

19-23 March

Documentation of the Work of the Economic and Social Council
(ECOSOC)



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Conference A

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Committee Staff

Director	Asra Shakoor
Assistant Director	Saeko Yoshimatsu
Chair	Jesse Thomas
Rapporteur	Dominique Goprou

Agenda

- I. Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas
- II. Promoting Sustainable Peace by Addressing the Root Causes of Conflict
- III. Mobilizing Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
ECOSOC/1/1	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/2	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	40 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 4 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/3	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	38 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 3 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/4	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	39 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 3 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/5	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	36 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 6 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/6	Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas	27 votes in favor, 9 votes against, 8 abstentions

Summary Report

The Economic and Social Council Plenary held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Mobilizing Inclusive Partnership for Sustainable Development
- II. Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas
- III. Promoting Sustainable Peace by Addressing the Root Causes of Conflict

The session was attended by representatives of 44 Member States and 2 Observers.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, III, I, beginning discussion on the topic of “Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of seven proposals covering a wide range of subtopics, including the potential impact of urban migration on rural areas, technology transfer, cost-sharing between public and private investors, implementation and maintenance of renewable energy sources, and the promotion of social entrepreneurship for awareness raising programs on sustainable energy use. The atmosphere in the committee was one of collaboration when a merge occurred between two proposals by the end of the session on Tuesday afternoon. On Tuesday evening, all delegates revised their varying working papers on themes that complemented each other.

On Wednesday, six draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, one of which had amendments. These resolutions covered topics such as establishing financial frameworks in developing countries through investments, creating a task force to provide consultation and guidance to rural areas in needs of sustainable energy, and addressing the importance of achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, highlighting the importance of the empowerment of women in the community and improving energy supply. The committee adopted six resolutions following voting procedure, one of which received unanimous support by the body.



Code: ECOSOC/1/1

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3 *Reaffirming* the definition of sustainable energy, as detailed by the World Commission on Environment and
4 Development (WCED), as consisting of “all the efforts to meet current energy needs without hindering the ability of
5 future generations to meet their own,”
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7 *Recognizing* that 80% of individuals living without electricity in the world reside in rural areas of developing states,
8 according to the International Energy Agency (IAEA) *2016 World Energy Outlook* (2016),
9
10 *Noting* that rural communities are progressively relocating to urban areas, which will undeniably have an impact on
11 demand for energy in rural settlements, as noted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
12 (UN DESA) in its 2014 *World Urbanization Prospects Report* (2014),
13
14 *Encouraged* by the successes of United Nations-Habitat (UN-Habitat) in aiding the transition of urban communities
15 towards a sustainable energy based approach,
16
17 *Noting* the need for focus on providing access to sustainable energy to rural areas in UN Energy publications,
18
19 *Recalling* Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 7, 12 and 17, and in particular SDG target 17.7, which promote
20 access to, resource mobilization for, and sustainable consumption of sustainable energy,
21
22 *Realizing* the need for private investments into rural areas, as noted in General Assembly (GA) resolution 70/1 of
23 2015,
24
25 *Recalling* the purpose of the Clean Energy for Development Investment Framework (CEDIF) as “meeting the
26 sustainable energy needs of developing countries and widening access to sustainable energy services for their
27 citizens in an environmentally responsible way,”
28
29 *Deeply convinced* of the need to strengthen global support of the Statute of the International Renewable Energy
30 Agency (IRENA) in order to more effectively promote the improvement of and increased access to sustainable
31 energy,
32
33 *Appreciating* the contributions of the Renewable Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) in bringing together
34 international stakeholders to contribute data and ideas for sustainable energy solutions in their annual report,
35
36 *Acknowledging* the efforts of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in establishing the Sustainable
37 Development Goals Fund (SDGF) as an international multi-donor and multi-agency development mechanism,
38
39 *Recognizing* that additional financial contributions to the SDGF by Member States remains necessary for sustainable
40 energy projects in rural communities,
41
42 *Emphasizing* the Development Cooperation Forum’s (DCF) unique mission to increase coordination, collaboration,
43 and efficiency amongst multiple actors such as developing and developed countries, civil society organizations,
44 local governments, and private sector entities,
45
46 *Further recognizing* the importance of providing price certainty and long-term contracts that help finance
47 sustainable energy investments to local sustainable energy companies,
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49 *Noting* the success of national legislation in promoting sustainable energy, which gives tax deduction to large
50 corporations that meet target amounts of sustainable energy to run their company,

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Further recalling the Monterrey Consensus (2002), the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development (2008) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) (2015), which outline the financial needs of developing states including Least Developing States (LDCs), Landlocked Developing States (LLDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDs), and Middle Income Developing States (MIDs), concerning sustainable development projects,

Reaffirming the effectiveness of hybrid micro-grids in remote areas, which consist of integrated modules that generate power combining two different kinds of technologies and distribute electricity to several consumers through an independent grid, as concluded by IEA,

Further acknowledging the need to expand the services of the World Bank’s Public-Private-Partnership In Infrastructure Resource Center (PPPIRC) within the area of matching supply and demand of sustainable energy infrastructure projects,

The Economic and Social Council,

1. *Authorizes* the creation of the Rural Energy Framework (REF) under UN Energy, which will provide an adaptable framework for Member States to successfully expand and finance sustainable energy initiatives in rural areas across the local, national, and international levels;
2. *Encourages* the inclusion of local governments and private sector entities to create policy space in rural areas, such as:
 - a. Adopting the successful initiatives of the Community-led Local Development method, as implemented the European Union (EU), by creating Local Action Groups (LAGs), which will fulfill development plans by accounting for local social and cultural realities by working with a community based focus;
 - b. Encouraging local governments to partner with members of academic institutions, such as universities and technical colleges, to educate citizens and government officials on the benefits of sustainable energy development and the means of achieving development within communities, thus modeling the mission of UN-Habitat in a rural setting;
3. *Calls upon* Member States and local governments to tailor sustainable energy proposals for rural settlements based on estimated demand fluctuations to ensure the efficiency and financial sustainability of projects by:
 - a. Implementing region-specific assessment tools, such as migration rate mapping, used to determine:
 - i. The potential impact of urban migration on rural areas requesting financing for sustainable energy projects, and ensure the viability of the settlement;
 - ii. The current and future economic needs of the local populations in order to ensure that the proposed projects meet those needs;
4. *Further recommends* that Member States establish a financial framework to install mini-grid hybrid power systems in rural areas of developing countries in order to promote and improve solar, wind and hydro energy storage and utilization, which will:
 - a. Set an investors fund which includes different public and private organizations such as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), private sector entities, ministries and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs),
 - b. Receive human resources from Member States, international institutions and other public and private stakeholders to conduct viability research in developing countries as it is being done in the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21);

