

## Fourteenth session of the IRENA Assembly and Related meetings Part II

16 April 2024 (Pre-Assembly Day) 17 to 18 April 2024 (14<sup>th</sup> IRENA Assembly Part II) St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

# Executive Overview

## Message from the Director-General of IRENA

It is my honour and great pleasure to welcome you to Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly which will take place on 17 and 18 April 2024, and related meetings which will be held on 16 April 2024.

As the supreme decision-making organ of IRENA, the Assembly, comprising 169 <u>Members</u>, has been recognised as a strategic global platform for inclusive and diverse discussions on all facets of the energy transition.

Part I of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly, held in a virtual format on 15 January 2024, focused on programmatic, administrative and institutional matters crucial to the functioning of the Agency, and relevant to its future work and direction. Having had the opportunity to reflect on the important outcomes of the COP28 negotiations and to chart our individual and collective actions moving forward, discussions at Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly will revolve around the theme 'Outcome of COP28: Infrastructure, Policies and Skills for Tripling Renewables and Accelerating the Energy Transition'.

This Executive Overview has been prepared to assist participants in navigating the Assembly and its related meetings, and in identifying unique opportunities to engage in topics of interest and relevance.

I look forward to welcoming you to Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Abu Dhabi.

Francesco La Camera

## IRENA 14th Assembly Bureau

The President and four Vice-Presidents of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly are:

President: Rwanda Vice-President: Angola Vice-President: Dominican Republic Vice-President: Georgia Vice-President: Iraq



## Plenary sessions and Ministerial Roundtables

### Resumption of the Assembly session – 4<sup>th</sup> World Energy Transition Day

### 17 April 2024, 10:00 to 10:30, Plenary Hall

The resumption of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly will take place on 17 April 2024 at 10:00 GST, with High-level statements including by the Presidency of the Assembly, the Host Country and the IRENA Director-General.

#### High-level Plenary Session on Tripling of Renewables

#### 17 April 2024, 10:30 to 13:00, Plenary Hall (Background note)

The outcome of the first UNFCCC Global Stocktake at COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates resulted in the landmark UAE Consensus, setting a clear direction for the future of the global energy system. Transitioning away from fossil fuels will involve immediate and targeted action on tripling renewables and doubling efficiency by 2030, and require a blend of technologies and widespread electrification across various sectors. According to IRENA's 1.5°C Scenario in the World Energy Transitions Outlook, this translates to increasing global renewable power generation to around 11,000 GW by 2030.

This High-level Plenary session will set the scene for the Assembly's deliberations as the renewables-based energy transition takes centre stage in these efforts. It will identify concrete and immediate actions to drive implementation of the COP28 outcomes, with an emphasis on harnessing international cooperation as a catalyst of change, effective monitoring of the progress and action on course correction.

Following the scene-setting panel discussions, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

#### **General Member Statements**

#### 17 April 2024, 14:30 to 18:00, Plenary Hall (Template for written statements)

Delegations wishing to share their national experiences/statements on priority actions and challenges related to the deployment of renewable energy, and exchange views on issues related to the energy transition in the coming decade and beyond, are invited to **register in the Speakers** List by sending a request noting the name and the title of the speaker to <u>Assembly@irena.org</u>, indicating in the subject line "*IRENA 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly session Part II: Speakers List*". The requests will be considered observing international protocol precedence and the principle of "first come, first served".

A preliminary Speakers List based on requests received will be circulated prior to the resumption of the 14<sup>th</sup> session Part II of the Assembly. Delegations are also invited to **submit written statements** to the Secretariat in advance of delivery. Full official written statements will be made available to the Membership on the <u>REmember Portal</u> and included as part of the official records of the session.

