

Seventeenth meeting of the Council of IRENA  
25 – 26 June 2019, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

**REPORT**  
**OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**OF THE INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY**



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## **Draft Report of the seventeenth meeting of the Council of the International Renewable Energy Agency**

1. The seventeenth meeting of the Council of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) was held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 25 to 26 June 2019. The meeting was attended by the 21 Council members: Antigua and Barbuda, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Germany, Japan, Kiribati, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mozambique, Republic of Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; as well as ten alternates: Argentina, Bangladesh, Chad, Cyprus, El Salvador, Italy, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, and Philippines. Also, in attendance were delegations of 65 other IRENA Members and 5 other countries.

### **Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting**

2. The Chair of the sixteenth meeting of the Council of IRENA, Argentina represented by Mr Martin Romero, Deputy Head of Mission, opened the meeting, congratulated the Director-General, Mr Francesco La Camera on his election and extended his gratitude to the Secretariat for the continuous assistance provided over the last Council meetings.

### **Agenda Item 2: Organisation of work**

#### **a. Election of officials**

3. **The Council elected by acclamation Luxembourg, represented by Mr Guy Lentz, as Chair, and Antigua and Barbuda, represented by H.E. Mr Conrod Hunte, as Vice-Chair of the seventeenth meeting of the Council.**

4. **On a proposal by the Chair, Egypt, represented by Mr Ahmed Lasheen, Political Officer, was appointed as Rapporteur of the seventeenth meeting of the Council.**

5. In his opening remarks the Chair reflected on the high representation of 160 Members to IRENA in comparison to the 2008 meeting, when 15 Members discussed the possibility of establishing an international organisation to lay the foundation for the emergence of renewable energy. He noted that such attendance echoes the realisation of the importance of IRENA as a universal organisation in the energy world with a common goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The Chair stressed that off-grid renewable energy is essential but cautioned that the pace of progress to be achieved is still too slow. He advised that a link should be established between the renewable energy and the development aid worlds as they are not only compatible but mutually beneficial for each other.

6. The Director-General expressed his appreciation to Argentina for facilitating the work of the Council. He congratulated the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Rapporteur on their election and welcomed delegations to the seventeenth meeting of the Council, noting the high-level participation and wide interest in the activities of the Agency. He expressed his gratitude to the United Arab Emirates for its continuous support as host country. Moreover, he acknowledged the support of Germany as host of the IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC).

7. The Director-General presented an overview of the ongoing energy transition in his [Opening Remarks](#). He stated that the range of associated benefits are strong signals to investors and policy-makers that renewable energy is the preferred option for new global power generation capacity.

8. The Director-General announced that IRENA's annual job review for 2018 indicated growth of 700,000 jobs compared to 2017, representing an increase to 11 million jobs worldwide, in which women represent 32% of renewable energy employment, a higher rate than the conventional energy sector. He emphasised the promotion of gender balance as a major consideration for all policy-makers, that have economy-wide consequences.

9. While striving to achieve excellence in all aspects and to secure its place as the global point of reference, the Director-General informed that the next phase for the Agency is a greater focus on action on the ground in support of Members' strategies and ambitions. He further informed Members that he is working to enhance institutional collaboration with several other partner institutions, including the European Commission, the International Energy Agency (IEA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the World Bank. He asserted that these partnerships will strengthen IRENA's facilitating role and avoid duplication.

10. The Director-General concluded by emphasising that IRENA is in the best condition to play its role, stressing that the Agency must be at the centre of this partnership network, given that renewable energy is the future, and without renewables, there is no future.

### **b. Adoption of the agenda (C/17/1)**

11. The Chair introduced the 'Provisional Agenda' (C/17/L.1).

**12. The Council considered and adopted the Agenda for its seventeenth meeting (C/17/1).**

### **Agenda Item 3: Progress Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019 (C/17/2; C/17/CRP/1)**

13. The Director-General introduced the [Progress Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the WPB 2018-2019](#) and informed that IRENA continues to implement programmatic activities giving utmost consideration to their relevance, timeliness and impact. He added that IRENA's voice must be heard amidst competing agendas and priorities, and expressed his appreciation to Members for their guidance on the work ahead and feedback on the progress to date.

14. Mr Dolf Gielen, Director of IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre (IITC), presented insights on IRENA's work as the centre of excellence in energy transformation, focusing on transformation pathways, energy access and accelerating innovation. In this regard, he referenced the third edition of the report on the [Global Energy Transformation a Roadmap to 2050](#) which was released in April 2019, during the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue (BETD), as being a unique combination of *REmap* and socio-economic analysis. He explained that the report, supported by numerous background documents and significant outreach efforts, contains updated transition scenarios, progress and gap indicators for the energy transition, investments in stranded assets, GDP, welfare, and employment impacts. He noted that renewables deployment must be accelerated six-fold, with an incremental investment of USD 15 trillion required due to a significant new potential in the electrification of end-users. He stated that the major benefits of energy transformation are displayed in terms of socio-economic impacts, with a global GDP increase of

2.5% by 2050, equating to nearly USD 100 trillion. He pointed out that this work is ongoing, with regional and country analysis on scenarios and socio-economic impacts.

15. With regard to the power sector transformation, Mr Gielen highlighted that the report [Innovation Landscape for a Renewable Powered Future](#) launched in February at the European Commission in Brussels, is accompanied by ten supporting innovation briefs; more will follow this year. He emphasised that IRENA continues to work with countries through Innovation Days to translate concepts and opportunities for energy into action on the ground.

16. Mr Gielen referred to the G20 energy discussions which focussed on innovation and technology and provided a strong mandate for IRENA in the areas of integration of high shares of variable renewables, pathways to a hydrogen-enabled clean energy future and exploration of energy efficiency and renewable energy synergies. He thanked Members, in particular Germany, Denmark, Japan, Norway, and Sweden, for their voluntary contributions that have supported the implementation of such outreach programmes and studies. He advised that Member contributions are critical to continue the expansion of IRENA's work.

17. Ms Rabia Ferroukhi, Director of Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre (KPFC) highlighted IRENA's work as the global voice of renewables. She indicated that the power sector is at the heart of deployment and that renewable energy capacity has consistently outpaced conventional capacity in the past few years, which is clearly portrayed in the annual [Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report](#) published in May by IRENA, IEA, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the UN Statistics, the World Bank, and WHO as co-custodians of SDG7. She noted that while progress in the power sector is notable, it remains slow in other end-use sectors. IRENA will continue addressing challenges experienced by the heating/cooling and transport sectors from different angles including policies, incentive measures, technology, and initiatives. She mentioned that IRENA launched its annual statistics on renewable energy capacity, renewable energy balances, power generation and country profiles. She noted that IRENA continues to support countries in terms of data collection through workshops and announced that IRENA launched the Solar City Engine to assist municipalities, homes and businesses to evaluate the potential for power generation from rooftop Photo Voltaics (PV), starting with two cities, in Uganda and China. She informed that the World Bank expressed interest to partner with IRENA to roll out IRENA's Solar City Engine, to include additional cities in Asia and Africa.

18. Ms Ferroukhi indicated that the Open Solar Contracts were launched at the African Energy Forum in Lisbon. Six standardised contractual documentations for solar PV, including implementation agreements and Power Purchase Agreements (PPA), were offered to facilitate project development and finance<sup>1</sup>. In addition, IRENA's Project Navigator and Sustainable Energy Marketplace continue to support projects towards bankability. With a total of 238 projects to date and registration of many projects over the past few months, she highlighted that the Marketplace continues to gather significant financial instruments.

19. Ms Ferroukhi emphasised that IRENA assists and supports countries in designing their policy framework to attract investment, a key priority for Members, monitoring progress towards renewable energy targets and supporting initiatives on the ground. In this regard IRENA has supported two regional knowledge platforms in Africa organised by the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI). She explained that IRENA, having become the reference on renewable energy auctions, has supported discussions in many countries along with international, regional, and local institutions. She added that, in an effort to look at perspectives from different stakeholders, IRENA engages the private sector, academia, and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO)

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<sup>1</sup> The contract templates are available for Members' review of on a dedicated website: [www.opensolarcontracts.org](http://www.opensolarcontracts.org)

among others, while examining country-specific enabling environments for deployment through the IRENA Coalition for Action's business and investor groups.

20. Mr Gurbuz Gonul, Director of Country Support and Partnerships Division (CSP), outlined IRENA's activities as a network hub and source of advice and support. He indicated that the Agency continues to support the Central and South Eastern European Energy Connectivity (CESEC) initiative, which is led by the European Commission, and is conducting a regional *REmap* analysis for the region, which will be finalised before the end of this year. He stated that IRENA is providing substantive input to the formulation of the next phase of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), to reflect Africa's vast solar and wind potential in the continental infrastructure planning to 2030. The Agency has also supported the development of a renewable energy roadmap for Central Africa and is now working closely with the Economic Committee of Central African States (ECCAS) to organise a ministerial meeting for the adoption of the roadmap. He indicated that the plan lists several knowledge products and capacity building activities that leverage a range of IRENA tools and analytical work.

21. Mr Gonul relayed that in March 2019 the Agency organised regional long-term energy planning workshops in Jordan and Kazakhstan, the results of which will be presented into a knowledge report. Similarly, following the adoption of the ASEAN-IRENA Regional Action Plan last October, regional capacity building events covering policy mechanisms and risk mitigation were organised in Malaysia and Vietnam, respectively. Mr Gonul remarked that at the national level, the Renewable Readiness Assessment (RRA) for the Republic of Moldova was launched last February and the RRA processes for Azerbaijan, Mali, and Tunisia are close to finalisation. IRENA also advanced the development of RRAs for Bhutan and El Salvador, alongside the combined RRA *REmap* for Lebanon, with new processes being initiated recently in Albania and Botswana.

