

# Thirteenth session of the IRENA Assembly and Related Meetings

13 January 2023 (Pre-Assembly Day)

14 to 15 January 2023 (IRENA Assembly)

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 the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly which will take place on 14 and 15 January 2023, and related meetings which will be held on 13 January 2023.

As the supreme decision-making organ of IRENA, the Assembly, comprising 168 [Members](#), has been recognised as a strategic global platform for inclusive and diverse discussions on all facets of the energy transition.

Marking the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Energy Transition Day and under the overarching theme of ‘World Energy Transition – The Global Stocktake’, the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly and related meetings will gather global leaders and energy decision-makers to take stock of operational plans and policies and highlight the concerted action undertaken to implement the energy transition across countries, regions, and the world.

Given the urgent need for extraordinary levels of political momentum and international cooperation, discussions at the Assembly will address pressing issues related to the energy transition in the coming decade and beyond, and allow for an exchange of perspectives, including among countries that are most impacted by climate change, and in tandem with heads of international and regional organisations, public and private entities and civil society representatives.

IRENA remains committed to strengthening international collaboration and supporting the path towards the new energy future through the recognition of local, regional and global realities. As we collectively undertake concrete actions to reconcile multiple challenges, boost energy access, security and resilience, and achieve the 1.5°C pathway, I am confident that our efforts will enact transformative change in support of just energy transitions worldwide, for our people, planet, and shared prosperity.

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 the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly in Abu Dhabi.

Francesco La Camera

## IRENA 13<sup>th</sup> Assembly – Designated Bureau

The President and four Vice-Presidents designated for the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly are:

**President:** India

**Vice-President:** Belgium

**Vice-President:** Indonesia

**Vice-President:** Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

**Vice-President:** Zimbabwe

## IRENA 13<sup>th</sup> Assembly and Related Meetings – A Detailed Overview

### I. Plenary

#### **Opening Plenary Session – 3<sup>rd</sup> World Energy Transition Day**

14 January 2023, 10:00 to 10:30 (*Plenary Hall*)

The Official Opening of the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly will take place on 14 January 2023 at 10:00 am, with high-level statements including by the Presidency of the Assembly, the Host Country and the IRENA Director-General, amongst others.

#### **High-level Plenary session on World Energy Transition – The Global Stocktake**

14 January 2023, 10:30 to 13:00 (*Plenary Hall*)

The first UNFCCC Global Stocktake will conclude at COP28 in Dubai. It will consider the world's collective progress in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals. Energy transitions are a central part of this effort, and IRENA's World Energy Transitions Outlook sets out a pathway aligned with a 1.5°C future that can help guide the Global Stocktake. Among other things, IRENA is providing the best available science to inform the process as well as a venue for dialogue and a framework for action.

The High-level Plenary session will set the scene for the Assembly's deliberations and consider the role of energy transitions in the context of the Global Stocktake. In preparation for COP28, it will reflect on the key priorities of the energy transition, in diverse geographical and sectoral settings.

#### **Annual Report of the Director-General for 2022-2023 and the Draft Medium-Term Strategy 2023-2027**

14 January 2023, 14:30 to 16:00 (*Plenary Hall*)

The Director-General will present the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2022-2023, including on the contribution to the Global Stocktake process and plans for Member consideration and input, as well as the Draft Medium-Term Strategy 2023-2027, for adoption by the Assembly.

Following the Director-General's presentation, delegations will have the opportunity to **make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes**, providing guidance for the Agency's work.

### **General Member Statements**

14 January 2023, 16:00 to 18:00 (*Plenary Hall*)

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 [Assembly@irena.org](mailto:Assembly@irena.org), indicating in the subject line “*IRENA Assembly: Speakers List*”. The requests will be considered observing the 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 opening session 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 REMember Portal and included as part of the official records of the session.

### **Consideration of Administrative and Institutional matters and other mandates**

15 January 2023, 16:00 to 17:30 (*Plenary Hall*)

The Chair of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Council meetings will present the conclusions of the Council meetings on specific administrative and institutional matters, for consideration by the Assembly.