#### Ministerial Roundtable on the Geopolitics of Energy Security

#### 17 April 2024, 14:30 to 16:00, Room A2 (Background note)

The paradigm of energy security is changing, and the notion of energy security needs to be reimagined for a renewable-dominated energy system to reflect new opportunities and risks for informed policymaking. IRENA's upcoming report on the 'Geopolitics of the Energy Transitions: Energy Security' will shed light on the profound implications of the shift to renewables on energy security, notably in reshaping geopolitical dynamics, transforming traditional energy trade routes and influencing emerging infrastructures, against the backdrop of climate change.



This Ministerial Roundtable will discuss the link between renewable energy and energy security and discuss emerging considerations as the shift to a renewables-based system accelerates. The discussion will facilitate an exchange of insights and learnings from the recent energy crisis and its wide global repercussions and promote proactive consideration of emerging energy security issues. IRENA will present key findings from the forthcoming report, developed as part of the workplan of the Collaborative Framework on Geopolitics, followed by a set of reflections and an open discussion among Members.



Delegations are requested to confirm the intervention of their Minister or Head of Delegation at the Ministerial Roundtable by sending in their request to the Secretariat at <u>Assembly@irena.org</u>, indicating in the subject line "IRENA 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly Part II: Ministerial Roundtable - Geopolitics of Energy Security".

# Ministerial Roundtable on Infrastructure for the Energy Transition: Utilities for Net Zero Alliance

## 17 April 2024, 16:15 to 18:00, Room A2 (Background note)

Central to the energy transition are advancements in power grids, requiring modernisation for efficient integration and diffusion of renewable energy, and the establishment of robust hydrogen infrastructure, including pipelines, ports, and storage facilities, essential for the use and transport of green hydrogen.

This Ministerial Roundtable will serve as a platform for discussing the acceleration of a net-zero future, in light of the recent formation of the Utilities for Net Zero Alliance (UNEZA) at COP28. The session will facilitate discussions among industry leaders, policymakers and stakeholders, including on the UNEZA Plan of Action and Roadmap that will drive international cooperation among the utilities to deliver essential infrastructure for the energy transition.

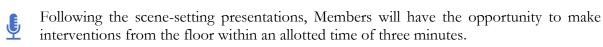


Delegations are requested to confirm the intervention of their Minister or Head of Delegation at the Ministerial Roundtable by sending in their request to the Secretariat at <u>Assembly@irena.org</u>, indicating in the subject line "IRENA 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly Part II: Ministerial Roundtable – Infrastructure for the Energy Transition".

## Plenary Session on Accelerating the Development of Bankable Renewable Energy Projects – Leveraging IRENA's Facilitation Platforms for Global Transition

### 18 April 2024, 10:00 to 11:30, Plenary Hall (Background note)

This Plenary session will focus on IRENA's innovative Project Facilitation initiatives, goals and achievements, opening a space to discuss country and regional challenges impeding project development and deployment, and to propose ways and means to overcome these challenges and benefit from available local, regional, and international energy transition financing.



### Plenary Session on Accelerated Renewable Deployment in Africa

### 18 April 2024, 11:30 to 13:00, Plenary Hall (Background note)

Tripling renewables and doubling energy efficiency by 2030 call for international cooperation at an unprecedented scale, and our collective ingenuity to drive this forward. The Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA) was designed with this in mind, to help realise the Continent's vision of deploying renewables to address its multiple economic, societal, and climate objectives simultaneously.



This Plenary session will discuss APRA's strategy and how international cooperation through this model can accelerate renewable energy adoption to advance climate and development goals in Africa and beyond.



Following the scene-setting presentations, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

## Plenary Session on Policies and Skills for an Accelerated Energy Transition

### 18 April 2024, 14:30 to 16:00, Plenary Hall (Background note)

This Plenary session will explore and identify priority actions that are needed to achieve the COP28 target of tripling renewable power capacity by 2030, with a focus on two key enablers – policies and skills. It will examine deployment and enabling policies that can support the delivery of the required scale-up, as well as measures to maximise local value creation, build the required skills and ensure inclusivity. This will include the upskilling and reskilling of current workers as well as preparing the fast-growing youth demographic to join the renewable energy workforce.