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5. *Encourages* Member States to implement national systems of feed-in tariffs and tax deductions to offer cost-based compensation to local sustainable energy companies and individuals such as small business owners and farmers in rural areas (hereinafter referred to as “producers”) in accordance with the AAAA article 22 through:
 - a. A payment conditional on percentage of energy produced in terms of kilowatts per hour, including the electricity used by each private sector entity for its own operations;
 - b. Additional bonus payments to producers for electricity that export energy into local grids;
 - c. Reductions on producers’ electricity bills from using self-produced energy, such as electricity;
 - d. Promoting legislation aiming to increase energy efficiency among large companies by giving incremental tax deductions to large corporations when they use target amounts of sustainable energy to run their company;
 - e. Partnering with UN-Energy, SE4ALL, and the UN Energy Access Practitioner Network to provide funding for these subsidies;
 6. *Invites* IRENA to participate in the UN Regional Forums on Sustainable Development and show all the actions taken, studies built and tangible gains regarding financial mechanisms, technological expertise, and capacity building programs that current members have by taking part of this platform in order to encourage Member States who are not part of IRENA to sign;
 7. *Calls upon* all Member States to contribute and invite international stakeholders, investors, energy experts and politicians to establish an annual global promotion campaign entitled “Sustainable Energy Promotion Week” (SEPW), targeting developing countries, in particular LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and MIDs, which will:
 - a. Find common ground using social media platforms by large Information and Communication Technology firms, namely Google Inc. , Facebook Inc. , Twitter Inc. and Apple Inc. (hereinafter “channels”) to promote development of sustainable energy and to get the attention of the local private sector;
 - b. Exchange through these channels experiences and presenting the best practice regional solutions that address the individual, regional challenges of using advanced technology;
 - c. Strengthen the International dialogue between non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), governments, research institutions, business and individual regional stakeholders;
 - d. Call upon all Members States to emphasize the importance of discussion and collaborative information sharing at a regional level by allowing local communities to express themselves therefore addressing local issues in accordance with their individual needs;
 8. *Encourages* the SDGF to allocate additional funds to provide producers, rural governments, and private citizens access to:
 - a. Microcredits and microloans to private households and energy producers in rural areas of developing nations to encourage the promulgation and construction of sustainable energy resources;
 - b. Networking opportunities aimed to connect developing nations to local sustainable energy companies and corporations that work to provide sustainable energy infrastructures;
 9. *Further encourages* the establishment of a new branch within the PPPIRC of the World Bank aimed towards:

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- a. Serving as a platform for private sector entities offering and investing into sustainable energy within rural areas by:
 - i. Creating an online marketplace, International Marketplace for Sustainable Energy Funding (IMSEF), where governments and local authorities can advertise projects, which can subsequently be implemented by private companies;
 - b. Subsidizing specific sustainable energy projects, such as installing solar energy on rooftops of local population within Africa, to foster investments into rural areas and therefore:
 - i. Install a global fund within the newly established subsidiary in the PPPIRC, comprised of all developed and emerging Member States willing to financially support private projects;
 - ii. Further establish a framework for an independent guideline deciding which projects should be subsidized.
10. *Approves* the DCF to hold a regular marketplace for sustainable energy projects to be funded by private energy companies in developing Member States that:
- a. The DCF approves based on the implementation of SDG 7, such as increasing sustainable energy infrastructure in rural areas;
 - b. Grants Member States the ability to choose which energy projects they will present to the DCF;
 - c. Allows private organizations to buy the rights to smaller energy projects in rural areas in order to:
 - i. Finance projects that are too small for Member State oversight;
 - ii. Provide sustainable energy to areas that currently are not connected to the national energy networks;
11. *Urges* Member States to establish the International Sustainable Energy Exchange Program (ISEE) under the auspices of UNDP, which would:
- a. Connect sustainable energy experts involved in private partnerships with rural communities worldwide in order to promulgate best practices and the establishment of sustainable infrastructure for clean energy;
 - b. Link rural areas to companies or industries that would provide opportunities for these areas to invest in the distribution of renewable energy;
 - c. Create sustainable renewable energy infrastructure specifically in rural areas of developing states;
 - d. Promote inclusive partnerships between Member States including representatives of the private sector in regards to financial practices;
12. *Recommends* the expansion of the Clean Energy for Development Investment Framework to allow for increased funding for more substantive and additional local sustainable energy projects.



Code: ECOSOC/1/2

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

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3 *Highly welcoming the Paris Agreement by the Conference of the Parties (COPs) within the United Nations*
4 *Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the basis of all our efforts to combat climate change and*
5 *its impact on the people,*

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7 *Noting with deep concern that management and governance difficulties can destabilize economies, and in some*
8 *cases political systems by causing inefficiencies and waste in the use of capital,*

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10 *Reaffirming the importance of implementing and ensuring the respect of human rights in order to reach a standard of*
11 *living and assure energy access as outlined in article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 11*
12 *of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,*

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14 *Taking into account the importance of implementing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 in order to ensure*
15 *universal access to energy for all by forging a new partnership with Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC),*

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17 *Recalling policies by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the World Trade Organization*
18 *(WTO) and regional development banks and the importance of focusing on the new ‘energy economies’ of Africa,*

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20 *Endorsing the 2002 Madrid International Plan in addition to partnerships emphasizing SDG 17, specifically the*
21 *value of adopting a bottom up development approach founded on public participation and seeking input from a*
22 *variety interest groups,*

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24 *Calling attention to the importance of participatory rural appraisal mechanisms established in the General Assembly*
25 *resolution 51/604 of 1996 and its ability to produce projects best suited for a community’s specific characteristics*
26 *and needs,*

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28 *Observing the success of the Mankala cost-price model in Finland and Sweden in constructing hydropower, wind*
29 *power, and nuclear power plants like the Fennovoima plant in Finland, specifically its ability to break up*
30 *monopolies by sharing the burden of risks and upfront capital investment related with energy infrastructure,*

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32 *Recognizing the need for an improved financial strategy for directing Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) to rural*
33 *areas,*

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35 *Drawing attention to the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD),*
36 *specifically their efforts to ensure transparency and prevent mismanagement of investment and development project*
37 *financing through annual reports,*

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39 *Affirming the work of Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN 21), a renewable energy multi-*
40 *stakeholder network, in developing knowledge sharing platforms regarding renewable energy and providing*
41 *consultation to Member States and firms regarding renewable energy projects,*

42
43 *Noting further the importance of the United Nations Transparency and Accountability Initiative’s (UNTAI) key role*
44 *in ensuring fair and unbiased decision making and preventing systemic exploitation regarding activities throughout*
45 *the UN’s Programs and Funds to ensure transparency and efficiency by granting public access to documentation*
46 *pertaining to affairs and operations up to and including budgetary information;*

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48 *Recognizing the importance of outcomes from the 15th Coordination Meeting on International Migration and*
49 *specifically on one of its technical papers entitled Global migration: Demographic aspects and its relevance for*
50 *development suggesting the promotion of understanding issues of populations within Member States and global*

51 organizations, both domestic and international, from a scientific perspective, as well as promoting research
52 institutions, and engagement in social and economic programs.