22. Mr Gonul announced that IRENA is working with partners under its Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA) initiative to promote standardisation of geothermal resource assessment reporting, with training provided to Ethiopia and to several Eastern Caribbean islands in recent months. He emphasised that IRENA continues to plan concrete activities in the priority areas identified for the second phase of SIDS Lighthouses Initiative which supports accelerated efforts for an affordable, resilient, and renewables-based energy future for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). In this regard, IRENA has undertaken a number of capacity building and technical assistance activities across the SIDS regions, including in Barbados, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Saint Lucia, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

23. Mr Bruce Neese, Director of Administration and Management Services (AMS) presented an updated version (document [C/17/CRP/3](#) – Annex 4) of the budgetary aspects of the Director-General's Progress Report. He noted that the core budget rate currently stands at 86% which is within the 1% margin compared to the last biennium, in which the final implementation rate was at 99.7%. He advised that IRENA received 94% of core non-assessed funding for the biennium and is on track to receive full funding by the end of the biennium. He highlighted that IRENA has received USD 12.9 million in voluntary contributions from nine Members and two international organisations since the beginning of 2018; and as of 19 June 2019, the Fund for Developing Countries Representatives (FDCR) received USD 403,000 in voluntary contributions. He further highlighted that IRENA has sufficient funds under the FDCR to cover the cost of participation for the next Council meeting. However, funds are insufficient to cover participation for the next Assembly in January. It was also highlighted that USD 7.0 million in multi-year voluntary contributions have been received during the biennium. With respect to streamlining business processes, Mr Neese informed that the Agency has moved from the implementation phase of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system into the stabilisation phase, with a clean audit of the 2018 financial statements completed under this ERP system in May.

24. The Chair of the Programme and Strategy Committee (PSC), United States of America, presented the outcome of the Programme and Strategy Committee Meeting as contained in document [C/17/CRP/1](#) (Annex 2).

25. Delegations congratulated the Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur on their elections. They also congratulated the Director-General on his taking of office and expressed their appreciation to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as the host country of IRENA. In the ensuing discussion, several delegations delivered overviews of current and planned national projects, challenges encountered, national targets on renewables, knowledge sharing potential, capacity building, and collaboration initiatives with IRENA, with a few delegations highlighting the promotion of effective policies and measures. Delegations highlighted the need for regulatory frameworks for investments and the stimulation of energy investment, particularly in developing countries and regions affected by structural change, placing emphasis on the importance of renewable energy being an investment in the future.

26. Delegations commended IRENA for its assistance on domestic projects and one delegation requested assistance from the Agency to develop a common methodology to capture biomass utilisation data. With the goal of achieving the renewable energy transition, universal access and improved and protected individual livelihoods globally, delegations voiced that they need: integration of high share, affordable variable renewable energy into the electricity system; increased efforts in the end-use sectors of heating and transport; implementation of regulatory framework; to strengthen and share knowledge on renewable solutions and best practices from which to obtain sound advice; links to the strategy of action to avoid duplications and to ensure that all organisations are fully committed; the continuation of studies and reports compiled by IRENA; attracting and maintaining the best talent in the Agency through appropriate human resource policies. Delegations also supported the Agency's efforts to further strengthen partnerships with international and regional organisations, private sector and funding institutions.

27. Delegations recognised the efforts of the Agency to expand its innovation activities and acknowledged that innovation is important and vital to achieve the energy transition, highlighting that IRENA should: foster an enabling environment for innovation, accentuate the social side and behavioural aspects related to new technologies through focussed awareness campaigns; and focus on innovation in areas such as hydrogen, storage, solar cooking as well as in setting standards. One delegation stressed the importance of sector-coupling and new technologies, to achieve the energy transition.

28. Delegations emphasised that IRENA, should continue to provide leadership, partnership and ambition in both catalysing and developing activities and programmes to mitigate and adapt to the threat posed by climate change on livelihoods in the future.

29. Some delegations reflected on the success of the IRENA/Abu Dhabi Fund for Development Project Facility (IRENA/ADFD Project Facility), which has proven to be a valuable entity that provides IRENA with a unique, independent role in assisting project proponents to secure funding and expedite the early stages of project execution, whilst building a valuable portfolio of experience. It was also proposed that a shortlisting process be organised to share projects with other funds, test their interest and develop a collaborative approach, building on the simplification of the selection process and providing enhanced facilities, going forward.

30. Some delegations stressed that renewable energy is a matter of survival due to the links between climate change and poverty alleviation, with renewable energy providing the opportunity to transform lives, through better access to energy. Several delegations invited IRENA to continue



strengthening regional projects through supporting their transitions, empowering connections on the ground, establishing regulatory frameworks, and diversifying cooperation with financial institutions like the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility to broaden its portfolio of funding. It was also stressed that climate mitigation must go hand in hand with climate adaptation.

31. The Director-General commended Members on their commitment to renewable energy and progress made to date. He thanked the PSC for the report and for its support and feedback on IRENA's work and welcomed future engagement with the Committee. The Director-General agreed with Members that sharing experiences and best practices among countries is important. He indicated that IRENA will be more engaged in regional and sub-regional work, where a smaller number of countries could work together to showcase their experiences, potentially benefitting from the Agency's collaboration with multilateral institutions, international and private companies, investors, banks and funds to enable a solid basis to be built to facilitate discussions that deliver concrete results. He noted that one of IRENA's priorities is working with LDCs and SIDS.

32. In response to Members' call to avoid duplication of work, the Director-General conveyed that the Agency will take steps in this regard. At the same time, he called upon IRENA Members who are members of multiple organisations to consider such duplication of work in their requests to different entities. He concluded by thanking Members for their reflections and their unwavering commitment to the Agency and for leading the world together with IRENA towards a renewables-based future.

**33. The Council took note, with appreciation, of the 'Progress Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019', contained in document C/17/2.**

### **Agenda Item 4: Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021 (C/17/3; C/17/CRP/1)**

34. In his introduction of the Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021, the Director-General stressed the importance of Member feedback received to date and noted that Members emphasised the importance of action and strengthening collaboration to accelerate the implementation of renewable energy strategies, plans, and projects worldwide, revealing that the scope of areas where IRENA can contribute has grown significantly. He noted that, through the Coalition for Action, IRENA also reached out to the private sector and civil society stakeholders for their views.

35. The Director-General emphasised that there is a need to carefully define priorities and programmatic activities that reflect the balance of diverse needs and requirements within the context of the Medium-term Strategy 2018-2022 which will continue to provide the overall framework for the Agency's work in the next biennium.

36. The Director-General proposed three overarching and interconnected priorities for the next programmatic cycle. First, he emphasised that IRENA should empower action on the ground and work more actively in the field with an increased focus on facilitating projects and driving renewable energy investment to scale. He noted that, given the limited resources available, IRENA will have to carefully select the areas where its work would make the most impact; increase the work at sub-regional level to provide targeted input to countries with common interests; and place extra emphasis on supporting Least Developed Countries (LDC) and SIDS.

37. Secondly, the Director-General highlighted that in the next biennium, the Agency should strengthen partnerships and foster dialogue with a range of stakeholders including those present on the ground. He further highlighted that, as stated in his address at the ninth session of the Assembly, MOUs with the IEA and the UNDP were recently concluded, to leverage their respective capabilities. The Director-General emphasised that it is imperative to engage the private sector and forge strong partnerships with development banks and financial institutions to help channel resources toward renewable energy projects.

38. Finally, the Director-General underlined that the third priority for the next biennium would be to ensure institutional excellence to improve the Agency's standing and credibility, and in this regard, stressed the need to ensure that it has outstanding technical expertise and the ability to provide advice to Members. The Director-General confirmed that he will prioritise the strengthening of human resource capacities and effective policies to attract and retain the best employees, and will seek innovative avenues to secure geographical diversity, including staff from LDCs and SIDS, and gender balance.

39. In her presentation for the [\*Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021\*](#) Ms Elizabeth Press, Director of Planning and Programme Support (PPS), emphasised the link between the Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021 and IRENA's mission to play a leading role in the transformation of the global energy system, as defined along the four pillars of the IRENA Medium-term Strategy 2018-2022. She highlighted that the pillar 'Centre of Excellence' shows the inseparable link between institutional excellence, quality of personnel, technical excellence and analytical expertise. Within this pillar, IRENA will consolidate its flagship products that have been developed to shape the global energy discourse and drive change: the global Renewable Energy Roadmap (REmap) will continue to provide a medium and long-term vision aligned with global development and climate objectives; the analysis of the socio-economic footprint rooted in the imperative of a just and fair transition will provide an increasingly nuanced view for different pathways; the Agency will also monitor progress through multiple lenses, including IRENA's annual statistics, costs, and annual job reviews.

40. Ms Press emphasised that the "Global voice of renewables" pillar fulfils the need to provide relevant, timely, and high-quality information given the dynamic nature of the sector, with continued focus to be placed on the integration on variable renewables in the power system and in end-use sectors, including transport, and heating and cooling. In this regard, she noted that the energy transition will be considered from multiple angles to address technology solutions, market and policy design, regulatory frameworks, and business and financing solutions.

41. Ms Press stated that IRENA will continue to provide an inclusive platform to foster action and leverage stakeholders' capabilities for impact on the ground and will continue to build upon the regional work to date, specifically on Clean Energy Corridors (CEC) and the action plans, as well as further establishing initiatives such as the SIDS Lighthouses, GGA, and the International Off-grid Renewable Energy Conference (IOREC) platform.

42. In conclusion, Ms Press announced that activities under the "Source of advice and support" pillar will embrace Members' requests for close alignment between analytical and advisory work. She noted that, over the years, IRENA has developed a range of methodologies and tools (RRAs, roadmaps, and planning tools) which will continue to evolve and be deployed. She also noted that the Agency will accelerate work in the implementation and enhancement of National Determined Contributions (NDCs) to ensure full consideration of cost-effective renewable energy solutions, which is mirrored in the increased work on project facilitation from initiation to realisation. She mentioned that existing tools and platforms - Global Atlas, Project Navigator, Open Solar

Project Initiative and Sustainable Energy Marketplace - will be further adjusted for practical use. She emphasised that IRENA will have fewer but more impactful products where the Agency has clear comparative advantage, or it can build on established areas of excellence.

43. The PSC Chair reported on the Committee meeting held the day before the Council, and highlighted the Committee's recommendations on the matter, contained in document C/17/CRP/1 (Annex 2).

44. Delegations welcomed the Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021 and reiterated their support for the programmatic direction and priorities laid out therein. Several delegations welcomed the proposed alignment from a knowledge developer, collector and disseminator to a more practical implementation supporting Agency. A number of delegations reiterated that, to avoid duplication of work and ensure prudent use of resources, IRENA should work more closely with other international organisations and benefit from existing structures, knowledge and expertise.

45. Several delegations welcomed and encouraged IRENA's increased focus on the socio-economic footprint and the multisectoral impact of renewable energy on health, education, food security and agriculture, and the link with the Sustainable Development Goals. One delegation emphasised the need for IRENA to expand its outreach and engage with relevant stakeholders and communities, such as health, education, gender, agriculture, and information and communications technology (ICT), in the discussion on energy transformation.

46. Delegations highlighted that IRENA should have a prominent role in the geopolitical impact of the global energy transition and continue to examine the geopolitics of the world's transformation due to renewable energy deployment.

