephen Halloway
16.	WHO	Maria Neira; Heather Adair-Rohani
17.	WMO	Roberta Boscolo
18.	IRENA (Partner)	Elizabeth Press; Emma Aberg; Sofja Giljova; Anastasia Kefalidou
19.	SEforAll (Partner)	George Hampton; Glenn Pearce-Oroz; Amir Bahr; Maame Boateng; Ugochukwu Nwadiani;
20.	UN DESA (Secretariat)	Minoru Takada; Martin Niemetz; Nadine Salame; David Koranyi



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**Draft Agenda**

- 1. Welcome remarks by Damilola Ogunbiyi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All**
- 2. The High-level Dialogue on Energy 2021**
- 3. Towards an UN-Energy Action Plan 2021-2022**
- 4. Next Steps**
  - a. Proposed next UN-Energy Meeting focused on High-level Dialogue on Energy (tentatively 15 September 2020)**
- 5. AOB**
- 6. Closing**