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54 *Drawing attention to* the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Migration Policy
55 stating that international migration can have both direct and indirect effects on economic growth, and therefore
56 reinforcing the idea that the GDP is expected to grow following the expansion of the workforce caused by migration
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58 *Calling attention to* the importance of participatory rural appraisal mechanisms established in the General Assembly
59 Resolution 51/604 in 1996, and its ability to produce projects best suited for a community's specific characteristics
60 and needs,

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62 1. *Suggests* the adoption of a bottom-up energy development approach that will take into account regional and
63 local needs, as well as specificities in order to implement relevant renewable energy projects in rural,
64 remote regions by:
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66 a. Calling on local governance bodies to invite reputable university professors and researchers to
67 administer participatory rural appraisal (PRA) tools tailored for energy projects by engaging with
68 both men and women in the community, varying in age, status, and education to inventory the
69 available resources for energy infrastructure using mechanisms such as:
 - 70 i. An income and expenditure matrix that helps PRA team members identify a community's
71 most significant sources of income and expenses, involving local residents filling in a
72 matrix about where income derives from, how income is spent, and who spends the
73 income;
 - 74 ii. Incorporating suggestions produced as a result of PRA within final energy project plans;
 - 75 iii. Tailoring energy project designs to complement the community's cultural and social
76 realities;
 - 77
78 2. *Endorses* the concept of cost sharing between public and private investors as a highly effective means of
79 ensuring sustainable energy in rural areas, therefore minimizing the risk taken on by all parties and
80 increasing the attractiveness of future investment by supporting joint venture projects with multiple
81 stakeholders;
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83 3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt an energy production and distribution cost sharing model based on the
84 Mankala cost-price model that functions by:
 - 85
86 a. Advocating for multiple tiers of domestic government to work with a group of foreign and
87 domestic research institutions, as well as society organizations and firms, to ease the burden of
88 high start-up costs on individual entities by combining in multilateral relations as stakeholders in
89 sustainable energy projects to:
 - 90 i. Consolidate funds through shared investment;
 - 91 ii. Determine the most applicable energy technologies and distribution processes;
 - 92 iii. Implement energy delivery systems aligned with local demands and value;
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94 b. Calling for the proportional amount of energy delivered from energy production systems to each
95 stakeholder to be in accordance with the stakeholder's equivalent capital investment, and each
96 stakeholder to only pay production price for the energy;
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98 c. Allowing each stakeholder, once in possession of the energy, to equitably sell or use the energy
99 according to the community's needs and demand;
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101 4. *Suggests* that Member States in need of FDI enact favorable tax policies or implement special economic
102 zones (SEZs) to incentivize investments and achieve income-generating assets;
 - 103
104 5. *Emphasizes* the importance of cross-border trade in science, technology and innovation regarding the
105 access to energy, and further encourages Member States with budding energy projects to consult REN 21,

106 which assists in policy making and implementation of sustainable energy projects by providing expert
107 analysis and mapping of the credible possibilities for renewable energy in rural areas;
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109 6. *Encourages* willing Member States to implement a fluent and target-oriented exchange of factor
110 endowments, such as labor and capital, that are economically beneficial to both local communities and
111 investors by:
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- 113 a. Approving work visa and permits sponsorships by domestic businesses and individuals for foreign
114 partners and specialized workers, while striving to maintain the employment of domestic
115 expertise;
- 116 b. Simplifying the process of acquisition of work visas for labor forces and docking permits for raw
117 material and resources for foreign businesses by promoting better fiscal and operational
118 transparency between companies and the respective Governments;
- 119 c. Overseeing foreign investment specifically to ensure that both investors and local, rural economies
120 are benefitted;

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125 7. *Further requests* the assistance of UNTAI in ensuring the transparency and ethical sourcing of funding to
126 combat the exploitation of the development process by:
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- 128 a. Recommending the support of implementing an online open-access platform dedicated to fostering
129 transparency between the public and private sector through:
 - 130 i. Government promotion of local assessments by the UN, detailing the allocation of funds
131 and other relevant decisions taken in order to support a fair and unbiased decision
132 process;
 - 133 ii. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) issuing biennial
134 reports on equity of shares and profit distributions;
- 135 b. Advocating Member States and international organizations to ensure the representation of large,
136 medium, and small scale private organizations in collaboration with their respective governments;
- 137 c. Establishing a fair call to labor process by which small, midsize, and large energy technology
138 companies will be selected to implement projects and in which domestic energy companies will be
139 included;
- 140 d. Ensuring multiple experts, such as REN 21, are included in the decision-making process in order
141 to create efficient and effective policies;

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146 8. *Further proposes* the implementation of a specific energy need-based application process, in which rural
147 communities requiring aid for emerging energy projects, submit proposals detailing necessary funding
148 needs in order to outline a tailored blueprint, so that relevant entities such as neighboring communities,
149 energy providers, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can better collaborate with and invest in the
150 communities to achieve their energy needs.