47. Some delegations highlighted the positive impact of the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility on implementing transformative renewable energy projects and one delegation proposed to explore ways to continue beyond 2020 through additional partnerships for funding and to put in place a mechanism to measure and track the work of the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility.

48. Delegations commended the Agency for the recently signed MOUs with the IEA and the UNDP and expressed strong support for the Director-General's proposal to work more actively in the field. They called on IRENA to assist Members through capacity building and technical assistance for enabling frameworks and development of business and finance models to attract investments.

49. One delegation invited IRENA to analyse the recent trends of the hydrogen economy. Support was received on the proposal from one delegation to include recognition of the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway in the Work Programme as guidance for the work on SIDS. A delegation requested that IRENA and partners continue to collaborate on various fronts to realise the targets of the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative 2.0.

50. A few delegations suggested additions to the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021 to include mini and off-grid distribution systems and their link to productivity as well as storage and e-mobility and measures to strengthen climate change resilience in the SIDS. A call was made for Members to be included at an early stage in drafting programmes and strategies.

51. The Director-General stressed that IRENA will continue to support the exchange of experiences at the regional and sub-regional levels through specific meetings that will be developed in 2020.

52. He also noted that the Agency has initiated a discussion with other institutions, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and UNDP, to develop a finance platform to be presented at the UN Climate Summit in September 2019.

53. The Director-General conveyed his appreciation to Members for their input and contributions into the evolving process for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021. The Director-General welcomed the proposal made by some delegations to reference the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway in the Work Programme and Budget. He also informed delegations that there have been interactions with the ADFD to discuss the future of the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility.

54. He emphasised that IRENA will proceed with the work on the Geopolitics of the Energy Transformation and will also collaborate more closely with the private sector and other stakeholders, as suggested by delegations.

**55. The Council took note of the presentations as contained in document C/17/3, and the related discussion.**

**Agenda Item 5: Programmatic discussion: Innovations for a Renewable-Powered Future  
(C/17/BN/1)**

56. Mr Dolf Gielen, Director of IITC provided an introduction on the importance of innovation as the key driver for the energy transformation for all Members. In his [presentation](#), he drew attention to the report [Innovation Landscape for a Renewable Powered Future](#), launched in February 2019, which explains how innovations in technology, market design, business models and system operation are being combined to create solutions suitable for a wide range of power-systems and provides a clear framework for assisting decision-makers to make informed judgments on the most relevant solutions for their needs and what to explore further. Mr Gielen emphasised the wide reporting and positive feedback on the report and noted the G20's recognition of the importance of IRENA's work on innovation and technology, and provided a strong mandate for IRENA in the areas of integration of high shares of variable renewables.

57. Mr Gielen described how the report "[Innovation Landscape for a Renewable Powered Future](#)" provides a comprehensive toolbox which includes thirty key innovation areas and twelve innovative solutions that can help Members to create solutions tailored to their context and to increase and integrate the share of renewable energy in power systems. He outlined that innovation is more than technology research and development as it requires a systemic approach that combines technology with innovative business models, right market design, regulatory frameworks and optimal operational practices.

58. Mr Gielen emphasised that in order to maximise the benefits of low-cost resources, attention must shift to two growing innovation challenges: the integration of high shares of variable renewables into power systems and the electrification of transport industry and building sectors with renewable energy. In this regard, he highlighted, as an example, the importance of smart charging for electric vehicles as a valuable tool to support the integration and sharing of variable renewables, as described in IRENA's recent report "[Innovation Outlook: Smart Charging for Electric Vehicles](#)".

59. He informed Members that IRENA is focused on ensuring that its innovation analysis supports Members with their national activities. As an example of that, he highlighted that IRENA is developing the work on innovation at regional level in close cooperation with Members and with a wide range of institutions such as the European Commission, Mission Innovation, International Electro Technical Commission, International Organisation for Standardisation, IEA and its task 13 under the Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme, other regional bodies, German Metrology Institute, World Trade Organisation, UNECE, and industrial organisations such as Solar Power Europe, Solar United, World Wind Energy Association to name a few. Mr Gielen thanked the governments of Sweden and United Kingdom for funding IRENA's work to engage with countries on innovation. He presented the concept of the IRENA Regional Innovation Days which aim to connect experts and policy-makers, showcase emerging technology-driven innovations and inspire and inform Members on the broader and faster uptake of innovation solutions that can help deliver a renewable-powered future. Mr Gielen thanked the governments of Uruguay and Thailand who will host the first and second Regional Innovation Days with a focus on Latin America and Southeast Asia, respectively.

60. In the ensuing discussion, Members welcomed IRENA's work on innovation and several delegations noted that innovation and the development of innovative solutions are paramount to modernisation and lead to cost reduction given that new smart technologies are becoming competitive over time. Delegations emphasised the importance of digitalisation, blockchains and artificial intelligence in the energy sector, as powerful enablers for achieving energy policy objectives. Some delegations noted that the development and deployment of solutions can be made more effective through sharing results and best practices as well as innovative ideas and projects that integrate energy and digital solutions in all energy sectors, from retail to distribution, transmission, and generation.

61. Delegations welcomed the concept of the IRENA Regional Innovation Days that can be instrumental in helping to build crucial capacity for energy innovation around the world and act as a platform to accelerate the energy transformation process regionally and globally. One delegation expressed its interest to host a Regional Innovation Day to share its country's innovations status and policies and to better understand the challenges faced by neighbouring countries in the same region.

62. Several delegations welcomed IRENA's view on the need to develop innovative solutions that can support the electrification with renewables for all end-use sectors including the transport, industry and building sectors. Delegations also highlighted that technological innovation is a key enabler for the energy transformation but in order to be effective it should be supported by innovation in business, effective policy and financial models. To this end, they emphasised the importance of governments and institutions in creating the right enabling conditions. Broad engagement is important including with other sectors outside energy, as well as with both those who can enable or might inhibit the uptake of innovations.

63. Several delegations emphasised that social innovation will be a fundamental element of the energy transition and highlighted that the engagement of communities and the development of educational initiatives can create social awareness and motivation regarding the adoption of renewable energy, the development of new business models, new forms of cooperation and investment such as crowdfunding.

64. Mr Gielen expressed his appreciation for delegations' comments and the positive feedback and support for the Agency's work on innovation. He emphasised the widespread recognition that innovation is key to the realisation of power sector transformation, and acknowledged the importance of market design and regulations, operational practices and business models.

65. He noted strong support for the concept of the IRENA Regional Innovation Days and acknowledged the suggestion made by delegations to organise Regional Innovation Days in MENA and Africa. He welcomed the discussions on the role of governments and regulators on the various dimensions of innovation, the concept of regulatory sandboxes and the recognition from Members of the importance of IRENA's systemwide approach on innovation.

**66. The Council took note of the presentations and the discussion.**

**Agenda Item 6: Programmatic Discussion: Global Energy Transformation: A Roadmap to 2050 (C/17/BN/2)**

67. In his [presentation](#), Mr Dolf Gielen, Director of IITC, introduced IRENA's [Global Energy Transformation: A Roadmap to 2050](#) publication which was launched on 9 April 2019. He presented key findings, implications for country goals and policy frameworks and invited Members to provide feedback and suggestions for future editions of the publication. He further highlighted that the report combines energy transition and socio-economic analysis, charting ambitious and achievable global pathways for the energy sector up to 2050, towards attaining global climate objectives in line with the Paris Agreement. He explained that aside from socio-economic indicators (i.e. GDP, welfare and job impact) the third edition of the [Global Energy Transformation report](#) contains the indicators on progress and gaps for energy transition wherein IRENA has also released the results for regions and key countries.

68. Mr Gielen stated that the electrification of end-use sectors combined with higher renewable energy production in the electricity sector can lead to a substantial increase in the share of renewables up to two thirds of overall energy mix by 2050 from 20% today. He emphasised that synergies between renewable energy and energy efficiency are critical, should be established by increased electrification and could represent 50% of energy consumption by 2050. Innovation coupled with appropriate frameworks will also be required to enable this. He stressed the urgent need for action given that in the last two years global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have increased by approximately 0.5Gt while an annual reduction of 3.5% is required to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°C. He further explained that the accelerated deployment of renewables and increased energy efficiency can achieve approximately 90% of the energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions needed by 2050. However, he stressed that renewables growth must increase six-fold and energy efficiency improvements need to increase from 2.3% per year on average to 3.2% per year. He concluded by highlighting that the transition towards a low-carbon global energy system will require a scaling up of investments by a further 16% from USD 95 trillion in the Reference Case to USD 110 trillion in the REmap case, which is slightly higher but that the structural changes required to realise the REmap case are substantial.

69. In her [presentation](#), Ms Rabia Ferroukhi, Director of KPFC, highlighted the socio-economic impacts outlined in the third edition of the publication, showing that the energy transition discourse has largely been technology oriented and disconnected from the socio-economic aspects upon which it is built and upon which its long-term sustainability depends. As such, economic considerations have mainly been limited to evaluating costs in very constrained frameworks.

70. She mentioned that with the appropriate policies implemented the energy transition can fuel economic growth so that GDP would be 2.5% higher in 2050 compared to the Reference Case and over 7 million additional jobs would be created economy-wide by 2050. The overall welfare indicator would be 17% higher than the business as usual case by 2050, with the improvement mainly dominated by the social and environmental dimensions.

71. She emphasised that the global findings hide important regional disparities. To ensure that the benefits are spread to all regions, countries and citizens, she stressed the need for a set of broader policies that can ensure that the transition outcomes are just and broadly inclusive. This requires policy decisions based on a wide range of measures and initiatives in several inter-linked policy fields, including industrial policy, labour market policies and social protection, education and financial policies.

72. Delegations reflected that the [\*Global Energy Transformation: A Roadmap to 2050\*](#) provides an in-depth energy and socio-economic analysis and shows that ambitions have to increase to address the impact of climate change and increase resilience. Delegations recommended that the roadmap document is updated regularly to view the trends outlined and several delegations asked that IRENA produces higher granularity in the transition analysis results, complementing the global results with regional, sub-regional and country-specific estimates, since these can inform precise and targeted policy making. One delegation encouraged IRENA to explore the link between reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and load-shift to poorer countries and to document such trends. IRENA was also encouraged to continue to develop and update a database of key relevant indicators. Several delegations invited IRENA to focus future studies on sector coupling with one delegation emphasising its role in enabling investments for systems with high levels of variable renewable energy and in enhancing energy efficiency.

