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Documentation of the Work of the General Assembly Second Committee



Conference A

General Assembly Second Committee (GA2)

Committee Staff

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Chair	Rachel Lennox
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Agenda

- I. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- II. Facilitating knowledge transfer for sustainable development
- III. External debt sustainability and development

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
GA2/1/1	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	Adopted without a vote
GA2/1/2	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	118 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 6 abstentions
GA2/1/3	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	114 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 11 abstentions
GA2/1/4	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	88 votes in favor, 38 votes against, 5 abstentions
GA2/1/5	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	110 votes in favor, 18 votes against, 3 abstentions
GA2/1/6	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	101 votes in favor, 8 votes against, 22 abstentions
GA2/1/7	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	93 votes in favor, 15 votes against, 23 abstentions
GA2/1/8	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all	112 votes in favor, 12 votes against, 7 abstentions

Summary Report

The General Assembly Second Committee held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. External Debt Sustainability and Development
- II. Facilitating Knowledge Transfer for Sustainable Development
- III. Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The annual session was attended by 131 Member States and two Observers. In the first session on Sunday evening, the committee adopted the agenda in the order III, II, I, with topic III being "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all".

By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of a total of 14 proposals covering a wide range of topics including public-private-partnerships, sustainable financing, and assisting developing Member States in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 through alternative energy solutions. Many of the topics focused on public-private-partnerships and assisting developing Member States in achieving SDG 7. Delegates worked together in the spirit of consensus and multilateralism and merged working papers to create comprehensive, multifaceted approaches to solve the problem.

On Wednesday, after significant negotiations, 14 working groups merged into eight groups. By the end of the morning session, eight draft resolutions were approved by the Dais. Three amendments were drafted in the following session as delegates diligently worked to garner even more consensus. The committee adopted all eight resolutions following voting procedure, one of which was adopted by acclamation receiving unanimous support by the committee. The resolutions represented a wide range of topics, including sustainable financing and knowledge transfer, knowledge sharing and platforms, as well as public-private-partnerships. The overall work of the committee was very productive and diplomatic.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Reiterating its call for the completion of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with special focus on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7, ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all as in General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015,

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which provided for the right to life, education, and good health, all of which are pursuant to the goals of sustainable and reliable energy,

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Articles 3, 4, and 5 which establish the rights of the indigenous peoples to determine their lives and to maintain the integrity of their culture, which may deviate from the United Nations (UN) established goals,

Stressing the importance of environmental protection as an integral part of sustainable development and as a shared global objective as stated in the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (A/CONF.151/26) of 14 June 1992,

Noting the established work of the United Nations Industrial Development Program (UNIDO) on public-private partnerships for aiding low-income developing states in accessing sustainable energy,

Recalling the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002) that acknowledges international and multilateral cooperation among Member States as paramount for maximizing affordability and access to energy,

Keeping in mind the Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) initiative that strives to establish bilateral and organizational partnerships, specifically the creation of regional hubs, to bring together multiple stakeholders, and educate regional communities,

Recalling the 1968 International Development Strategy in General Assembly resolution 25/2626, setting the Official Development Assistance (ODA) at 0.7% out of donors' gross national product (GNP) in support of developing countries,

Recognizing the importance of energy forums and education in ensuring long-term development,

Taking into account of the high rates of unemployment amongst youth and women in developing countries due to a lack of employment opportunities without sustainable energy resources,

Bearing in mind that use of affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy should be incentivized to improve access to energy worldwide,

 Requests that Member States encourage fiscal collaboration between governments and the private sector to invest in technology, as its implementation on a wide scale yields greater economic sustainability, through:

 a. Providing tax incentives and lower international rates to encourage the private sector to invest in the technology;

b. Increased economic growth by funding created with the implementation of green energies;

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- c. Utilizing the World Bank's existing waste management and energy funds;
- 2. Appeals to developed Member States to create policies that foster investment in less-developed countries (LDCs) by tailoring solutions based on geographical advantages in order to determine the type of sustainable, renewable energy that would be best to implement such as:
 - a. Small hydropower plants and wind energy for countries that have easy access to water resources;
 - Mini-grids to further build up a network of solar panels;
- 3. Recommends implementing policies that promote alternative building structures which conserve energy and create a minimized ecological impact for the purpose of long-term economic and energy efficiency, including:
 - a. The Trombe Wall method which creates heat from sunlight, reducing the amount of energy needed to heat building;
 - Plant and recycled-material-based insulation which will retain temperature to further reduce the need to use energy;
 - c. Bricks created with human waste, to reduce overall waste and improve heat retention while promoting the establishment of sustainable infrastructure;
 - d. Bricks used from sustainable resources, such as bio bricks, to reduce waste and improve heat retention:
 - e. Rooftop gardens that grow food using compost as the soil, effectively cooling the homes without costly energy expenditures;
- 4. Calls upon Member States to expand the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training (GREET) Program to extend its mandate to include a wider range of countries in order to increase the implementation and knowledge of renewable energy resources to provide jobs and acknowledges the necessity for sustainable energy development;
- 5. Urges national and regional financial institutions and related stakeholders to create policies that facilitate private investments by reducing bureaucratic obstacles for the allocation of loans to give developing countries the possibility to develop an infrastructure for the use of resources and to initiate clean energy projects;
- 6. Draws the attention to data-sharing necessary to promote public and private partnership (PPP's), and to ensure that such an economic partnership successfully reaches fruition;
- 7. Recommends that Member States reach out to civil society organizations (CSOs) and interested stakeholders to foster public-private partnership with the goal of achieving the 2030 agenda by:
 - Enhancing policies that incentivize and encourage renewable energy companies to invest into communities by:
 - Reducing regulations for public-private partnerships to foster to increase the likelihood of successful development;
 - ii. Encouraging private investment through tax relief mechanisms for investments in renewable energy projects;
 - b. Providing the appropriate funding through public and private grants for renewable energy for isolated communities deemed unprofitable by renewable energy companies;