Code: ECOSOC/1/3

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2
3 *Keeping in mind* the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 7 regarding the access to affordable,
4 reliable, sustainable energy for all, which is defined by the UN Development Program (UNDP) to be energy efforts
5 that reduce poverty, foster social progress, accelerate economic growth, and promote environmental sustainability,

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7 *Noting with appreciation* the invaluable role of women and the importance of recognizing the contributions to rural
8 communities in the form of paid and unpaid work,

9
10 *Aware of* the importance to remain transparent and cooperative in the collaboration of international businesses in this
11 conference,

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13 *Bearing in mind* that rhetoric and collaboration are not enough to achieve the SDGs without concrete action,

14
15 *Observing* the need to increase public-private partnerships (PPPs) that focus on sustainable development and its
16 financing, especially in regards to sustainable energy in developing countries and to increase the role of the private
17 sector in partnerships, for example IKEA's continued investments in wind farms across multiple states,

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19 *Applauding* the efforts of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Forum in promoting discussion about sustainable
20 energy, but recognizing the need for an increased focus on promoting sustainable energy specifically through sharing
21 information and technologies,

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23 *Guided by* our obligation to empower women and girls in rural areas, established in General Assembly resolution
24 70/132 of December 17th 2015 through the use of technology, in particular information and communications
25 technologies, as mandated in SDG 5.b as established in the *Report of the Intern-Agency and Expert Group on*
26 *Sustainable Development Goal Indicators 2016.*

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28 *Supporting* the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2016/8 of June 2nd 2016 which recognizes the
29 beneficial link between employment and sustainable development, meaning an increase in the efficiency and
30 distribution of sustainable energy,

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32 *Noting* the importance of collaboration with NGOs and CSOs as emphasized in the principles of *Agenda 21* (1992),
33 energy will improve the quality of life in rural areas which typically lack access to modern energy and technology,

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35 *Reaffirming* the vision of the International Energy Agency (IEA) who stated in the *World Energy Outlook Special*
36 *Report* from 2015 that generic approaches to investment and development are neither effective nor sustainable, and
37 that it is important to acknowledge and include the crucial role of local communities and civil society organizations
38 to provide information in how best to develop their community,

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40 1. *Recommends* the creation of an annual international conference called Pre-Conference on Sustainable Energy
41 and Technology Sharing (PCSETS) that will be under the supervision of the SE4All Forum so that:

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43 a. The participants of the conference can be: Member States of the UN, Private entities specialized in
44 energy, Experts from the UNDP, NGOs and CSOs;

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46 b. The main purposes of the PCSETS will be:

47 i. Information and technology sharing regarding the use and distribution of clean and
48 sustainable energy;

49 ii. Further emphasize the role of PPPs in the financing and the development of sustainable
50 energy;

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- c. The main topics of the Conference will include, but not be limited to;
 - i. Sustainable energy distribution to rural areas and across countries;
 - ii. Implementation and financing of new technologies;
 - iii. Building up partnerships focused on information and technology sharing between public, private sectors and intergovernmental organizations;
 - d. The Conference will start in 2018 as a three-day pre-conference of the SE4All Forum, that take place in April;
 - e. The financing for the conference will be stipulated by the SE4All Forum;
2. *Calls upon* willing Member States and the private sector to include in the discussion all actors concerned by the matter of sustainable energy and technology sharing as:
- a. NGOs and CSOs that focus on technologies and environmental protection to participate and facilitate at this conference so it will highlight the importance of:
 - b. The role that technology plays in ensuring that rural development is environmentally sustainable;
 - c. The opportunity for researchers and scientists alike to discuss contributions that have been achieved globally for rural sustainable development;
 - d. The information sharing that will be done at the conference that will distinguish between what has been beneficial at each NGO;
 - e. NGOs, such as Engineer Without Borders (EWB), Cares, Conservation International (CI), and Environmental defence fund to attend the conference;
 - f. The ability for NGOs to form partnerships with one another to continue efforts that have been established by their respective NGOs;
 - g. The added value of knowledge given by local and regional CSOs including:
 - i. Renewable energy technologies;
 - ii. Supporting local efforts to provide energy supplies to their basic infrastructures;
 - iii. Integrating energy policies into overall rural development strategies, with emphasis on income-generation, taking into account national circumstances;
 - h. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) that will assist CSOs in the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Forum, by helping governments create national action plans to increase the transfer of technologies and knowledge and how to tackle specific regional needs by focusing on South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation between UN member states;
3. *Strongly calls* for this conference to focus on the importance of:
- a. Women’s empowerment which remains an overarching goal of this conference given the SDG 5.a.2 and taking action to include women’s issues in the conference by setting the agenda to include:
 - b. The importance of gender disaggregated data in solving energy problems and leading towards to achievement of SDG 7 and SDG 5;
 - c. The role that women play in rural communities and how improvements in sustainable energy and technology in rural areas will improve the daily lives of women by increasing productivity, allowing for more time spent on other task and allowing more women to enter into the workforce;

- 106 d. The positive multiplier effect of improving sustainable energy has on women living in rural
107 communities in regards to their health, financial well-being, productivity, and empowerment;
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- 109 4. *Draws the attention* to the outcomes of such partnerships, by:
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- 111 a. Recommending the production and the publication of an annual report by the Conference in order to
112 ensure a total transparency concerning the discussion held during the meetings for everyone, to
113 include:
- 114 i. A progress report outlining the realizations made and to be made;
115 ii. An updated list of the participating entities, persons, and Member States at the Conference;
116 iii. Guidelines dedicated to the participants presenting sustainable energy technologies and ideas;
117 iv. Any other element considered useful by the participants to ensure transparency and efficiency
118 of the Conference;
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- 120 b. Increasing job opportunities specifically in rural areas such as:
- 121 i. Installation of updated technologies and increased accessibility to rural areas, such as access
122 to sufficient lighting in schools, which will extend their hours of operations allowing for more
123 people to receive sufficient education;
124 ii. Operation, which will ensure the long-term success of renewable energy once built and the
125 need for this profession will grow as more sustainable energy facilities are built, such as
126 routine inspections of the sustainable infrastructure such as solar panels and hydropower
127 plants;
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- 129 c. Supporting the local economy and international market by allowing local landowners to implement
130 renewable energy that is very low cost maintenance once built by allocating financial resources;
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- 132 d. Increasing the average household wage in rural areas;
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- 134 5. *Proposes* the creation of a Conference guidelines for inclusive partnerships, to orient the dialogue and
135 interconnection between the different participants to the Conference, and to determine a framework on which
136 the exchanges will be made, which consists in:
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- 138 a. Prioritizing the local communities necessities, such as sustainable energy supply through the
139 recollection and revision of official data emphasizing in the meantime the vulnerable groups and social
140 demands;
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- 142 b. Measuring the effectiveness of the solution through an early identification of the material and human
143 resources, the specificity of the target and the investments;
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- 145 c. Considering the sustainability factor by defining costs, maintenance, operational details and other
146 topics for the short and long term;
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- 148 d. Focusing on a multi-stakeholder approach, to emphasize the inclusion of different points of view and
149 inputs to the partnership;
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- 151 6. *Invites* Member States and the private sector attending the conference to put rhetoric into action by
152 collaborating with the Public-Private Alliance Foundation in order to increase PPPs that focus on sustainable
153 development, especially in regards to sustainable energy in developing countries.