This session will allow Members to share experiences and success stories in this context, and provide space for key stakeholders, from industry, labour, and educational entities, among others, to present insights.



Following the scene-setting presentations, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

### Reports back and Consideration of other mandates

#### 18 April 2024, 16:00 to 18:00, Plenary Hall

The Assembly will hear reports from the High-level and other stakeholder meetings held prior to the resumption of its fourteenth session. The Assembly will also consider the proposed dates and the designation of the President and four Vice-Presidents of its fifteenth session, as well as any other issues raised by Members.

## High-level and Stakeholder meetings

• 2024 IRENA Youth Forum – Youth at the Core of a Just Energy Transition: Skills, Empowerment and Innovation

16 April 2024, 09:00 to 10:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

The closing event of the fifth edition of the IRENA Youth Forum will go beyond recognising the importance of youth engagement and delve deeper into the practicalities of their involvement, exploring how to equip young energy leaders with the skills to contribute meaningfully, foster their empowerment as changemakers, and unleash their innovative potential for a Just Energy Transition.

• 2024 IRENA Legislators Forum – Building Blocks for a Renewable Future: Accelerating Progress towards the Tripling of Renewables

16 April 2024, 11:00 to 12:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

This edition of the IRENA Legislators Forum will present a timely opportunity for inclusive and diverse discussions on the role of Legislators in implementing impactful policies that unlock the full potential of renewables and accelerate progress towards the tripling of renewable energy capacity by 2030.

• Electrification of Road Transport: Enabling Policies and Systemic Innovation 16 April 2024, 11:00 to 12:30, Room A2 (Concept note)

This meeting will convene policymakers, experts, and industry representatives to discuss innovations, obstacles and policies that can facilitate the advancement of renewables-based electrification pathways and infrastructure across various segments of road transport.



## • IRENA/CEM – Progress & Options for Wider Collaboration

## 16 April 2024, 11:00 to 12:30, Room B1 (Concept note)

This event will inform on the ongoing collaboration between IRENA and the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM), presenting the progress of this collaboration and exploring opportunities for cooperation and synergies with other CEM initiatives, including on long-term energy planning and scenarios, transforming global solar supply chains, and development of hubs to decarbonise maritime transportation.

## • SIDS Ministerial – Charting a Resilient and Sustainable Energy Future for SIDS 16 April 2024, 14:00 to 15:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

In recognition of the significant strides made by SIDS in their energy transitions over the past decade, the SIDS Ministerial aims to chart a forward course towards the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on SIDS, addressing sustainable development and climate priorities and ensuring that the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative remains relevant to facilitate the much-needed financing and accelerate implementation.

## • Participatory Strategies for Developing Just and Renewable-Based Energy Pathways 16 April 2024, 14:00 to 15:30, Room A2 (Concept note)

This event will highlight successful country examples where participatory processes in long-term energy planning and policymaking have significantly contributed to advancing the clean energy transition. It will delve into the key findings from the IRENA Long-Term Energy Scenarios (LTES) Network's work on participatory processes and scenario communication, and provide practical insights from the toolkit to enhance stakeholder involvement and dialogue in energy planning.

#### • Roundtable on the Role of Public Finance and Policy in Achieving Universal Energy Access under SDG 7

#### 16 April 2024, 14:00 to 15:30, Room B1 (Concept note)

This event will convene governments, development institutions, donor agencies, the private sector, and energy access practitioners to discuss the role of public finance and policies in addressing energy access needs, and identify additional cooperation and collaboration necessary to address the current finance gaps. IRENA's brief on *Structuring public finance for universal energy access* will be launched during this event.

### • High-Level Public-Private Dialogue – Building Momentum towards a 100% Renewable Energy System

### 16 April 2024, 16:00 to 17:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

This High-Level Public-Private Dialogue offers a multi-stakeholder platform for leaders from governments, global industry, and civil society to deliberate on the opportunities and pathways in accelerating the energy transition and in building momentum toward achieving a 100% renewable energy system by mid-century.

