



UN Ministerial Declaration SDG7: Energy - July 2018



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The following calls for action related to SDG7 (sustainable energy) were adopted by the countries of the world as part of the Ministerial Declaration of the 2018 UN High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council. Adopted July 18, 2018 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

We, the Ministers and high representatives, having met at United Nations Headquarters in New York:

Note with concern that more than 1 billion people currently live without electricity, which prevents meaningful economic growth and job generation. Three billion people lack access to clean-cooking solutions and are exposed to dangerous levels of indoor air pollution, which cause an estimated 3.8 million premature deaths per year, with women and children most at risk.

We are encouraged that the transformation of the world's energy systems is being accelerated by advances in technologies, rapid declines in the cost of renewable energy, deployment of least-cost decentralized solutions, policy support, new business models and sharing of best practices. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of International Solar Alliance as an international organization and note the continued work of the International Renewable Energy Agency. We emphasize the need for strengthened political will and increased levels of investment and action by all stakeholders to increase access, on mutually agreed terms, to clean energy research and technology. We commit to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advances and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.

*We call upon governments and all stakeholders to **make clean cooking solutions a priority and to close the electricity access gap by harnessing the potential of decentralized renewable energy solutions.** We support solutions that are in line with people's needs and that support local economic activities such as the productive use of energy.*

*We call upon Governments and other stakeholders to **accelerate the pace of transition towards renewable energy,** especially in end-use sectors such as transport, buildings, agriculture and industry as well as the pace of energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy, including cooling and district heating.*

*We reaffirm the commitment to **rationalise inefficient fossil fuel subsidies** taking into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries.*

*It is also critical that we scale-up capacity-building, research and development including by sharing experiences and data and **promoting innovation and investments in energy efficiency** across all sectors of the economy and to **support sustainable energy deployment, particularly in developing countries;***

This text is article 24 of the UN Declaration. Layout is not in the original version.

Read the full declaration at:

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20419Advance_unedited_2018_Ministerial_declaration_.pdf See also: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018>

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