73. Some delegations emphasised the need for a holistic policy framework to support the energy transition while simultaneously avoiding undesirable outcomes, noting that the renewable energy transformation will result in structural changes and redistribution of power. Members called on IRENA to inform them on the impacts of the energy transition, both positive and negative.

74. Delegations indicated that although the decarbonisation has economic benefits and leads to innovation, it is important to evaluate its impact on the economy and society at the local level. One of the important challenges highlighted is decarbonisation in the heating and transport sectors which require high upfront investment on infrastructure. Delegations also requested more details on projected jobs numbers, their geographic distribution and on countries that would benefit, stressing that deeper regional and national results will be important for motivational purposes. Delegations subsequently identified the need to address the skills gap presented by the redistribution of jobs. The need to build a green economy that is self-reinforcing, to revolutionise financing was identified as an important consideration to ensure positive public perception by keeping bills low. It was also mentioned that various national initiatives, such as fuelling tariffs, energy monitoring and largescale solar programmes, have been undertaken in order to promote the development and deployment of renewable energy and decarbonise the power sector. A delegation stressed that attention should be paid to the required policies needed to achieve the energy system desired and the goals of the Paris Agreement.

75. IRENA was invited by one delegation to provide assistance on its national project addressing other sectors such as food and water, which may prove beneficial to other SIDS. It was also highlighted that the business case for renewable technologies can be challenging due to front loading of costs. It was noted that policy will be required to address this and avoid stranded assets while taking advantage of the uptake of renewable energy. One delegation shared the challenges

for decision-makers to focus on long-term strategy until 2050 and called upon IRENA for more focussed action plans.

76. Delegations reiterated their ambitions for a higher percentage of renewable energy in the energy mix, recognising the need for many components to be interlinked and synchronised such as policy framework, regulatory framework, storage and market designs rather than solely relying on the establishment of renewable energy projects. Delegations also encouraged IRENA to expand capacity building support for the deployment of renewable energy and to provide guidance on; scalable renewable energy investments; improved human resources management policies and practices, as well as on strengthening collaboration with academic and research institutions.

77. The Director-General expressed his appreciation for the encouraging comments and insights provided by Members. He indicated that the IRENA 2050 global energy roadmap will be updated regularly, and that regional roadmaps will be developed. He added further that there will be more emphasis on the actual socio-economic implications of the technological solutions. The Director-General noted that the close link between renewables and energy efficiency which was mentioned by Members, as well as the Chair's concept of energy poverty and its link to energy efficiency, will be reflected in the Work Programme. Recalling his address at the ninth Assembly, he noted that the deployment of renewables needs to be integrated into the circular economy. He further announced that the Agency stands ready to support the IRENA Membership in renewing their NDCs. He acknowledged the role of Denmark and Ethiopia at the upcoming Climate Summit and underlined that the Agency will continue to support countries in the future in this regard.

78. The Directors of IITC and KPFC highlighted that the [Global Energy Transformation: The Remap transition pathway](#) (Background report to the 2019 edition), contains sub-regional and country specific breakdown of the energy and investment part of the analysis outlined in the *Global Energy Transformation* report, while a forthcoming IRENA report will provide further regional details on the socio-economic footprint. They also announced future studies on the role of wind and solar power in the global energy transition as well as a report on investment and financing that will be launched at the side lines of the United Nations Climate Action Summit in September 2019 in New York.

79. The Directors shared that the global figures presented in the report do not explicitly present the disparities in terms of regions and countries. A call was made to regions countries and citizens to engage in a collaborative effort in order to unleash their full potential. They concluded by stating that renewable energy can play a key role in enhancing energy access and meeting SDG7 as well as announcing the release of future studies focusing on energy mixes and related socio-economic footprint at regional and national level.

**80. The Council took note of the presentations and the discussion.**

#### **Agenda Item 7: Programmatic discussion: Socio-economic Trends of the Energy Transformation ([C/17/BN/3](#))**

81. In her [presentation](#), Ms Rabia Ferroukhi, Director of KPFC, introduced the topic by highlighting the Agency's work in tracking the energy transformation and measuring its socio-economic trends and impacts towards SDG7, together with the other custodian agencies of SDG7 indicators: IEA, UNDESA, UNSD, WHO and the World Bank.



82. Ms Ferroukhi presented key findings of the latest [Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress](#) report launched in May 2019 and emphasised that the objective is to substantially increase the share of renewables in the global energy mix. She highlighted that the increase in the growth of renewables has been modest since 2010 but the actual volume of renewables consumed in 2016 grew at the fastest rate since 2012. Findings show that renewables have proven to be a cost-competitive and reliable option for off-grid installations, and at least 34 million people gained access to basic electricity services through renewables off-grid technologies in 2017, up from 30 million people in 2016. She noted that the progress in renewable energy uptake continues to vary substantially between end-use sectors. The electricity sector, with a 24% share of renewables, is leading the way, while much slower progress has been achieved by renewable energy in heating (9%) and in transport (3.3%). She explained that since these sectors account for 80% of the total final energy consumption, much greater ambition levels and more targeted efforts are needed. She emphasised that the report highlighted that at the current rate of ambition, the world will fall short of SDG7 targets.

83. Ms Ferroukhi underscored the importance of SDG7 in advancing all other SDGs, and highlighted that IRENA participated to several policy briefs on SDG's interlinkages, with a specific focus on jobs. In addition, she announced the establishment of a new *Energy & Jobs Platform* with several international partners (International Labour Organization (ILO), Power for All, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), World Bank, European Commission, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)) to deepen analysis of these connections. In this context, Ms Ferroukhi presented highlights from the sixth report in the series, [Renewable Energy and Jobs – Annual Review 2019](#) by underlining that worldwide jobs in renewable energy have increased from 7.3 million in 2012 to 11 million in 2018. She stressed that 11 million jobs in renewable energy is already quite substantial compared to the roughly 30 million jobs in the fossil fuel sector, and it is expected that the balance of employment will continue to shift away as the transition unfolds.

84. On the estimates for global jobs' numbers up to 2050, Ms Ferroukhi highlighted the importance of regional and national estimations to better understand the socio-economic impacts of the energy transition. Such analysis can inform policy-makers of the labour market requirements (including skills, education, transition policies, etc.) which she showcased with two specific examples in South Europe and Middle-East OPEC. She concluded that to ensure that the energy transition can benefit all regions, a broader policy framework (deployment, integrating and enabling policies) is required to prepare for the transition, which is fundamental to minimise or even avoid potential misalignments between jobs gains and losses from a temporal, spatial, sectoral, and educational perspective.

85. In the ensuing discussions, Members welcomed IRENA's effort in analysing the socio-economic impact and benefits of renewable energy deployment with some delegations giving an outline of their national energy transition status.

86. Delegations underlined the necessity to raise awareness on renewable energy transition with one delegation highlighting the need for domestic government support for constant affordable electricity tariffs. A couple of delegations stressed the requirement to motivate, engage and enable future generations to prepare for the opportunities ahead, and indicated that the associated job creation should have an equitable approach, accessible through training and upskilling. Delegations underlined that the job creation aspect of the energy transition does not have a significant impact on SIDS which have small populations and as such renewable energy could be explored from a different standpoint where issues such as health, education, and GDP growth might be addressed in order to convince governments that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy brings about important welfare improvements.

87. In line with the current global trend of energy transition towards the renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, one delegation encouraged the Agency to assist Members towards a just energy transition. One delegation suggested that IRENA embarks on providing guidance to Members to undertake a holistic scenario planning which takes into account agricultural socio-economic impacts. Delegations emphasised that the restructuring process require a long-term basis for planning and investment by stakeholders, closer integration, optimisation of fields and sectors, cost-efficient instruments and strengthening the role of governments. A couple of delegations underscored that renewable energy should benefit from lower fees for distribution grid and the socio-economic analysis should focus on the means to allow the transmission and distribution to be socially equitable based on cost.

88. Delegations also suggested that the Agency should explore a way to provide more frequent data updates on the cost of renewable versus the cost of fossil fuels with further analytical opportunities in terms of differences in socio-economic impacts versus utility scale projects by renewable energy communities.

89. The Agency thanked Members for the very positive feedback on IRENA's work and welcomed suggestions by many Members that IRENA should continue doing its work not only at the global level, but also at the regional, sub-regional and country level providing recommendations for both the renewable energy sector-specific, as well as for the economy as a whole. It was acknowledged the need to focus on increasing industrial capacity, and understand how to leverage local capabilities, in order to develop broadened and deepened supply chains. Ms Ferroukhi underlined that there are structural changes to be made, bringing important policy changes with important distributional implications, which needs to be examined locally and globally. In this context, she proposed that there should be a shift from the current energy transition discourse that continues to be largely technology-oriented, to one that links the energy transformation to the socio-economic structure upon which it is built and upon which its long-term sustainability depends.

**90. The Council took note of the presentations and the discussion.**

#### **Agenda Item 8: Programmatic discussion: Decentralised Renewables for Energy Access and Sustainable Development ([C/17/BN/4](#))**

91. Mr Gurbuz Gonul, Director of CSP, introduced his presentation on [Decentralised Renewables for Energy Access and Sustainable Development](#) and the discussion on decentralised renewables, noting the high number of people still lacking access to electricity. He highlighted the significant role of decentralised renewable energy in addressing the access challenge, remarking that cost reductions, technology improvements and innovative approaches today offer a wide range of solutions that are economically viable, environmentally sustainable, rapidly deployable and modular for further expansion. Mr Gonul presented IRENA's work in the field, which cuts across a number of areas, including data collection and analysis, development of knowledge products, cooperation platforms as well as on-the-ground technical advisory and capacity building activities mostly at the regional and sub-regional level.

92. He presented some of IRENA's knowledge products focussing on both technology innovation as well as the socio-economic aspects of energy access, including the nexus between off-grid renewable solutions and productive uses, agri-food, water, job creation and gender equality. He highlighted IRENA's International Off-Grid Renewable Energy Conference (IOREC) which provides a global collaborative platform for sharing experience and best practices on enabling

policies, tailored financing schemes, innovative business models and technology applications for off-grid and stand-alone renewable energy systems. He further emphasised the IOREC Platform as a broad framework for the identification of needs and, therefore, for planning IRENA's activities on technical support in the off-grid space, such as IRENA's Renewable Energy Entrepreneurship Support Facilities currently operating in the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) regions and the ECOWAS Certification of Sustainable Energy Skills (ECSES), a regionally harmonised scheme for certification of renewable energy technicians.