## **II. Ministerial and High-level meetings**

### **SIDS Ministerial – Climate Pledges to Action: Amplifying Energy Transition for Sustainable Development in SIDS**

13 January 2023, 14:00 to 16:00 (*Room A1*)

This Ministerial meeting aims to provide a status update on the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative towards the achievement of the S.A.M.O.A Pathway, Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. It will also provide an opportunity for Small Island Developing States to share insights in the lead up to COP28.

### **High-Level meeting on the Energy Compact on Renewable Energy for the United Nations Peacekeeping**

13 January 2023, 16:00 to 18:00 (*Room A2*)

This High-Level meeting will provide a platform for a strategic discussion on the alignment of climate and development objectives related to the greening of peacekeeping operations and the development priorities of host communities. The meeting will also outline key opportunities for partners to join and promote the realisation of the Energy Compact.

### **Ministerial Roundtable on Decarbonising Shipping: The role of ports in addressing supply, demand and trade of renewable-based fuels**

14 January 2023, 16:15 to 18:15 (*Room A*)

This Ministerial Roundtable aims at sharing experiences around the strategies to address the decarbonisation of the shipping sector by facilitating a high-level dialogue between Ministers and Senior Executives from the renewables and shipping industries and port authorities.

### **Ministerial Dialogue on Regional Energy Transition Outlooks: Southeast Asia Energy Transitions**

15 January 2023, 10:00 to 11:30 (*Plenary Hall*)

This Ministerial Dialogue will provide a platform for a high-level discussion on scaling up renewable energy uptake in Southeast Asia, with a view to supporting the region's ambitions to achieve sustainable growth and prosperity.

### **Ministerial Dialogue on Critical materials for the Renewables-Centred Energy Transition: How to jointly harness opportunities**

15 January 2023, 11:30 to 13:00 (*Plenary Hall*)

This Ministerial Dialogue will focus on experiences on de-risking supply, including materials innovation and recycling, and making the supply chain more environmentally and socially sustainable. The discussion will contribute to the work of the Collaborative Framework on Critical Materials for the Energy Transition, amongst others.

### **Ministerial Dialogue on Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAF) Platform**

15 January 2023, 14:30 to 16:00 (*Plenary Hall*)

This Ministerial Dialogue will focus on the ETAF Platform, partners and its innovative business model aimed to increase investments in renewable energy to meet the developing world's energy transition ambitions and potential, while meeting Sustainable Development and Climate Goals. This session will also facilitate discussions on reducing barriers to greater investment growth in energy transition assets by taking steps to reduce project risk and raise capital.

**Delegations are requested to confirm interventions by their Minister or Head of Delegation at the relevant Ministerial meeting(s)** by sending her/his name and title to the Secretariat at [Assembly@irena.org](mailto:Assembly@irena.org), indicating in the subject line “*IRENA Assembly: Ministerial meeting*”.

## **III. Thematic meetings and Side events**

### *Thematic meetings*

#### **Decentralized Renewable Energy Solutions for Remote and Isolated Communities**

13 January 2023, 09:00 to 10:30 (*Room B1*)

This meeting will facilitate dialogue on transitioning remote, isolated and indigenous communities to clean and reliable sources of energy by increasing the adoption of renewables as an alternative to fossil fuels. Discussions will also address investment needs and delivery models for decentralised renewable energy deployment across these communities.

### **African Continental Power Systems Master Plan (CMP) – Establishing continent wide planning process**

13 January 2023, 10:30 to 12:30 (*Room A1*)

Building on ongoing efforts of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) to establish the CMP, a long-term continent-wide planning process for power generation and transmission, this meeting aims to explore the current and future link of the CMP initiative with national planning processes and highlight the importance of building robust and nationally owned processes for designing long-term energy scenarios as means to meet national and pan-African energy milestones.

### **Catalyzing Local Finance for Renewable Energy Projects**

13 January 2023, 11:00 to 12:30 (*Room B1*)

This meeting will gather local financing stakeholders for a discussion that will highlight their role in mobilising investment in renewable energy projects on the ground. The meeting will also explore avenues on how local banks can complement, supplement and partner with international funders, such as multilateral and bilateral financial institutions, for the purpose of advancing the clean energy transition in their respective countries.