### • Alliance for Industry Decarbonization (AFID)

#### 16 April 2024, 16:00 to 17:30, Room A2 (Concept note)

The Alliance for Industry Decarbonization aims to facilitate dialogue at industry level and increase cooperation to help companies develop solid decarbonization strategies and implementation plans, aligned with their countries' net-zero and decarbonization commitments. This event will serve as a platform for enhancing dialogue through the exchange of insights, experiences and best practices.

# • Scaling-up Sustainable Bio-based Energy and Fuels in Emerging Markets 16 April 2024, 16:00 to 17:30, Room B1 (<u>Concept note</u>)

Organised by IRENA in collaboration with the FAO and CEM Biofuture Campaign, this event will explore strategies for productive use of sustainable biomass in emerging markets to support efforts in developing sustainable circular bio-economies.



## Side Events

## • Harvesting Synergies: The Water-Food-Energy Nexus for Enhanced NDCs 16 April 2024, 12:30 to 14:00, Room A1 (Concept note)

This event will convene governments, civil society and private sector representatives to exchange strategies, best practices, and technological innovations for developing holistic strategies and solutions on the water-food-energy nexus, while encouraging participating countries to consider more ambitious targets for sustainable agriculture in their enhanced NDCs for 2025, integrating renewable energy as a key driver.

# • Integration of CMP as an enabler to support project preparation and mobilizing financing for renewable energy projects

#### 16 April 2024, 12:30 to 14:00, Room B1 (Concept note)

This event will serve as a strategic platform to present the significant outcomes of phase II of the Continental Master Plan (CMP), emphasising the considerable opportunities associated with this transformative change for Africa. It will also explore crucial elements to improve bankability of the project pipeline and to establish mechanisms to facilitate project implementation, positioning the CMP as a catalyst to facilitate project preparation and mobilize financing for both renewable energy and grid interconnection projects.

# • High-Level Dialogue on Energy Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Regional Pathway

### 17 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

This event will provide a platform for a high-level discussion on scaling up renewable energy in Latin America and the Caribbean with a view to supporting ambitions to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth and transition away from fossil fuels. Discussions will also feed into the formulation of the next phase of IRENA's engagement in contributing to the energy transition of the region.

# • GOWA Ministerial Dialogue: Scaling Finance for Offshore Wind as Key to Reach the Tripling Renewables Goal

### 17 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A2 (Concept note)

This dialogue will address the pressing need to rapidly expand offshore wind capacity in pursuit of the goal to triple renewables, while also highlighting the crucial role of innovative financing solutions in achieving offshore wind energy targets and ambitious NDCs. Discussions will also delve into aligning financial efforts and attracting private investment for offshore wind projects, with a particular focus on emerging markets and SIDS.

## • Accelerating ASEAN's Growth and Resilience: Grid Interconnections Power the Tripling of Renewables

#### 17 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room B1 (Concept note)

This event will offer a strategic forum to explore the multifaceted benefits of grid interconnection for the ASEAN region, from energy security and economic development to climate resilience, shaping a compelling shared vision and highlighting both the challenges and immense opportunities of this transformational shift.

### • Enablers for Trade in Green Hydrogen and Derivatives

#### 18 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A1 (Concept note)

This event will convene Members with an interest in developing green hydrogen value chains for domestic use or for export to demand centres. It will hear insights from recent collaborative work by IRENA and partner organisations, with a focus on the development of trade policy as well as holistic strategies for the deployment of green hydrogen solutions as part of energy transition policymaking.



# • Regional Energy Transition Outlooks for Africa – Setting a vision for a 1.5C pathway 18 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A2 (Concept note)

This event will introduce the African Regional Energy Transition Outlooks (RETOs) under development by IRENA, and engage key stakeholders and African partners in the RETO process by taking stock of their views on short- and long-term energy sector development, economic diversification priorities and socio-economic development goals to be considered in developing RETO scenarios.