Code: ECOSOC/1/4

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

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3 *Recalling* the right to improve living conditions, as noted by Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human*
4 *Rights*, noting how sustainable energy access works towards this goal, and acknowledging the intrinsic interplay
5 between human rights and access to sustainable energy,

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7 *Taking into consideration* the *Declaration on the Right to Development*, underscoring that each human, region, and
8 state has the right to development and benefits arising from the establishment thereof,

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10 *Echoing* the determination of the United Nations to “leave no one behind” as iterated in the United Nations (UN)
11 General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 2015 on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
12 Development,”

13

14 *Bearing in mind* the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 to bring sustainable energy to rural areas, as well as the
15 goal of the United Nations Decade 2014-2024 of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) to ensure universal access to
16 renewable energy services,

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18 *Stressing* the importance of short and long term strategic goals in order to have adequate solutions for different rural
19 areas, as not all locations will require the same solution,

20

21 *Recognizing* that people within rural areas face unique challenges in establishing sustainable energy infrastructure,
22 particularly a lack of technological acumen, policy experience, micro-financing, and enforcement of human rights,

23

24 *Understanding* the need to improve and develop rural areas through regionally-targeted directives, as noted by
25 General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 2013,

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27 *Acknowledging* the importance of collaborating with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society
28 organizations (CSOs) as well as public and private agencies with the objective of addressing the sustainable energy
29 needs of rural areas,

30

31 *Referring* to the successful experiences of the World Bank and private-public partnerships to the furtherance of
32 sustainable energy in rural areas,

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34 *Understanding* the convenience and significance technology plays in the world to allow for easy collaboration
35 among international organizations and Member States,

36

37 *Realizing* that, while the attaining renewable energy capacities are vital to all States, rural areas face this challenge
38 with differing degrees of urgency,

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40 *Respecting* the sovereignty of nations and their self-determination in formulating strategies tailored towards their
41 individual development challenges, as noted by Chapter II of the *Charter of the United Nations*,

42

43 *Establishing* the need for local populations to be autonomous after the withdrawal of international aid and continue
44 to be empowered to utilize their newly created sustainable energy infrastructure,

45

46 *Reminding* of the importance of local governance, farmers, small business owners, and community leaders in rural
47 areas in the process of sustainable development and the creation of sustainable energy infrastructure,

48

49 *Emphasizing* the importance of knowledge transfer and education programmes, such as the *The Future We Want*,
50 which address the rural population on sustainability and technical maintenance of renewables, strengthening the
51 independence and the acceptance of sustainable energy projects within the rural population,
52

53 *Further troubled* that of the 6% growth in international prevalence of electricity from 2000 to 2012, 80% has been
54 centered within urban areas, as stated in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Report of the Secretary
55 General, *Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals* of 2016,
56

57 *Having considered* the 2016 Annual Report of the World Bank stating that 1.3 billion people currently remain
58 without access to electricity, most of which reside in rural areas,
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60 *Aware* that realization of SDG 4 is hindered by a lack of basic energy that disproportionately affects women,
61 impeding educational and professional opportunities as noted in the *Secretary General's Advisory Group on Energy*
62 *and Climate Change Energy for a Sustainable Future's Summary Report and Recommendations*, and may contribute
63 to the proliferation of conflict,
64

- 65 1. *Establishes* the Global Renewable Energy Action Task Force (GREAT) with the purpose of consulting and
66 aiding Member States by:
 - 67 a. Transferring knowledge and technology on terms equitable to developing nations to construct
68 sustainable energy infrastructure:
 - 69 i. through local initiatives guided by task force field operatives to provide skillsets and technical
70 expertise that will be applied to the practical means of creating and maintaining sustainable
71 energy infrastructure in rural areas;
 - 72 ii. in the form of feasibility studies, instructions, guidelines, engineering designs, technical
73 advisory and personnel training;
 - 74 iii. by working with, and not against, the individual challenges faced by rural communities with
75 respect to technology and knowledge transfer and acknowledging the need for specific
76 programs of technology and knowledge transfer;
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 - 80 b. Implementing an educational and apprenticeship scheme through the GREAT task force that empowers
81 the local community economy and members' capacity to acquire useful skillsets and infrastructure;
82
 - 83 c. Providing policy advisement for creating and implementing innovative policy schemes to enhance the
84 utility of sustainable energy:
 - 85 i. by building on the past successes of such policy schemes in other rural areas and
86 individualizing these schemes for utilization in developing rural communities;
 - 87 ii. by task force experts working collaboratively with national governments, community leaders,
88 private sector organizations, and citizens to explore different policy options relative to
89 implementation and success with the purpose of addressing the various energy challenges
90 different rural areas may have;
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 - 92
 - 93 d. Boosting investments and financing in the sphere of sustainable and renewable energy by encouraging
94 developed countries to pursue foreign direct investment (FDI) in rural energy projects;
95
- 96 2. *Asserts* that this task force will be comprised of:
 - 97 a. 25 experts from fields including regional planning, engineering, finance, economic, and environment
98 that will be acting as consultants to rural areas;
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 - 100
 - 101 b. Three ECOSOC delegates with the responsibility of directing, mobilizing and supervising the task
102 force while regularly reporting to the ECOSOC at the UN headquarters on:
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- i. Information gathered on the status of ongoing projects and cases within rural areas in which GREAT is engaged;
 - ii. Data disaggregated on the basis of gender regarding the reception of assistance of aid;
 3. *Recommends* the creation of application and eligibility procedures for partnership with GREAT that will:
 - a. Comprise of assessments based on parameters of need and feasibility that will;
 - i. Be established collaboratively by the ECOSOC, GA2 and GREAT experts;
 - ii. Be predicated upon existing UN measurement tools such as the Human Development Index;
 - iii. Stress the importance of acknowledging rural areas in countries where transparent governance is lacking, resulting in an absence of reporting and interactions with the UN;
 - b. Committed to the expeditious creation of these parameters as to quickly and efficiently bring this task force to the rural areas in dire need of sustainable energy;
 4. *Calls upon* the UN Secretariat to compile all e-learning programs within the UN related to the development of rural areas and provide this information to government organizations, NGOs officials and industry professionals:
 - a. To allow GREAT to analyze and compare historically effective means of proliferating sustainable energy infrastructure and promoting sustainable development in rural areas;
 - b. To easily share ongoing information regarding the utilization of funds for specific projects with respect to their projected and actual costs;
 5. *States* that GREAT will engage in a multi-stakeholder approach that cooperates with local institutions and regional organizations, both within and outside the UN body, and will also engage in consulting and collaborating with local CSOs and NGOs;
 6. *Suggests* facilitating communication and information exchange between GREAT members and locals both prior to and after the implementation of programs, to ensure continuous improvement in GREAT advisement by building different forms of platforms depending on specific situation of information technology in the state such as:
 - a. Face-to-face Meetings between GREAT members and part of civilians who are chosen by scientific random sampling for most rural areas which have an insufficient amount of communication technologies;
 - b. Interviewing with civilians through phone calls and questionnaires with the assistance of local CSOs for rural areas which have basic correspondence network;
 - c. Internet platforms in forms of social media and online forums which are quite efficient in collecting information;
 7. *Encourages* all UN Member States to advance rural access to sustainable energy in accordance with the GREAT task force's suggestion and guidelines by providing funding in:
 - a. Renewable energy equipment;
 - b. Renewable energy networks, such as SE4ALL and IEA;
 - c. Advanced energy technologies to more efficiently transfer current fuel usage into renewable energy sources;