### **End-of-life Management of Solar PV and the Circular Economy**

13 January 2023, 14:00 to 16:00 (*Room B1*)

This meeting will preview findings from IRENA's recent work on the projection of global solar PV waste in the 1.5°C Scenario and provide a platform for policymakers and stakeholders to discuss the current status, major barriers and best practices on circular economy approaches for end-of-life management of solar PV.

### **National frameworks for scenario development towards net-zero target-setting**

13 January 2023, 16:00 to 18:00 (*Room B1*)

This meeting will gather specialists from diverse sectors to discuss frameworks for developing and using long-term energy scenarios (LTES) targeting net-zero emissions to achieve climate goals, create long-term development strategies and their uses and impacts on critical sectors, such as the financial sector.

### ***Side events***

#### **Renewable Energy Roadmaps for Latin America: Perspectives and way forward**

13 January 2023, 12:30 to 13:30 (*Room A2*)

This event will convene representatives from countries of the Latin American region and aims to present the REmap study's objectives, scope and expected outcomes, as well as to delve into the overall insights and lessons learned from the development of the Central America and South America reports.

#### **Réunion de Concertation Francophone**

13 January 2023, 12:30 to 14:00 (*Room B1*)

This event is convened in coordination with the Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable (IFDD) for IRENA Members that form part of the French-speaking Francophonie to exchange views on solutions for increasing jobs in the field of renewable energy within these countries, with a focus on the employability of young people and women.

### **Global Offshore Wind Alliance: Offshore Wind as a Key Solution to the Climate and Energy Security Crises**

14 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Plenary Hall*)

The Global Offshore Wind Alliance (GOWA) was launched at COP27 in Egypt with the ambition to create a global driving force for the uptake of offshore wind. This event will present the mission of GOWA and its value proposition to IRENA Members, bringing together the co-chairs and existing members of GOWA as well as public and private sector actors across the offshore wind value chain.

### **Advancing renewables-based clean cooking solutions**

14 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Room A*)

This event will discuss actions needed to step up progress on the adoption of renewables-based clean cooking solutions – a pre-requisite for achieving both sustainable development and climate goals. It will showcase IRENA’s ongoing activities on the topic and invite Members and experts to share experiences and lessons learnt on creating enabling frameworks for renewables-based clean cooking solutions, with a focus on the policy, financing, local value chain and enterprise development aspects of scaling clean cooking solutions.

### **Power system RE-structuring for the transition and to avoid the next power price crisis**

14 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Room B1*)

This event will gather policymakers and experts to discuss new power system structures that address misalignments and are fit for the energy transition. It will showcase the dual procurement approach proposed in the IRENA study “RE-organising Power Systems for the Transition”, gathering feedback on its suitability for supporting the energy transition as well as a potential roadmap for its implementation.

### **The SDG7 at Mid-Point: Advancing Energy Compacts to deliver on the Global Roadmap for SDG7**

15 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Room A1*)

This event will serve to take stock of the progress on the Energy Compacts, one of the key outcomes of the UN Secretary-General’s 2021 High-level Dialogue on Energy, and consider collective actions required towards 2030, as Member States prepare for the review of SDG7 at the UN High-level Political Forum 2023, the SDG Summit 2023, and the global stocktaking of SDG7 to be held in 2024.

### **Global Geothermal Alliance Annual Meeting**

15 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Room A2*)

This meeting presents a platform for IRENA to engage with the members and partners of the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA) on the Agency’s geothermal related activities.

### **Scaling-Up Renewable Energy in Mano River Union Region**

15 January 2023, 13:00 to 14:30 (*Room B1*)

This event will showcase IRENA’s ongoing activities in the Mano River Union (MRU) region, encompassing Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, and as part of its broader regional engagement in West Africa and the continent at large. Preliminary findings from the regional market analysis report will be presented and Members, development partners and financing institutions will be invited to provide feedback and share perspectives on recent developments in the renewable energy landscape of the region.

## IV. Stakeholder Engagement

### **2023 IRENA Legislators Forum**

13 January 2023, 10:00 to 12:30 (*Room A2*)

With a view to ensuring a more sustainable energy transition through international cooperation, and learning from various national green hydrogen strategies, this edition of the IRENA Legislators Forum will serve as a platform for discussions on new opportunities that could arise from potential partnerships in setting up local value chains, stimulating the decarbonisation of industries, creating new jobs and ensuring greater social equity.