93. Mr Gonul continued his presentation by highlighting the Agency's important efforts on decentralised renewable solutions for healthcare facilities, which saw the first International Conference on Renewable Energy Solutions for Healthcare Facilities come to life in November 2018. He underscored the Agency's contribution to the conceptualisation of the multi-stakeholder platform Global Health and Energy Platform of Action, aimed at accelerating renewable energy-based electrification of healthcare facilities, as well as clean cooking. The Platform was officially launched in May 2019 by the WHO and the UNDP with IRENA as an important partner. In closing, Mr Gonul emphasised IRENA's active role in accelerating the deployment of decentralised renewable solutions in the agri-food chains and for agri-food applications, through the use of geothermal energy, while he also referred to IRENA's collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that aspires to address the huge energy constraint faced in humanitarian response provided in situations of displacement.

94. Providing further insights into decentralised energy solutions in the ECOWAS region, Mr Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), presented an overview of the policy work carried out in collaboration with IRENA on renewable energy and energy efficiency at the regional level, which has also been complemented by national action plans for ECOWAS Member States. He emphasised the demand coming from countries for more concrete action on the ground and highlighted the importance of rural electrification projects in the region. In response to that demand, Mr Kappiah noted the extensive impact of two initiatives that were developed in close partnership with IRENA: the West Africa Clean Energy Corridor (WACEC), which aims to accelerate renewables deployment through the creation of larger and more robust power markets, as well as the Regional Certification Scheme (ECSES), which promotes professional competency and addresses quality assurance gaps in renewable energy installation in the region.

95. In the ensuing discussions, delegations unanimously acknowledged the pivotal role of decentralised renewable energy in enabling sustainable development and the achievement of SDGs, as it offers cost-efficient solutions that are deployable in a short time and in different regional contexts. They applauded IRENA's work in showcasing the potential of decentralisation, culminating in the recently launched [\*Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress \(2019\)\*](#).

96. Delegations further emphasised decentralisation as a critical factor in attaining benefits in the education and health sectors, as well as the agri-food chains and the creation of jobs. A number of delegations noted the importance of decentralised energy access in supporting social and economic development, with two Members urging for more inclusion of rural communities, women and youth for a bottom-up driven energy transformation. Two delegations suggested that the decentralisation of renewable energy and energy service delivery significantly supports countries in their quest for greater democratisation.

97. Clean cooking was highlighted by delegations as a remaining challenge while some Members advised that it should be prioritised on the agenda and underscored the links with women's health

and deforestation. Storage innovation was also mentioned by a couple of delegations as a key priority area in the off-grid conversation.

98. Concerns were raised by a number of delegations on unlocking financing, with one delegation remarking that current levels are significantly below what is required and some Members calling for the introduction of more enabling policy measures and innovative financial schemes to help scale up investment in vulnerable countries. On that note, a couple of delegations commended the work carried out through the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility in securing financing for renewable energy projects in developing countries, while two delegations shared their positive experience with innovative payment models, including pay-as-you-go off-grid solutions.

99. One delegation encouraged the Agency to make use of its analytical capacity for policy and technical advice in the framework of existing bilateral projects, while another delegation emphasised the need for more robust data on solar home systems and other small solar systems used in rural communities to track progress, as they are a key component of development in many countries.

100. Finally, one delegation called on the Agency to increase efforts towards facilitating access to funding opportunities through training, knowledge-sharing, networking events and business match-making platforms with a view to opening the space for public-private partnerships to support countries with technical expertise along with the setting of regulatory frameworks, policy development, project identification and operations.

101. In response to delegations' comments, Mr Gonul observed that public funding is widely available and noted the existence of multiple effective financing schemes. He recognised that a challenge remains in mobilising private financing into this space, adding that creating the right mix of incentives and insurance coverage for the private sector will inspire the confidence required to scale up financing into decentralised energy solutions. With reference to the use of geothermal heat, Mr Gonul advised that to help scale up the direct use of geothermal resources in an accelerated manner, strong business schemes need to be developed that will create an enabling regulatory environment to attract more investments. On the Entrepreneurship Support Facility, he explained that focus to-date has been given to established businesses that are looking to scale up their operations and noted that a start-up component will be examined in the context of the Facility in the SADC region. Additionally, he noted that accounting for youth and gender empowerment in the context of the Facility in the SADC region is a key development objective and highlighted that the Agency is examining different schemes for collaborating with regional women's associations and organising different sets of calls for proposals targeting specific groups of entrepreneurs for the facility support.

102. The Director-General acknowledged the valuable inputs provided by delegations, highlighting that the guidance offered is in line with the core principles presented in the Preliminary Framework for the next biennium. He recognised delegations' interest in addressing the issue of promoting energy access to healthcare facilities and upscaling efforts to focus on clean cooking and noted that the Secretariat's is working on an agreement with WHO, to jointly work on the areas of the electrification of the health facilities and clean cooking in LDCs. In closing, he thanked delegations for their encouraging feedback on the work that the Agency has undertaken so far in the off-grid space, as well as their guidance on priority areas for future work, including their constructive and supportive feedback on the Preliminary Framework.

**103. The Council took note of the presentations and the discussion.**

### Agenda Item 9: Administrative and institutional matters

104. The Chair invited H.E. Mr Conrod Hunte, Chair of the Administrative and Finance Committee (AFC) to present the Summary of the Administrative and Finance Committee meeting.

105. The Chair of the AFC referred delegations to document C/17/CRP/2 (Annex 3) and reported that the Committee considered the report and decided to submit it to the Council for its consideration.

#### **a. Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends (C/17/4; C/17/CRP/2)**

106. In introducing the item, the Director-General thanked the Chair and Members of the AFC Committee for their work. He mentioned that IRENA's human resources trends and the tenure issue have been under discussion since 2015 and that a proposal on this issue will be made at the November Council meeting for recommendation to the tenth Assembly next January.

107. He advised that one key priority contained in the Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021 is ensuring institutional excellence. This requires excellence in all facets of the Agency's work. Internally, this must be reflected in human resource management by investment in qualified professionals and improvement of gender balance at all levels. He also emphasised the importance of a holistic approach to examine and identify areas where the agency can introduce new tools, policies, and procedures to support IRENA as a centre of excellence.

108. The Director-General listed some of the major issues in the context of human resources management. These include high staff rotation and high vacancy rates, a comprehensive staff insurance and pension system, lack of access to a global staff security system, lack of mobility arrangements or transfer agreements with international organisations, governments or agencies, academic institutions, and relevant private institutions as well as the tenure issue which complicates further the challenges of recruiting and retaining IRENA staff. Additionally, the inability to attract secondments of experts from least developed countries due to the lack of financial resources was also highlighted. He invited the Council to review the human resource trends and issues raised in this report and provide feedback that will inform the next steps in light of the Agency's recommendations and the decisions to be made at the forthcoming Council and Assembly meetings.

109. Mr Bruce Neese, Director of Administration and Management Services (AMS) mentioned that the updated human resources trends in the report outlines human resource management issues that are interrelated to the trend data under three key areas - workforce planning, working conditions, and mobility arrangements - and quoted the Agency statistics related to the vacancy and turnover rates for 2018. Mr Neese informed the Council that based on the updated statistics, the concerns expressed in previous reports [C/12/12](#) and [C/15/3](#) have not changed and invited all IRENA Members to submit their views to the Secretariat by 30 August 2019 to assist the Secretariat in preparing the report for the eighteenth Council.

110. One delegation requested clarifications if the trends are similar for Bonn and Abu Dhabi offices, and another one highlighted its concern that there is not enough information to determine whether changes to the tenure policy are in the best interest of the Agency and whether there were other factors affecting turnover and recruitment that need to be addressed as well, and requested guidance on the outline or structure for submission of their views by 30 August 2019.

111. Delegations suggested that offering longer term contracts to employees and improving the working conditions of current staff is crucial and encouraged Members to submit proposals for secondment.

112. The Director-General clarified that a more complete report will be circulated, and that Member's inputs would be very welcome before the deadline of 30 August 2019. He called on the Membership to provide concrete proposals.

113. Moreover, the Director-General noted that staff mobility should be increased by forging arrangements with other institutions and that IRENA will shortly introduce guidelines that will allow the Agency to attract more personnel from developing countries.

**114. The Council took note of the Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends, contained in document C/17/4, and the information presented in document C/17/CRP/2.**

**115. The Council agreed to invite members to submit their views by 30 August 2019 to assist with the preparation of the report for the eighteenth Council meeting based on an outline on the structure of the report. The Council recommended inclusion of statistical data collected from various international organisations in the final report for the eighteenth Council.**

**b. Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018 ([C/17/5](#); [C/17/CRP/2](#))**

116. The IRENA Director of Administration and Management Services, Mr Bruce Neese, introduced the 'Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018' contained in document C/17/5.

117. He noted that the External Auditor submitted an unqualified audit opinion confirming that the financial statements were presented fairly and reflected the financial position of the Agency at the end of 2018, and that its financial performance and cashflows were in line with the applicable financial regulations and procedures and in accordance with international public sector accounting standards. Mr Neese reported that the Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018, together with the report of the External Auditor, are hereby submitted to the Council for its consideration.

118. One delegation requested clarification on the increase in payables and in expenses for consultant services, highlighting that the Agency is in good financial health and the Secretariat is acting prudently and responsibly in managing the Agency's resources.

**119. The Council took note of the Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018, contained in document C/17/5 and agreed to submit them to the Assembly for its consideration.**

**c. Audited 2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA ([C/17/6](#); [C/17/CRP/2](#))**

120. Mr Bruce Neese, Chair of the Provident Fund Management Board introduced the 2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA and the financial statements for the Provident Fund from 1 January to 31 December 2018 as contained in document C/17/6.

121. He informed the Council that the 2018 financial statements of the Staff Provident Fund were audited by the External Auditor of the Agency, Deloitte and Touche, and that the External Auditor rendered an unqualified audit opinion, confirming that the financial statements presented respect the financial position of the Staff Provident Fund.

122. One delegation requested clarification on the performance of the investments of the fund's assets as well as the process for conducting a review to ascertain how well the Fund's performance aligns with the objectives of the Fund.

**123. The Council took note, with appreciation, of the Audited 2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA contained in document C/17/6 and agreed to transmit it to the Assembly for its consideration.**

**d. Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken ([C/17/7](#); [C/17/CRP/2](#))**

124. The Director-General presented his report on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken as contained in document C/17/7.

125. He informed the Council that the Comprehensive Audit Report was submitted to the External Auditor for the period ending at 31 December 2018, in compliance with the Internal Audit Charter and in accordance with the Audit Plan for the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019, and that the status of implementation over the state of the recommendations received will be reported at the eighteenth meeting of the Council.

