

INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY

Third session of the Assembly
Abu Dhabi, 13 – 14 January 2013

Decision on Multilingualism

The Assembly,

Recalling that decision A/1/DC/9 on Multilingualism requested the Director-General to submit to the Assembly, no later than at its third session, options with concrete measures, including cost implications, aiming at a progressive integration of official UN languages to advance the work of the Agency, based on a reasonable and cost-effective use of the resources of the organisation;

Taking note of the recommendation of the Council at its fourth meeting on the matter;

Having considered the Report of the Director-General on Multilingualism submitted pursuant to this request and contained in A/3/7;

Requests the Secretariat

1. To provide for interpretation services at Assembly and Council meetings for UN languages currently well-represented among the Agency's membership, and, as required, for high-level consultative meetings, financed from the UAE government bid, and subject to availability of resources.
2. To include in the proposed Work Programme and Budget, for consideration at the fourth session of the Assembly, as part of the core budget, and subject to availability of resources, the costs and administrative requirements associated with the following:
 - i. Translation of the major sessional documents for the Assembly and Council meetings from English into the UN languages that are currently well-represented among the Agency's membership, namely Arabic, French, and Spanish;
 - ii. Interpretation and translation requirements in connection with programmatic activities based on real need and relative benefit, and bearing in mind the associated costs. Provision of language services other than English would be

- decided on a case-by-case basis as part of the planning of each programmatic activity;
- iii. Translation of major publication(s) that would be made available in one or more languages other than English for reasons related to outreach and potential benefit for target audiences, or translation of executive summaries of these publications from English, as required, subject to the availability of resources; and
 - iv. A preliminary assessment of the demand for, the feasibility of, and the costs associated with providing certain basic web-related applications (such as in the site interface) in additional languages.
3. To include the following in its progress review to the Assembly at its sixth session in 2016, in accordance with decision A/1/DC/9:
- i. An assessment of the implementation of translation and interpretation in the Agency's activities, including challenges faced;
 - ii. The result of its contacts with other intergovernmental and UN organizations regarding the possibility of forming a consortium or a joint language service, affording IRENA access to a pool of pre-screened language professionals who can provide high quality services; and
 - iii. The results of its contacts with the International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications (IAMLADP), with the aim of learning about best practices and obtaining additional specific information that may be useful in the IRENA context.