



4 June 2012

INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY

Third meeting of the Council

Abu Dhabi, 05 – 06 June 2012

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

Context: Pursuant to decision A/1/DC/10/Rev.1, the Policy and Strategy Committee met to review and provide recommendations to the Council on the progress in implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2012, preliminary Work-Programme and Budget Framework for 2013 [C/2/DC/4], and refined Medium-term Strategy [C/2/SR/1].

Objective: The main objective of this meeting was to review the progress in the implementation of the Work Programme and Budget 2012, the preliminary Work-Programme and Budget Framework for 2013 and refined Medium-term Strategy in order to report back to the Council at its meeting on 5 June 2012.

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 5 June 2012.

The following views and comments were made on the three items discussed at the meeting:

1. Implementation of the 2012 Work Programme

- Welcome the good progress made in implementing the work programme and delivering concrete outcomes, particularly within such a short time period.
- IRENA is increasingly becoming the knowledgeable authority on renewables and forging strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders.
- Appreciate IRENA's efforts in keeping Members informed of progress.
- Need to improve dissemination and communication. Effective means of communication between IRENA and its Members would be mutually beneficial.
- Engage Members in more technical substantive discussions on results of IRENA's work.
- IRENA to capitalize on the knowledge and experience of its Members, and seek specific support or assistance with its programmatic activities.
- Important to address environmental issues to show the link between renewable energy and climate change.
- Engagement of the private sector is critical, as well as forging partnerships with private sector and international financial institutions.

2. The framework for the Work Programme 2013

- Strategic direction of the 2013 work programme is well defined with clear link to MTS, but there is perception of overlap between the three programmes.
- 2013 work programme should be used to re-assess the thematic and institutional structures in time for refinement for 2014. Most programmatic activities are of multi-year nature.
- Strong support for the “annual flagship publications”, and flashing out this concept by the DG at the next Assembly.
- Importance of the role of strategic partnerships in developing a global voice and avoiding duplication [e.g. publication of reports by various institutions].
- Reassess the thematic structure of the programmes to ensure synergy and coordination, and to avoid duplication.
- Thematic issues in 2013 should include issues such as: introduction of other technologies in the Global Atlas, focus on grid and storage, islands/SIDS, waste to energy, and NAMAs.
- Creation of a Business Advisory Council is essential, and the membership should include private sector from developing countries.
- Expansion of regional work welcomed, and the mobilization of local capacity encouraged.
- An indicative budget for 2013 would be helpful to enable members to plan their own budgets.
- Allow for flexibility of the programme to respond to emerging issues and new developments in policies and technologies.
- Communication strategy is essential to disseminate results and develop a global voice.

3. Mid-term Strategy

- The MTS is a much improved document providing a clear strategic direction.
- The three pillar structure reflects IRENA’s mandate.
- The MTS should cover a period of 5 years with a possible review after 3 years.
- A process of measuring progress would be helpful.
- Important to address the means of implementing the MTS including resource needs, partnerships and indicative milestones.
- Define potential challenges to realising the MTS and help define priorities.
- Importance of engaging private sector in addressing barriers to investment in renewables and developing an appropriate financing model.