**126. The Council took note of the Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken as contained in document C/17/7.**

**e. Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel ([C/17/8](#))**

127. Mr. Terseli Loial, Legal Advisor of IRENA, introduced the 'Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel' contained in document C/17/8.

128. The AFC Chair reported that the Committee had considered the report, had agreed with the proposals contained therein and decided to submit it to the Council for its consideration.

129. One delegation sought information on the functioning of the arbitration system, including in comparison to similar processes in other international organisations, as well as the manner by which staff are made aware of this system. The IRENA Legal Advisor provided information in this regard.

**130. The Council took note of the 'Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel' contained in document C/17/8 and approved the Panel of the six arbitrators referred to therein, including the appointment of one new arbitrator as well as a renewal of the term of the other five arbitrators for a further two-year period.**

**f. Ethics Advisory Board**

131. The Council Chair informed that the two-year term for the appointed Ethics Advisory Board, consisting of Columbia, Samoa and the United Arab Emirates, would end at the seventeenth Council meeting.

132. He reminded that the Membership was invited to express an interest to serve on the Board. The Chair informed the Council that expressions of interest to serve on the Ethics Advisory Board were received from Antigua and Barbuda, Germany and the United Arab Emirates.

**133. The Council appointed Antigua and Barbuda, Germany and the United Arab Emirates as members of the Ethics Advisory Board for a two-year term, ending at the twenty-first Council meeting in 2021.**

**g. Committee Membership and Chairmanship**

134. The Council Chair introduced the item. He informed that the Administration and Finance Committee (AFC) and the Programme and Strategy Committee (PSC) were established at the first session of the IRENA Assembly and that the Council is requested to appoint new members of the AFC and the PSC, and elect new chairs for a two-year term, at this meeting.

**135. Following consideration of the nominations to AFC and PSC, the Council appointed the following Members to the AFC;**

- i. **2019-2020: Chad, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Guyana, Japan, Saint Lucia, Switzerland, and United States of America.**
- ii. **2020-2021: Chad, Dominican Republic, Germany, Ghana, Guyana, Japan, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, Switzerland, and United States of America.**

**136. The Council appointed the following Members to the PSC:**

- i. **2020-2021: Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, Netherlands, New Zealand, Samoa, Sudan, Ukraine, and Zimbabwe.**
- ii. **2020-2021: Dominican Republic, France, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Netherlands, Samoa, Sudan, United Kingdom, Ukraine, and Zimbabwe.**

**137. The Council appointed by acclamation United States of America as Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, and Samoa as Chair of the Programme and Strategy Committee.**

138. A delegation paid tribute to the work of the outgoing PSC Chair and Vice Chair, and the Chair of the AFC expressed his appreciation to the AFC members for their assistance and contribution over the years.

139. The Chair highlighted that the Committees were established when the Membership was less than 100 Members, while today there are 160 Members and perhaps, given the increasing interest for engagement in the Agency, it is time to consider expanding the Membership of these two Committees to allow for a broader participation and to consider establishing alternates for both Committees. He informed that he will prepare a proposal for the Council's consideration at the eighteenth meeting.



### **Agenda item 10: Arrangements for the eighteenth meeting of the Council**

140. The Chair advised that the Secretariat reviewed the calendar of relevant international meetings and proposed that the eighteenth Council meeting be held on 5 and 6 November 2019 in Abu Dhabi, with meetings of the subsidiary organs of the Council scheduled on 4 November 2019.

**141. The Council considered dates for the eighteenth meeting of the Council and agreed the eighteenth meeting of the Council will take place on 5-6 November 2019.**

**142. The Council decided that the dates for the 2020 meetings will be discussed at the eighteenth meeting upon receipt of proposed dates from the Secretariat.**

**143. Following a proposal made by Members, the Council considered and approved the proposed arrangements for the designation of Luxembourg as Chair and Antigua and Barbuda as Vice-Chair of its eighteenth meeting.**

### **Agenda item 11: Any other business**

#### **Review of the Selection and Appointment Procedure for the position of Director-General**

144. The Chair referred to the ninth session when the Assembly took note of the report of the sixteenth Council wherein the Council requested a review of the procedure on the selection and appointment of the Director-General of IRENA (Addendum [A/5/5](#)) on the basis of lessons learned during the process, with input from the Director-General Selection Committee and to make recommendations to the Assembly. The Director-General advised that the Secretariat is ready to support the Chair of the Director-General Selection Committee, the Chair of the relevant item of the sixteenth Council and the IRENA Membership to start the process for addressing this mandate.

**145. The Council considered and agreed to include this item on the provisional agenda of the nineteenth meeting.**

### **Agenda Item 12: Closing of the meeting**

146. In his closing remarks, the Director-General conveyed his compliments to the Chair and Vice-Chair, Committee Chairs and Members for facilitating the work of the Council. He expressed his appreciation of the proposal for new lines of work on green and circular economies, highlighted that renewable energy and energy efficiency should be regarded as two sides of the same coin, and acknowledged the need to increase efforts on financing.

147. The Director-General noted that the signing of the MoU with the Ministry of Education of the United Arab Emirates reflects the importance of education in changing the paradigm in favour of sustainable development, which was highlighted by many delegations. He expressed hope that this agreement could be a model replicated with other countries. He emphasised IRENA's important role in the UN Climate Action Summit, pointing also to the implementation of its outcomes. He requested that delegates circulate the current IRENA vacancies including the post of Deputy Director-General and encourage the best potential candidates to apply. The Director-General suggested that Members convey the messages emanating from the Council to their countries and all the forums in which they are represented, so that working together, the mission may be accomplished.

148. The Chair announced that it was an honour to guide and facilitate feedback and exchange ideas in an open and constructive manner. He expressed his gratitude to the Vice-Chair, the Rapporteur, Council members and delegations, the Chairs of the Committees, the Secretariat and the interpreters.

**149. The Chair declared the seventeenth meeting of the Council closed.**

Seventeenth meeting of the Council  
Abu Dhabi, 25-26 June 2019

## Agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting**
2. **Organisation of work**
  - a. Election of officials
  - b. Adoption of the agenda
3. **Progress Report of the Director-General on the implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019**
4. **Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021**
5. **Programmatic discussion: Innovations for a Renewable-Powered Future**
6. **Programmatic discussion: Global Energy Transformation: A Roadmap to 2050**
7. **Programmatic discussion: Socio-economic Trends of the Energy Transformation**
8. **Programmatic discussion: Decentralised Renewables for Energy Access and Sustainable Development**
9. **Administrative and institutional matters**
  - a. Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends
  - b. Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018
  - c. 2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA
  - d. Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken
  - e. Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel
  - f. Ethics Advisory Board
  - g. Committee Membership and Chairmanship
10. **Arrangements for the eighteenth meeting of the Council**
11. **Any other business**
12. **Closing of the meeting**

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Seventeenth meeting of the Council  
Abu Dhabi, 25 - 26 June 2019

Context: Pursuant to decision C/3/DC/3, the Programme and Strategy Committee (hereafter “PSC” or “Committee”) met on 24 June 2019. It reflected on the implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019 and focused on discussions around the proposed Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021. The meeting offered an opportunity for Participants to provide insights and input to the proposed framework and express priority areas.

Outcome: A set of views and comments captured by the Chair in his summary below to be presented to the Council at its meeting on 25 and 26 June 2019.

### **The outcome of the Programme and Strategy Committee Meeting Chair’s Summary**

#### **Progress Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2018-2019**

The Secretariat briefed participants on the progress made in the implementation of the Work Programme. Participants offered the following views and comments:

- The PSC welcomed the progress made to date and commended the seamless transition in leadership that did not affect the implementation of programmatic activities.
- The PSC highlighted IRENA’s efforts in leveraging partnerships, with countries, regions, international organisations and other entities, and encouraged further alignment of activities with those engaged in the energy sector and the deployment of renewables on the ground.
- The PSC noted the importance of gathering and sharing best practice, including from the global South, and peer-to-peer exchange to accelerate learning and promote replication of successful experiences.
- The PSC noted that non-core resources enable expansion of the Agency’s work and encouraged Members to consider additional voluntary contributions.

#### **The Preliminary Framework for the Work Programme and Budget 2020-2021**

The Director-General introduced the Preliminary Framework, which will be the basis for the articulation of the draft Work Programme and Budget for 2020-2021. He proposed three priorities for the next biennium, which include: enabling action on the ground; strengthening partnerships and fostering dialogue; and ensuring institutional excellence. A summary of the priorities outlined by the Director-General is attached to the Chair's report. Participants offered the following views and comments:

- The PSC welcomed the proposed priority areas for the programmatic cycle 2020-2021 and noted the importance of alignment of priorities of the Preliminary Framework with the Medium-term Strategy, which is providing a long-term outlook and direction.
- The PSC encouraged the role of IRENA as an enabler of action on the ground, noting its comparative advantages of excellence in renewable energy and its global membership. Participants stressed that as the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix grows, targeted input and support from IRENA will grow in importance.
- The PSC welcomed the proposal to facilitate peer-to-peer exchange and collaboration among countries with common interests and challenges, including at sub-regional levels, extending IRENA's reach with no incremental budget impact. Participants noted the importance of sharing experiences and best practice, including from the global South where many innovative examples exist. Participants noted that IRENA could play an important role in convening stakeholders, including the private sector and investors.
- The PSC stressed that deepening partnerships will be crucial to the success of IRENA's mission. Participants encouraged broadening and leveraging partnerships, including multilateral entities, the private sector, and academic and research institutions.
- The PSC encouraged programmatic alignment with other international organisations working in energy to avoid duplication and create synergies. Participants noted that both the Secretariat and Members could make improvements in this regard. The PSC also welcomed the plans for internal alignment to ensure effective delivery and application of upstream work and a feedback loop from engagement on the ground.
- The PSC emphasised that the deployment of renewables can meet multiple objectives in the context of national development and climate plans and strategies, and in strengthening resilience, most notably in the context of SIDS. Participants therefore encouraged IRENA to further its work on highlighting social, economic and environmental impacts, to raise awareness among policy-makers to benefit fully from the energy transition.
- The PSC underlined the importance of access to finance for renewable energy projects and collaboration with financial institutions and investors. They welcomed the plans to facilitate projects in LDCs and SIDS and support access to sustainable finance.

Seventeenth meeting of the Council  
Abu Dhabi, 25 - 26 June 2019

Context: Pursuant to decision C/3/DC/3, the Administration and Finance Committee (hereafter “AFC” or “Committee”) met on 24 June 2019. It reviewed matters related to the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget, Human Resources Management and Trends, Audited Financial Statements, the Staff Provident Fund, Internal Audit, and the Arbitration Panel.