#### Global Geothermal Alliance Annual Meeting

18 April 2024, 13:00 to 14:30, Room B1 (Concept note)

The Annual Meeting of the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA) will bring together members and partners of the GGA to have an exchange on the challenges and opportunities in the geothermal sector, share knowledge and experiences and provide feedback and guidance on the priority areas of focus for the GGA to better support faster deployment of geothermal power and heat globally.

## **Evening Engagements**

#### Women in Diplomacy

#### 16 April 2024, 18:30 to 20:30 (Concept note)

This dinner event, hosted by IRENA and the UAE, will provide an opportunity for invited diplomats, especially women, to network, share knowledge, and build partnerships in fostering the accelerated deployment of renewable energy and respond to climate change impacts. The event will also serve as a platform to raise awareness on the *Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership*, and exchange best practice and initiatives that can create synergies to mainstream gender in renewable energy transition and empowering lives and livelihoods.

#### **Assembly Dinner Reception**

17 April 2024, 18:30 to 20:30, Ballroom Terrace

Participants are cordially invited to a dinner reception hosted by the Agency on the occasion of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly.

#### **Ministerial Dinner**

17 April 2024, 18:30 to 20:30, Olea Restaurant Ministers will receive an invitation to a formal dinner hosted by the Agency on the occasion of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly.



## **Essential Information for Participation**

**Venue:** Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly and related meetings will be held at the St. Regis Hotel in Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, from 16 to 18 April 2024.

**Registration:** Registration links have been sent to all delegations, along with an information note on organisational arrangements for Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly.

Delegations who have not yet completed their registration for Part II of the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly are kindly requested to complete their registration no later than **8 April 2024**.

**Badge issuance:** Badges will be issued on 15 April 2024 from 12:00 to 17:00, and on 16-18 April 2024 from 08:00 to 17:00 in the registration area (Manhattan lounge) next to the main lobby of the venue, St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi.

**Credentials:** All IRENA Members are kindly requested to ensure that Credential Letters for their representatives at the fourteenth session of the Assembly are submitted in a proper form and in a timely manner, no later than **8 April 2024** at <u>Credentials@irena.org</u>. For more information, please refer to the Notification by the Director-General.

Accreditation: IRENA States in Accession and Non-Member States are kindly requested to submit an official *note verbale* issued by their relevant Ministry, no later than 8 April 2024 at <u>Credentials@irena.org</u>. For more information, please refer to the Notification by the Director-General.

**Agenda and sessional documentation:** As per the Agenda of the fourteenth session of the Assembly that was adopted at the opening of the session, held in a virtual format on 15 January 2024, documentation relating to the items to be taken up at Part II are included in this transmission and will also be made available on the Member portal '<u>REmember</u>', for Focal Points officially designated to IRENA.

Should you require access to '<u>REmember</u>', please contact <u>REmember@irena.org</u>.

## **Related Matters**

**Bilateral meetings:** Subject to availability of space and services, every effort will be made to accommodate bilateral meetings. Requests should be sent to <u>Bilateral@irena.org</u>, indicating in the subject line "IRENA Assembly – Bilateral meeting request".

Requests for bilateral meetings with the Director-General should be addressed to the Office of the Director-General at <u>ODG@irena.org</u>.

**Interpretation:** Simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish will be provided during the Assembly session.

**Overflow room:** During the Assembly session, Observers will be invited to observe the Plenary sessions' proceedings from a designated overflow room, allowing them to stay informed and engaged.

Live streaming: In the interest of enhancing transparency and inclusiveness, open sessions and meetings of the Assembly will be live streamed on the IRENA website.

**Queries:** Questions relating to the Assembly, including on registration and organisational arrangements, should be referred to the Secretariat at <u>Assembly@irena.org</u>.