

INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY

Sixth meeting of the Council

Abu Dhabi, 10-11 December 2013

**Chair's Summary of the Outcome of the
Programme and Strategy Committee Meeting**

The following views and comments were made by participants.

1. Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2013

- Pleased with visible progress made by IRENA.
- Demonstrated a concrete impact in advancing IRENA's mandate through meeting countries' needs in response to their requests and being the voice of renewable energy.
- Welcomed increased visibility on the global energy and sustainable development scene.

2. The proposed Work Programme and Budget 2014-2015 (WPB 2014-2015)

- Welcomed the new programming approach of identifying broader objectives and focusing on specific areas of impact.
- Recognized geographical expansion of the programmatic work and stressed the need for meaningful involvement in a range of selected issues.
- Welcomed the comprehensiveness of the work programme and the balance of priorities to ensure best value-added.
- Underlined the efforts to promote renewable energy in a broader context of sustainable development and climate change.
- Encouraged engagement with stakeholders and partners to ensure synergy and complementarity, and to leverage comparative strengths.

- Stressed the need to actively engage with a wide range of partners to amplify the impact of respective activities.
- Underlined budgetary constraints some Members are facing and encouraged creative solutions to resource programmatic activities, including through additional voluntary contributions.
- Noted the need to, in view of resource constraints, prioritise among activities without compromising the overall strategic coherence of the work programme.

2.1 Strategic Direction

- Stressed the need for robust communication and outreach efforts.

2.2 Thematic Areas

a. Planning for the global energy transition

- Encouraged the active and prominent role in SE4ALL, and highlighted the need to coordinate SE4ALL-related activities Agency-wide to avoid duplication of effort.
- Noted that REMAP2030 can play a decisive role in designing future energy system.
- Underlined the importance of focus on biomass and encouraged the work in this area.

b. Gateway to knowledge on renewable energy

- Welcomed the strengthening of the work on statistics and encouraged cooperation with the entities already working in this field.
- Noted the work on costs as a critical step in overcoming barriers to renewables deployment.

c. Enabling investment and growth

- Stressed the importance of overcoming financing barriers, including finding innovative solutions.
- Noted the necessity to engage the private sector and financial institutions in relevant activities.
- Emphasised the broader socio-economic impact of renewable energy deployment.

d. Renewable energy access for sustainable livelihoods

- Welcomed the focus on access as one of the most promising areas for renewables deployment.

e. Islands: lighthouses for renewable energy deployment

- Emphasised the importance of the continuous engagement with islands and a holistic approach to addressing their specific circumstances.
- Noted GREIN as a tool to advancing specific technical and economic aspects of renewables deployment in island settings.
- Encouraged leveraging the strengths and resources of agencies active in capacity building to ensure value added of IRENA's efforts.

f. Regional action agenda

- Underscored the transformational nature of clean energy corridors initiatives and encouraged exploring synergies with the existing bilateral initiatives.
- Noted the positive impact of regional work on national agendas.