### **Chair’s Summary of the Outcome of the Administration and Finance Committee Meeting**

The following comments and recommendations were made:

#### 1. Introduction

- The Secretariat provided an overview of the ‘Progress Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2018-2019’, contained in document C/17/2, as well as the updated extract contained in document C/17/CRP/3, as they relate to the budgetary issues to be considered by the AFC.
- The Secretariat observed that the core budget implementation rate is at 86 per cent, which is within one per cent of the status at the same time in the last biennium when a final implementation rate of 99.7 per cent was achieved. IRENA has also received 94 per cent of core-non-assessed funding for the biennium and is on track to receive the full amount, while USD 20.5 million in voluntary contributions have been received, with USD seven million of this being multi-year agreements. Finally, USD 20.7 million in core-assessed contributions have been received, which is equivalent to 96 per cent of the 2018 core-assessed contributions, while IRENA has received 50 per cent of core-assessed contributions in 2019, which is in line with the rate of receipt in 2018.
- The Secretariat noted that recruitment continues to be a high priority to the Agency, with 34 new vacancies having been advertised this year for which 2,500 applications have been received. It was also highlighted that, since the sixteenth meeting of the Council, the gender balance in IRENA has increased from 44 per cent to 46 per cent.
- The Secretariat also stated that the Enterprise Resource Planning (hereafter “ERP”) system is now at the stabilisation stage. It observed that the fact that the external auditor did not have any management comments on the audit of the IRENA financial statements for 2018, which was completed under the ERP system, is evidence of the successful completion of the implementation stage of the ERP.
- One Participant noted that there has been an increase in the costs incurred for engaging consultants since 2018 as well as for payables and queried whether this increase will continue. The Participant also affirmed that the increase in the amount of voluntary contributions indicates that the Agency is in sound financial health.
- The Secretariat advised that these increases in costs are commensurate to the increase in voluntary contributions due to the subsequent need to implement these.

- One Participant stated that other international organisations have much larger budgets than IRENA and thus the Agency's budget should be increased given the growing adoption of renewable energy worldwide.
  - The Director-General responded that the IRENA resource base would evolve in the coming years to address the increasing scope of IRENA's work and called on Members to support this process.
2. Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends
- The Director-General introduced the 'Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends', contained in document C/17/4. He noted that discussions on this report were taking place in light of the fact that the eighteenth meeting of the Council will involve a recommendation to the IRENA Assembly on the tenure policy in the Agency.
  - The Director-General affirmed his commitment to IRENA being a centre of excellence, which is to be reflected internally through effective human resources management and reiterated the importance of having a holistic approach in identifying areas of potential improvement.
  - The Secretariat observed that the average turnover rate during the past seven years is approximately 15 per cent and that the average number of years of service is 3.36 years, which is similar to 2018. The Secretariat also noted that if the temporary measure on the length of staff service adopted by the IRENA Assembly in decision A/7/DC/4 were to remain in place, it would necessitate the departure of more than 39 currently serving staff between 2024 and 2026. The Secretariat also highlighted that an increased turnover rate is expected as the Agency approaches the end of the four-year extension of the length of service of certain staff provided for in decision A/7/DC/4, which may have operational implications.
  - Several Participants asked whether IRENA is undertaking exit interviews with staff members who are separating from the Agency, to better understand their reasons for doing so. One of these Participants suggested that staff be provided with longer contracts as a method to encourage them to remain with IRENA. One Participant also asked what the most common reasons cited by staff for leaving the Agency were, including the ranking of tenure on this list.
  - The Chair of the AFC sought clarity on the impact of the temporary measure on the length of staff service on IRENA's programmatic work.
  - The Director-General advised that exit interviews are being conducted to obtain information on staff members' reasons for separating from the Agency and also noted other measures that could be taken to increase staff retention, including implementing security arrangements for staff on mission and the potential for a more robust pension system.
  - The Secretariat confirmed that the period indicated in decision A/7/DC/4 will start to affect turnover in 2024 and that, in addition to written exit surveys, face-to-face exit interviews are being conducted. The Secretariat also advised that family reasons and new job opportunities are the most commonly cited reasons for separation, with the tenure policy being in fifth place out of fourteen.
  - One Participant suggested that staff be recruited through secondment from Members, which often have a large pool of candidates with expertise in renewable energy. The Participant also emphasised the importance of having a limit on the length of staff service to encourage growth in the Agency.
  - The AFC decided to submit the matter for further consideration by the Council.

3. Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018
  - The Secretariat introduced the ‘Audited Financial Statements of IRENA for 2018’, contained in document C/17/5.
  - The AFC took note of the report and decided to submit it to the Council.
  
4. 2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA
  - The Secretariat introduced the ‘2018 Annual Report of the Provident Fund Management Board on Operations of the Staff Provident Fund of IRENA’, contained in document C/17/6.
  - One Participant requested more information on the performance of the assets in the Staff Provident Fund (hereafter “SPF”).
  - The Secretariat advised that the main priority of the SPF is preservation of capital and thus performance is moderate. The Secretariat also noted that it is in the process of engaging a third party to perform a review and due diligence of the investments in the SPF to ensure best practices are followed in the administration of the Fund.
  - The AFC took note of the report and decided to submit it to the Council.
  
5. Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken
  - The Director-General presented the ‘Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken’, contained in document C/17/7.
  - The AFC took note of the report and decided to submit it to the Council.
  
6. Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel
  - The Secretariat presented the ‘Report of the Director-General on Proposed Membership of the Arbitration Panel’, contained in document C/17/8.
  - The AFC took note of the report and decided to submit it to the Council.



Seventeenth meeting of the Council  
Abu Dhabi, 25- 26 June 2019

**Updated Information on  
IRENA Biennium Budget 2018-2019  
(as of 19 June 2019)**

## C/17/CRP/3

### Biennial budget overview

2018-2019 Biennium Budget Utilisation by funding source (in USD Thousands)

	2018-2019 Biennium Budget	Utilisation as at 19 June 2019	
		Commitment and Expenses	Proportion of 2018-2019 Biennium Budget
<b>Assessed Contributions (Core Budget)</b>	<b>43,130</b>	<b>38,179</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>Core Non-Assessed UAE</b>			
UAE Support	5,000	3,539	71%
Governing Body Meetings	3,200	2,736	86%
IT Infrastructure Support	920	909	99%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>9,120</b>	<b>7,184</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Core Non-Assessed Germany</b>			
Innovation and Technology Centre	10,200	9,467	93%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>10,200</b>	<b>9,467</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>Core Non-Assessed Other</b>			
Core Non-Assessed Other	1,704	576	34%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Total Core Non-Assessed</b>	<b>21,024</b>	<b>17,227</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>64,154</b>	<b>55,406</b>	<b>86%</b>

### Core Non-Assessed Contributions

as of 19 June 2019, in USD

	2018-2019	
	Committed	Received
<b>GERMANY</b>		
IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre	10,200,000	10,200,000
<b>United Arab Emirates (UAE)</b>		
UAE Support	5,000,000	3,750,000
Governing Body Meetings	3,200,000	3,200,000
IT Infrastructure Support	920,000	920,000
<b>Subtotal UAE Contributions</b>	<b>9,120,000</b>	<b>7,870,000</b>
<b>Total Budgeted Voluntary Contributions</b>	<b>19,320,000</b>	<b>18,070,000</b>

***Other Voluntary Contributions***

Donor/Project	2018-2019	
	Committed	Received
Belgium (Walloon)	2,285,787	2,285,787
Denmark	6,082,940	3,022,964
Germany	2,264,451	1,923,542
Italy	257,005	157,005
Japan	1,255,590	1,255,590
Kingdom of the Netherlands	26,042	26,042
Republic of Korea	629,284	629,284
Sweden	223,265	223,265
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	3,353,786	3,353,786
UN-ESCWA	32,000	32,000
World Bank (IBRD)	13,438	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>16,423,588</b>	<b>12,909,265</b>

***Fund for Developing Countries Representatives***

Donor	2018-2019	
	Committed	Received
Belgium (Flanders)	20,524	20,524
Belgium (Walloon)	13,137	13,137
Germany	70,283	70,283
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	300,000	300,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>403,944</b>	<b>403,944</b>

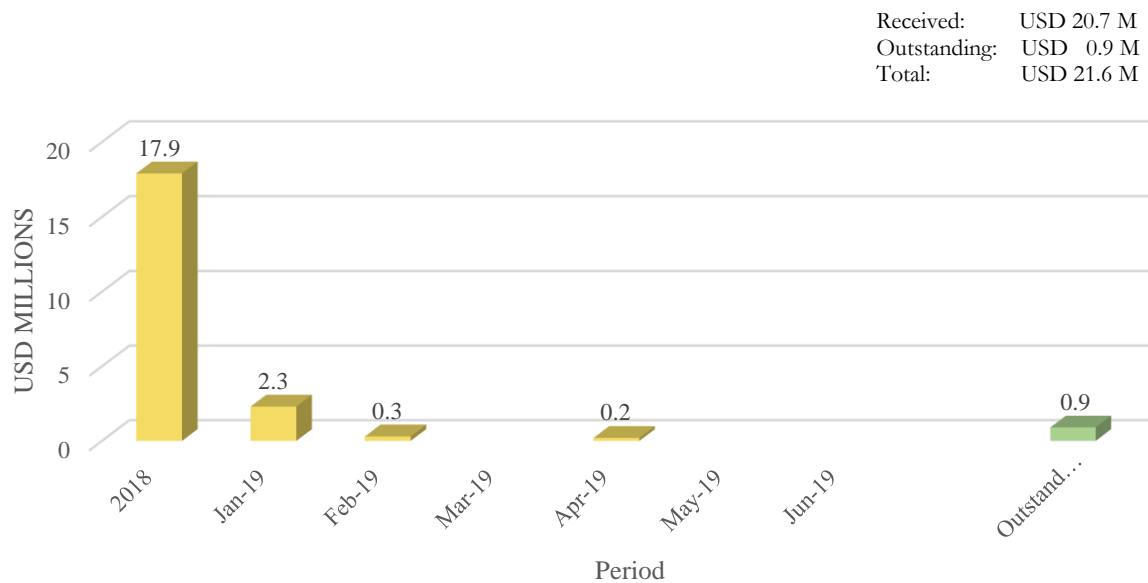
<b>Total Other Voluntary Contributions</b>	<b>16,827,532</b>	<b>13,313,209</b>
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***Multi-Year Voluntary Contributions***