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8. *Encourages* the implementation of an education and apprenticeship scheme within the “Light Up” project that will:
 - a. Raise awareness within rural areas about sustainable energy through educating local communities about the sustainable use of electricity equipment and the opportunities such energy services provide;
 - b. Create employment opportunities by enabling the community to learn about the practical means of sustainable energy infrastructure;
 - c. Involve teaching the local rural communities the essential knowledge about sustainable energy in the form of town hall lectures;
 - d. Consist of GREAT task force project lead of sustainable energy infrastructure teaching people in entrepreneurship to use and self-maintain this technology efficiently as well as teaching them the skillsets necessary to start their own businesses;
 9. *Calls upon* the task force to actively assist developing states in creating and implementing innovative policy initiatives to fully utilize renewable energy technology through:
 - a. Aiding in the reform of existing fiscal, monetary and taxation policies in favor of an economic model more conducive to the consumption and generation of renewable energy;
 - b. Attracting local farmers in the sphere of provision rural areas with sustainable energy access through promotion of governmental subsidies on the use of renewable technologies for installation and increasing economic capacities of the regions;
 10. *Promotes* utilizing other channels of funding for this task force’s projects specializing in rural sustainable energy such as providing targeted advice on approaches to get funds from different avenues depending on Member States’ domestic situation and international relations by:
 - a. Utilizing foreign direct investment, open trade agreements, preferable tariff schemes;
 - b. Further utilizing partnerships between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and developing countries;
 - c. Through economic incentives, stimulating and fostering activity between rural communities and foreign/domestic private companies;
 11. *Confirms* GREAT will coordinate with local organizations and create unique strategies that will encourage renewable energy investments from the international community to facilitate the work of local companies in rural areas with the purpose of increasing the economic capacity of the region.



Code: ECOSOC/1/5

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2
3 *Noting* by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that approximately 1 billion people in rural areas have
4 no access to electricity,

5
6 *Acknowledging* the shortcomings of the efforts to address the energy crisis as spelled out in the *Paris Agreement*,

7
8 *Alarmed by* the crucial role that energy plays in the socio-economic development process as well as the contribution
9 it has to poverty eradication and to the achievement of sustainable development,

10
11 *Reaffirming* the importance of the work accomplished by the General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 2012,

12
13 *Highlighting* the importance of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, specifically goal 7 and the SE4ALL
14 program,

15
16 *Believing* in programs that accelerate access to renewable energy based on small-scale initiatives from local
17 population of remote areas such as the non-profit organization Energy 4 Impact,

18
19 *Convinced* that women and girls should have equal opportunities for leadership and entrepreneurship in political,
20 public and especially economic life as articulated by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.5,

21
22 *Emphasizing* that this committee bear in mind the importance of including women in all discussions of this
23 committee and reaffirming that women are disproportionately affected by the lack of energy in rural areas, noted by
24 the Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/7 of 2010,

25
26 *Further recalling* the empowerment of rural women, noted by the General Assembly resolution 60/165 of 2005 and
27 the economic disadvantages that women face, as stated by the United Nation Development Programme's (UNDP)
28 *Human Development Report*,

29
30 *Aware of* the importance of working towards improving the SDG indicator 5.c.1, Proportion of countries with
31 systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment, by improving public
32 and private partnerships to increase the capacity to expand and implement these important systems,

33
34 *Encouraging* the collection of gender disaggregated data to be administered and publicly distributed by UN Women
35 Watch,

36
37 *Noting with concern* the need to revise SDG indicators 5.a.2 measuring the proportion of countries where the legal
38 framework guarantees women equal rights to land ownership and/or control, 7.1.1 measuring the proportion of
39 population with access to electricity, and 7.1.2 measuring the proportion of population with primary reliance on
40 clean fuels and technology,

41
42 *Acknowledging* the effectiveness of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in regards to
43 the implementation of development projects,

44
45 *Inspired by* the previous successful work of flagship program Education for Rural People (ERP) implemented jointly
46 by Agriculture (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in
47 providing specialized, distance trainings, which include radio education and Information and Communication
48 Technology (ICT) as appropriate in order to educate the civil population in remote areas,

