



Fourth Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development

2 – 3 November 2017, Geneva



International Forum Process

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- 8th Forum and Energy Ministerial, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 11-14 June 2017 at the auspices of EXPO 2017 “Future Energy”
 - Co-organizers: Kazakhstan and the five Regional Commissions
 - Partners: UNDP, UNIDO, DESA, IEA, IRENA, SEforAll, the World Bank, C2E2, REN21
- 9th Forum: Kiev, Ukraine, fall 2018
- Participating ministers adopted a declaration about how to accelerate energy transition
- The Committee on Sustainable Energy took note and endorsed steps for the implementation

Implementing the Astana Ministerial Declaration

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Actions Items:

- (a) Accelerating the transition to a sustainable energy system;
- (b) Accelerating the uptake of renewables;
- (c) Improving energy efficiency in buildings;
- (d) Improving energy efficiency in industry;
- (e) Understanding the role of natural gas in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- (f) Valuing coal mine methane;
- (g) Extending deployment of United Nations Framework Classification for Resources;
- (h) Reducing the environmental footprint of fossil energy through deployment of high efficiency, low emissions technology and carbon capture use and storage;
- (i) Building on international cooperation and collaboration;
- (j) Improving data quality and indicators.

Implementing the Astana Ministerial Declaration

Renewable Energy I



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Accelerating the uptake of renewables:

- Continue to **track the progress of renewable energy deployment** in countries of South and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and address the relevant barriers;
- Promote and participate in **cross-sectoral dialogues** (e.g. energy efficiency, renewable energy, gas, finance etc.) to enable effective interaction among supply- and demand-side alternatives in energy markets;
- Develop the necessary **frameworks that promote investments in renewable energy development** and deployment, including through enhanced dialogue among public and private renewable energy stakeholders (e.g. demand-driven “hard talks” in ECE member countries);
- Promote **institutional learning** about the interplay between renewable energy and gas, including about efficient distribution networks, flexibility of fossil fuel plants and variable renewables;
- Provide **training for fossil-intensive economies** about the development of holistic energy strategies and pathways to achieve sustainable energy. This could include the economic integration of renewable energy technologies into the future national energy system and developing an integrated approach for the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus as part of greening the economy;
- Increase the involvement of the **private sector** in developing and financing renewable energy projects;
- Develop the skills of the public and private sectors at the national level to identify, develop, promote and implement **renewable energy investment projects** through **matchmaking** support activities.

Implementing the Astana Ministerial Declaration

Renewable Energy II

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Accelerating the transition to a sustainable energy system:

- Invest in **education** at all levels to build capacity for handling complexity as the world moves to a holistic and integrated systems perspective in energy policy.

Building on international cooperation and collaboration:

- SPECA: Enhance **strategic partnerships** for conjunctive operation of thermal power plants and **hydropower** plants in Central Asian through transboundary cooperation to achieve sustainable power supply;
- Support UNECE and ESCAP initiatives for developing cooperation and synergies to promote **technical assistance projects** in Central Asia.

Improving data quality and indicators:

- Support future **regional reports** on the tracking of progress of the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular on energy, e.g. the 2017 Global Tracking Framework regional companion reports;
- Participate in the UNECE project “**Pathways to Sustainable Energy**” – the project would be strengthened by wider participation of donors and countries.



Document ECE/ENERGY/2017/2: Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development: Building on Regional Cooperation

<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=45864> (bottom of the page)