### **2023 IRENA Youth Forum: The New Generation of Decision Makers – Empowering Youth to Lead an Equitable Energy Transition for a Sustainable Future**

13 January 2023, 13:30 to 15:30 (*Room A2*)

The fourth edition of the IRENA Youth Forum will bring together young people from different countries and backgrounds to discuss the theme “Empowering Youth to Lead an Equitable Energy Transition for a Sustainable Future”, particularly in the context of youth involvement in energy policy, financing mechanisms to support the emergence of youth-led solutions, and capacity building opportunities for youth.

### **Public-Private Dialogue: Just and Inclusive Energy Transitions – Social Dialogue, Skills, and Decent Jobs for All**

13 January 2023, 16:00 to 18:00 (*Room A1*)

This edition of the Public-Private Dialogue will convene governments, private and non-profit sectors, labour and youth representatives to share their perspectives, showcase best practices and lessons learned and discuss what a just energy transition means in practice. Preliminary findings from a Just Transition Brief will be presented. The event will provide opportunities to identify further cooperation and outline key challenges and concrete actions to address them.

## V. Evening Engagements

**Solar Photovoltaic (PV): A Gender Perspective (13 January 2023):** This event will feature an interactive high-level dialogue on how gender aspects are being integrated across the solar PV and overall renewable energy sector and what best practices can be replicated to ensure an energy transformation that is rapid, inclusive and leaves no one behind. The special evening event will close with a cocktail reception to further continue discussions and networking.

**Assembly Dinner Reception (14 January 2023):** Participants are cordially invited to a dinner reception hosted by the Agency on the occasion of the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly.

**Ministerial Dinner: *Energizing Healthcare with Renewables* (14 January 2023):** Ministers will receive an invitation to a formal dinner marking the launch of the joint report by IRENA, WHO, World Bank and SEforAll on ‘Energizing Health – Accelerating Electricity Access in Healthcare Facilities’.

**Women in Diplomacy Event: *Empowering Lives and Livelihoods – Renewables for Adaptation (15 January 2023)***: Attendees to this High-level event will receive an invitation to the launch of the ‘Empowering Lives and Livelihoods – Renewables for Adaptation’ initiative, which aims to connect people and livelihoods through renewable energy solutions in agri-food and health sectors.

## Essential Information for Participation

**Venue:** The 13<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 13 to 15 January 2023.

**Registration:** Participants may register for the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly and related meetings between 9 November 2022 and 8 January 2023 at <https://assembly.irena.org/>.

**Badge issuance:** Badges will be issued on 13 to 15 January 2023, from 08:00 to 17:00 in the registration area (Manhattan lounge) next to the main lobby of the St. Regis Hotel in Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi.

**PCR testing:** In the interest of health and safety and in line with UAE regulations, a valid negative PCR test taken within 96 hours (unvaccinated individuals) or 48 hours (vaccinated individuals) of the meeting is required for accessing the meeting venue.

The Secretariat will set up a walk-in PCR Testing Facility on-site at the venue. The Facility will be accessible on **Thursday, 12 January 2023 from 13:00 to 18:00, and on Friday, 13 January 2023, from 09:30 to 17:00**. To avail this PCR testing service, kindly bring with you to the PCR Testing Facility your valid passport or Emirates ID. This service will be provided at no cost to all delegates attending the meetings in-person.

## Related Matters

**Agenda:** The Provisional Agenda of the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the IRENA Assembly as well as the annotations and the background notes for various discussions are included in this transmission.

**Bilateral meetings:** Subject to availability of space and services, every effort will be made to accommodate bilateral meetings. Requests should be sent to [Bilateral@irena.org](mailto:Bilateral@irena.org), 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 [ODG@irena.org](mailto:ODG@irena.org).

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

**Queries:** Questions relating to the Assembly, including on organisational arrangements and any applicable health and safety measures, should be referred to the Secretariat at [Assembly@irena.org](mailto:Assembly@irena.org).