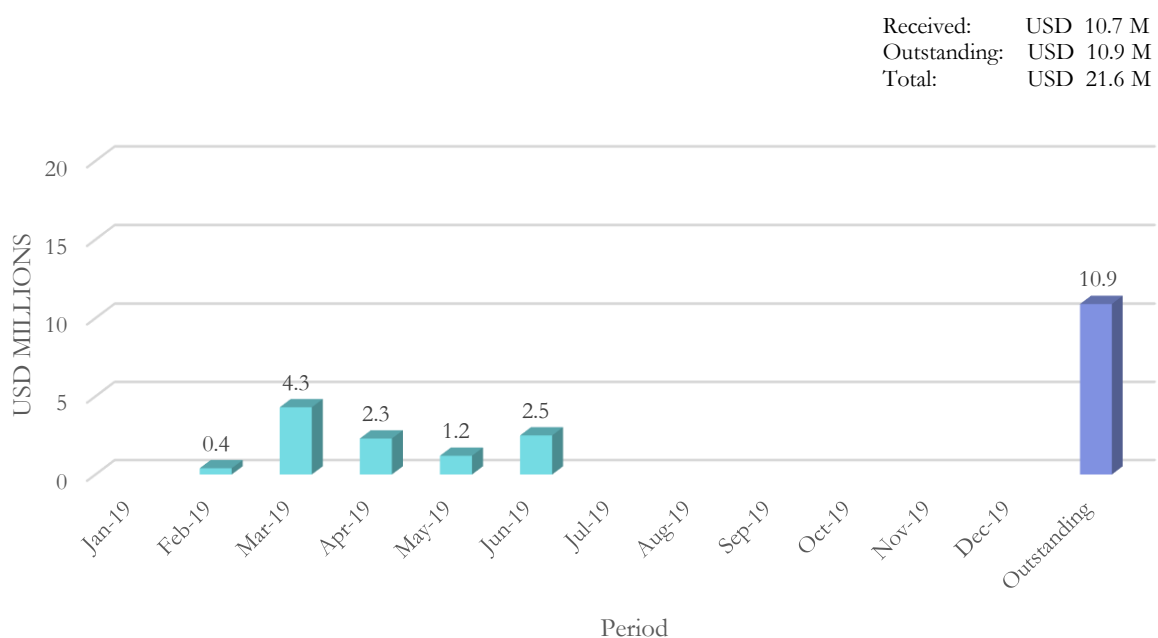
Donor/Project	Multi-Year Commitments	Received prior to 2018	Received during 2018-2019
European Commission	326,087	97,830	228,257
Germany	6,929,070	2,990,380	3,938,690
Norway	4,637,600	1,816,310	2,821,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,892,757</b>	<b>4,904,520</b>	<b>6,988,237</b>

## C/17/CRP/3

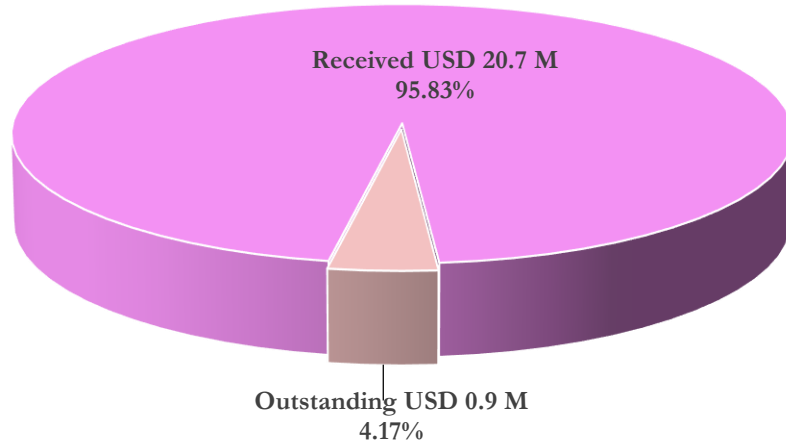
Received and outstanding assessed contributions for 2018 core budget (as of 19 June 2019)



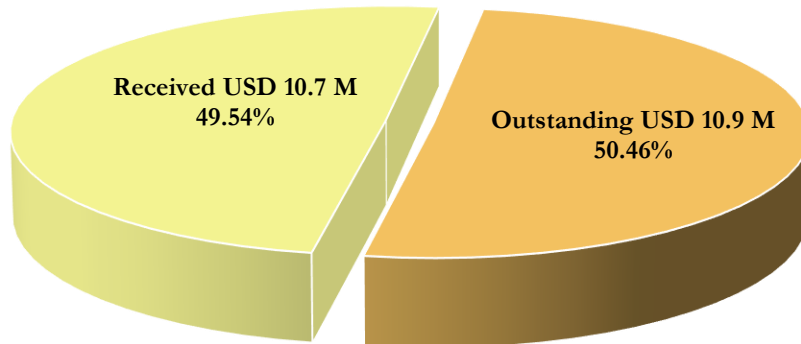
Received and outstanding assessed contributions for 2019 core budget (as of 19 June 2019)



Status of contributions to the 2018 core budget (as of 19 June 2019)

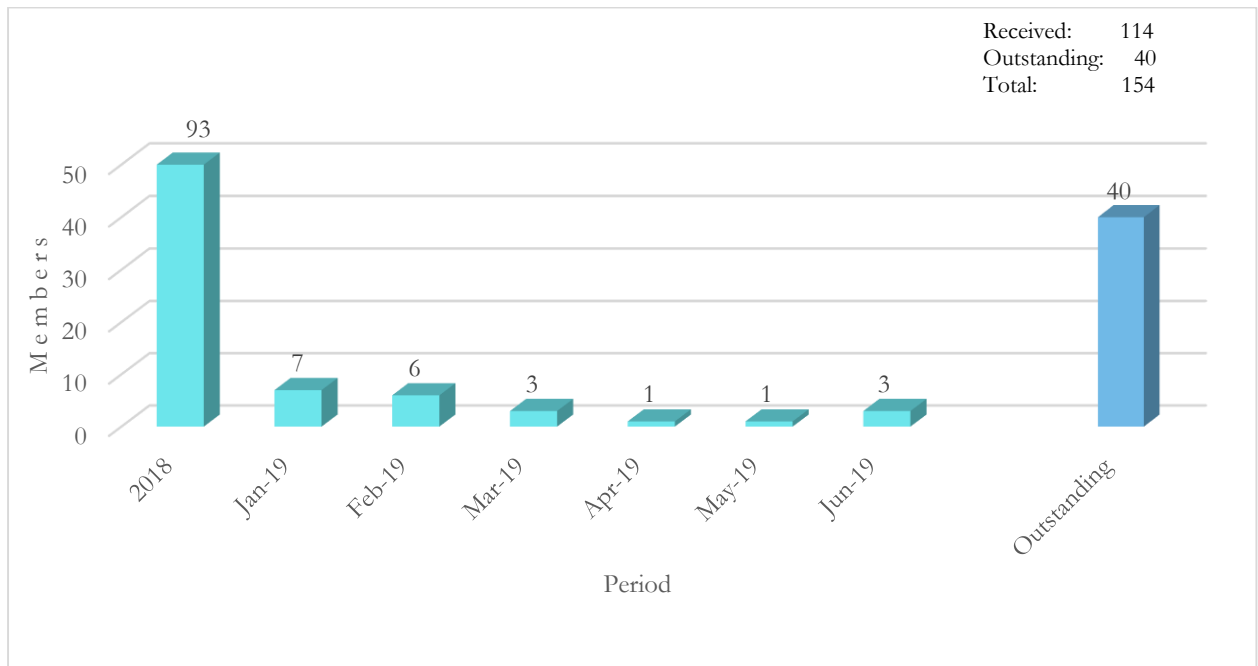


Status of contributions to the 2019 core budget (as of 19 June 2019)

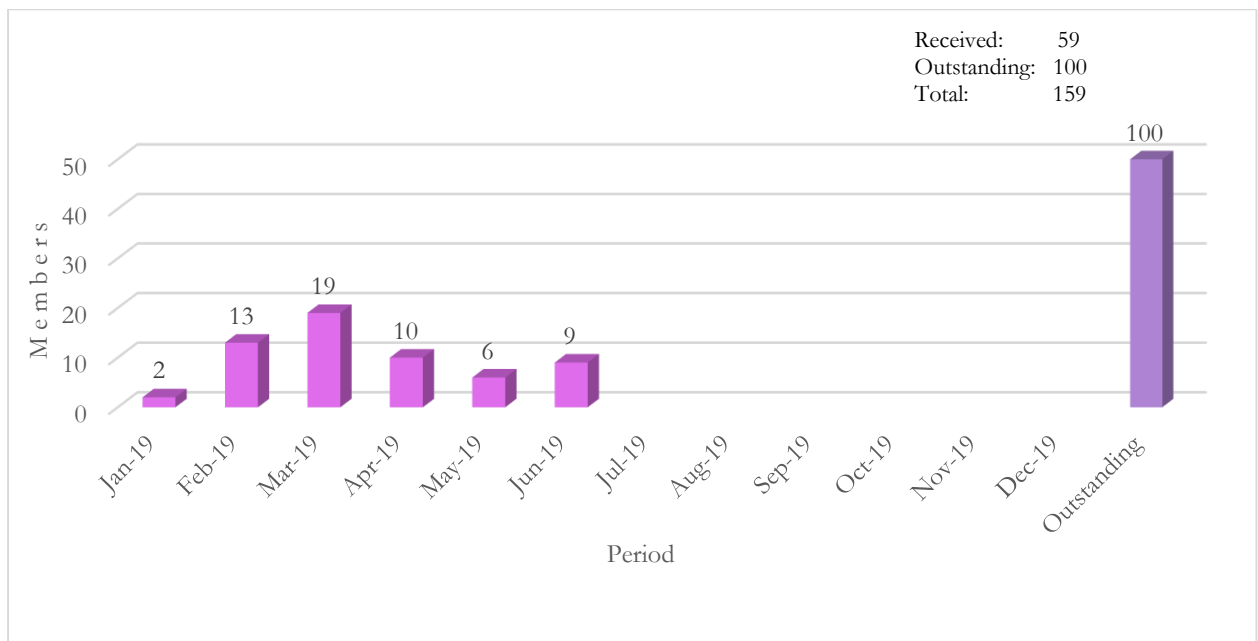


## C/17/CRP/3

Number of Members with received and outstanding contributions to the 2018 core budget  
(as of 19 June 2019)



Number of Members with received and outstanding contributions to the 2019 core budget  
(as of 19 June 2019)



Seventeenth meeting of the Council  
Abu Dhabi, 25-26 June 2019

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