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50 *Believing* that international support is needed to ensure capacity-building in remote areas by North-South, South-
51 South and triangular cooperation as promote by SDG 17.9,
52
53 *Acknowledging* the need to mobilize funds as spelled out in SDG Target 1.5a in relation to Official Development
54 Assistance (ODA), as well as SDG 17.17,
55
56 *Given that* SDG 5.a.2 states “Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications
57 technology, to promote the empowerment of women” as an SDG,
58
59 *Guided by* the methods utilized by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO),
60 which have successfully implemented energy related development projects (including hybrid solar-micro-
61 hydropower systems) in India,
62
63 *Recognizing* the role of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) which is a
64 organization made to evaluate and measure good practice and effectiveness part of the Development Assistance,
65
66 *Fully aware* of the cooperative mechanisms for sustainable technology transfer established by the Agreement on the
67 Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS),
68
69 *Calling* attention to the importance of participatory rural appraisal mechanisms established in GA report on
70 “Sustainable Development and International Economic Cooperation” of 1995 and their ability to produce projects
71 best suited for a community’s specific characteristics and needs,
72
73 *Recognizing* that the success of a given economy is directly related to a society’s capacity for adopting and
74 implementing sustainable solutions,
75
76 *Aware* of the success of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative in encouraging governments to publish
77 their investments in local economies and promoting government accountability,
78
79 *Noting* the success of the Peruvian government-organized auctions which distribute solar photovoltaic systems, grid
80 extension, mini-grids with hydro, solar and wind capabilities to increase nation-wide access to sustainable energy,
81
82 *Supporting* that Geospatial Information System (GIS) data be collected, monitored and publicly distributed by the
83 UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) to accurately determine true
84 gender disparity within these regions,
85
86 *Expressing* appreciation of the successful impact of projects such as the Capital Access for Renewable Energy
87 Enterprises (CARE2) and the Seed Fund Project,
88
89 1. *Encourages* governments to undertake efforts to implement specialized, region-specific short term and long
90 term energy solutions such as mini-grids and solar power generation projects through:
91
92 a. The construction of different plans utilizing support from the UNIDO to direct either solely the
93 first two years of the implementation process of sustainable energy sources or the first ten years of
94 implementation;
95
96 b. Cooperation with environmentally-friendly industry leaders in the creation of these solutions;
97
98 c. Financial support from respective International Organizations such as International Cooperation
99 agencies as well as Development Banks and the UNDP for renewable energy projects;
100
101 2. *Recommends* that Member States provide specialized trainings for rural communities regarding the
102 operation and maintenance of renewable energy technologies through distance learning within appropriate
103 Information and Communication technologies including radio education based on the FAO/UNESCO
104 Education for Rural People (ERP) flagship previous success in using these trainings for knowledge
105 dissemination in rural communities;

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3. *Emphasizes* the need for governments to include GIS in calculating the proportion of the population has access to electricity and the proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology respectively to give Member States a clearer indication of the true disparities that exist as well as the ability to invest more effectively into the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities through UN-GGIM;
4. *Further recommends* using gender disaggregated data which will allow for a gendered energy perspective with regard to the variables that adversely affect women so as to determine what portion of the female population has access to viable energy sources and the portion of the overall population with a primary reliance on clean fuels and technology, respectively by:
 - a. Presenting this data at conference in order to help all understand the global needs and the current global short falls of providing Sustainable Energy for all ;
5. *Emphasizing* the need to empower and incorporate women to revitalize or create sustainable industries through efforts such as:
 - a. Financing programs such as Capital Access for Renewable Energy Enterprises (CARE2) and Seed Fund Project and expanding them to neighboring states;
 - b. Setting topics to discuss women’s issues at the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) Partnership Exchange to discuss possible funding of gender-specific sustainable energy educational initiatives;
6. *Recommends* the inclusion of women in the implementation, design and maintenance of sustainable energy solutions with the similar aim of programs created by Energy 4 Impact through efforts such as:
 - a. Bringing professional women from developed countries to lead energy projects in less developed countries in order to enhance possibilities for these women to realize their full potential through mentoring;
 - b. Implementing programs in the developing countries such as Get Into Energy that help women apply for and acquire jobs in the renewable energy industry;
 - c. Creating a gender responsive framework that takes women’s needs into consideration to ensure equal gender participation;
7. *Calls* for an encouragement of SDG 5.a.2. to allow women and marginalized communities to utilize information and communication technologies to advocate for women’s empowerment;
8. *Further encourages* Governments within Member States to coordinate private investment in renewable energy industries through efforts such as:
 - a. The use of Official development (ODA) funds to provide foreign or domestic investors help with start-up costs and provide tax incentives;
 - b. The implementation of social guidelines in the contracts with the performing companies;
 - c. The establishment of advisory boards that will collaborate with the UN Development Strategy and Policy Analysis Unit (DSP) and the UN Global Economic Monitoring Unit (GEM) to create community-based action plans for rural electrification to establish public-private partnerships and increase investor confidence;
9. *Assure* all stakeholders have an equal an prominent role in the negotiation and formation of public-private partnerships for sustainable development:

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- a. Encouraging targeted goals, equal involvement of all Stake-holders, transparency, and clearly defined roles for the public and private sectors;
 - b. Signing on to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative to promote accountability and earn public trust, or adapt its principles to their existing development frameworks;
 - c. Encouraging the use of regular reporting from Stake-holders;
 - d. Incorporation of Civil Society Organizations in the creation and implementation of sustainable development plans;
 - e. Development of Region-specific framework to promote collaboration between the private and public sector;
 - f. Inclusion of the flexibilities within the TRIPS agreement;
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10. *Encouraging* creation and participation of initiatives such as the SE4ALL Knowledge and capacity building hubs in which good practices in terms of capacity building, knowledge sharing, and project development towards the creation of an energy for all concept by:
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 - a. Creating of a persistent follow-up protocol in order to educate, adapt, and ease the transition of new technologies into remote regions through;
 - b. Inclusion of a related forum within existing conferences such as SE4All in which good practices in terms of renewable energy will be discussed;
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11. *Recommends* that Member States consider using auctions in designated areas directed by long-term goals and planning modeled after those executed in Peru to effectively distribute clean energy equipment.



Code: ECOSOC/1/6

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Investing in Sustainable Energy for Rural Areas

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2
3 *Recognizing* the importance of self-reliance within individual countries to reach energy sustainability in the long-
4 term.

5
6 *Recognizing* the importance of communication between all government layers and agencies as well as other
7 stakeholders such as the private sector, local entrepreneurs and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs),
8

9 *Acknowledging* the efforts which have been made by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), as well as
10 the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDGF) as an international multi-donor and multi-
11 agency development mechanism,
12

13 *Recognizing* that the spread of information and communications technology (ICT) and global interconnectedness has
14 great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies as
15 recognized in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)*,
16

17 *Calling attention* to the fact that 1.2 billion people still do not have access to electricity as reported by the
18 International Energy Agency (IEA) with over 80% of them living in rural areas,
19

20 *Emphasizing* the importance of a more sustainable use of energy within households, as well as increasing citizen's
21 awareness about fuel, electricity and water consumption and explaining the importance of social awareness on this
22 matter,
23

24 *Recognizing* the need of developing countries to make temporary use of traditional energy sources to create a solid
25 groundwork for building infrastructures, education and health systems, while keeping in mind that renewable energy
26 resources, nowadays, are moving towards competitiveness with traditional energy sources,
27

28 *Understanding* the large amount of energy used by buildings, as reported by the European Parliament, and the
29 continual need to upgrade the energy efficiency of buildings, and need for sustainable energy use within households,
30 called for by the *2020 European Union Climate and Energy Package*,
31

32 *Recalling* the *Monterrey Consensus*, the *Doha Declaration on Financing for Development* and the *Addis Ababa*
33 *Action Agenda (AAAA)* that point out the needs of developing states, Least Developing Countries (LDCs),
34 Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and Middle Income Developing
35 States (MIDs),
36

37 *Recognizing* that local governments are most capable of identifying the needs of their individuals within their
38 jurisdiction.
39

40 1. *Calls upon* Member States to address mandates at local government levels such as:

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42 a. Ensuring that the basic and proper needs of citizens are answered to in the most efficient way possible;
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44 b. Coordinating security and first hand responses to all incidents within the jurisdiction;
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46 c. Encouraging and organizing community life and activities;
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48 d. Budgeting as to address the community's needs;
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50 e. Researching and developing so to make the community more efficient and sustainable;

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2. *Urges* Member States to promote micro-loans programs in rural areas as well as conventional loans and to empower local government to better address issues regarding personal needs, bolstering local economic growth, health, education and access to more sustainable resources by encouraging:
 - a. Financial entities to provide loans to local governments and medium-small sized business;
 - b. The implementation of platforms that will enable peer-to-peer lending among community members;
 - c. Local government to develop new platforms, technologies and techniques to increase liquidity, hereby helping the members of their community as well as encouraging economic growth within their local community;
 3. *Recommends* that Member States implement policies to further move towards energy-efficient buildings, housing, and infrastructure by equipping local authorities with the information, technology, knowledge, resources, and incentives to reach renewable energy goals through government channels, NGOs, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and local stakeholders by providing:
 - a. Information sharing, including statistics, outer community important facts, economic reports and any other resources such as precise weather, transport and economic forecast;
 - b. Knowledge, including foreign policy assistance or any kind of information;
 - c. Resources, including funds, loans, consultation, material, physical assistance or any other type of crucial assistance;
 - d. Local stakeholders, including local power brokers, business owners, shopkeepers, politicians or any member of the community who has:
 - i. investments;
 - ii. employees;
 - iii. infrastructures;
 4. *Recommends* Member States, NGOs and CSOs to educate local stakeholders on ways to promote, research and develop sustainable energy to give options to move towards economic and energy independency. In doing so Member States may focus on including energy efficiency, climate and economic considerations. The use of any form of technologies that could reduce the overall consumption of energy ought to be considered;
 5. *Requests* Member States attending the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) to dedicate the next session of the Sustainable Innovation Expo to the exchange of information about ways to implement sustainable energy sources by:
 - a. Strengthening the dialogue between NGOs, CSOs, governments, various layers of government, research institutions, business, and individual local stakeholders;
 - b. Exchanging experiences and presenting best solutions to attain certain local objectives in regards to the individual, local challenges by using advanced technology;
 - c. Finding common ground to promote the of use social media, among others, as to promote ways to support the development of sustainable energy and to draw the attention of the local private sector;
 - d. Calling upon all Members States to emphasize the importance of discussion and information sharing at a local level by allowing local communities to express themselves and therefore addressing local issues in accordance with their needs; Hereby allowing Member States to work on local solutions in cooperation with Member States progressing on similar challenges

- 106 e. Request the UN General Assembly to discuss a transition timeline on renewable energy goals;
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- 108 6. *Encourages* all Member States to improve the efficiency of their government to facilitate, streamline decision-
109 making and economic growth stimulation as to increase the number of citizens with access to electricity, gainful
110 work, education and health care through measures such as:
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- 112 a. Making recommendations on how to increase independence of local levels of government by ensuring an
113 independent unbiased contribution to local entities to implement sustainable energy;
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- 115 b. Access to crucial information such as already successfully implemented solutions and how to adapt it to
116 local requirements;
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- 118 c. Shared expertise and skills acquired by governmental organizations and all levels of government;
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- 120 d. Inclusion, sustainability, networking and involvement;
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- 122 7. *Calls upon* Member States to emphasize the importance of grassroots development work that strengthens the
123 ability of community organizations and groups to build their own structures, systems, and skills so they can
124 define and achieve their sustainable energy objectives by encouraging initiatives promoting:
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- 126 a. Local empowerment through capacity building workshops that connect local entrepreneurs with
127 international experts in sustainable development;
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- 129 b. Participation and involvement by all members of the community in workshops, activities or any other type
130 of social and information sharing gatherings;
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- 132 c. Community organizing that involves discussion about the efficient and strategic delivery of energy within
133 the territory;
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- 135 8. *Encourages* Member States to address and raise a larger part of available financial and non-financial resources
136 to the local governments to increase their power and to ask governments to urges local and foreign enterprises
137 operating within their jurisdictions to reinvest in business or social projects within the community;
138
- 139 9. *Reminds* Member States to recognize and use social media along with all other new information sharing
140 platforms as a tool to advocate and connect with citizens as to boost:
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- 142 a. Efficient use of energy and water in everyday life;
143
- 144 b. Communication about partnerships, events, workshops and innovations happening in the community;
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- 146 c. Sustainable energy projects and innovations;
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- 148 d. The visibility of awareness campaigns that address social and economic;
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- 150 10. *Further encourages* Member States to promote entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, to strengthen
151 community groups to promote the start of ventures, projects and sensitizing programs that outline sustainable
152 use of energy and resources using a communitarian approach through:
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- 154 a. The utilization of blue and white collar professionals, to create new opportunities to integrate and acquire
155 an expertise in various fields such as research, development, maintenance and other skills;
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- 157 b. An emphasis on the importance of having local authorities ensure that there is a reliable reporting system to
158 guarantee maximum efficiency and transparent use of resources made available to rural areas as to improve
159 the standard of living of all;
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- 161 c. Attention being drawn to the power of social media and other platforms to implementing government
162 programs and policies but also to emphasize the importance of such as to create participation in social
163 initiatives, committees, coordination and to offer ways to innovate;
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- 165 d. Links between various institutions and organizations that would foster dialogue amongst themselves; these
166 innovative links between stakeholders may focus on the:
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- 168 i. improvement of efficiency so to maximize resources;
 - 169 ii. promotion of research and development to stimulate economic growth;
 - 170 iii. importance of local partnerships to strengthen the community.