- 9. *Encourages* partnerships between developing and developed Member States to share the costs of transnational projects using international bond offerings allowing countries with poor credit to be offset by countries with good credit ensuring full consideration of local economies;
- 10. Suggests improving the efficiency and capacity of the public-private partnerships by:

- a. Establishing an accessible forum for knowledge transfers between LDCs and renewable energy companies to coordinate mutually beneficial initiatives, such as SE4ALL forum;
- b. Fostering research and development in renewable energy programs;
- c. Supporting PPPs which focus on the implementation of innovative Ideas which often are costly at the start;
- 11. Further suggests the promoting finance through the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC) to enhance capital flows for energy-efficient investments with core objectives including but not limited to:
 - a. Cooperation concerning the financial instruments through peer-to-peer workshops offered by the Clean Energy Solution Center that engages with members of the private and public finance community, industry and international organizations;
 - b. Proliferation of knowledge concerning the most effective methods regarding the implementation of SDG 7 as a tool to track the needs and accomplishments of undertaken projects through:
 - i. The participation in the International Climate Panel Forum, in partnership with the International Renewable Energy Agency and the IPEEC by Member States and non-state Actors;
 - Complete transparency concerning the use of funds and their destination in the circular reinvestment cycle to encourage both better success and durability to all projects in progress in accordance with the Voluntary Energy Efficiency Investment Principles;
 - c. Ensuring that the activities funded by this PPP do not:
 - i. Undermine the sovereignty of Member States;
 - ii. Undermine the rights of minorities and local communities in the usage of their land and properties;
 - d. With the action plan to promote financing and private investments in partnership within regional bodies containing, but not limiting itself to:

i. Member States to deliver policies that stimulate and support energy efficiency
 investments in cooperation with all other non-state actors and the UN Environment
 Finance Initiative:

- The continued engagement and consultation with multiple partners such as Member States, G20 Energy Groups, various national and international agencies, and pre existing high-level forums;
- iii. The establishment of a bilateral dialogue co-hosted by the OECD and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to secure support to the Principles from IPEC and non-IPEC members to assure annual reports on the progress of investment flows;
- 12. Supports the establishment of a bilateral dialogue to secure support to the Principles from IPEEC and non-IPEEC members;
- 13. *Reaffirms* that this international-regional collaboration exists in order to further empower regional and state sovereignty, in such a way that regional voices are represented within the greater resolution;
- 14. *Encourages* the reconciliation of regional divides change through the international Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) to reaffirm the importance of economic and environmental multilateralism;
- 15. Suggests the broadening of the scope of establishment of Regional Collaboration Centers (RCCs) supported by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to spread the benefits of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), which spurs investment in sustainable development by rewarding projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- 16. Recommends Member States to assess the regulatory interfaces between the National Electricity Market (MEN) and Regional Electricity Market (MER);
- 17. Recommends Member States assess the regulatory and financial incentives for solar and wind development along with developing a long-term plan for electric mobility and sector-coupling.



Committee: The General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Affirming the sovereignty of Member States throughout the international community's collaboration process.

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Recalling its resolution 25/2626 of 24 October 1970, 73/8 of 1 November 2018, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda with its target to spend 0.7 % of gross national product (GNP) on Official Development Aid (ODA),

Fully aware of the adoption and commitment to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the need to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) given that 13% of the global population currently lacks comprehensive access to modern forms of energy,

Reiterating SDG 7, and considering the need for healthy and equitable collaboration between Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Developed Countries (DCs) through the lens of SDG 17 as it relates to risk, income, and trade sharing, considering the risk of financial, social, and political exploitation that LDCs may face in unsustainable partnerships,

Considering that economic exploitation of LDCs has been a crucial issue of the 21st century and is highlighted by the Least Developed Countries Report of 2018 by the United Nations Conference on Trade Development (UNCTAD), showing that transformational entrepreneurship generates much of the social and economic innovations that underpin sustainable development,

Keeping in mind Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol (1997), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) state that Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) are the only financing mechanisms that allow developing Member States to participate in reducing greenhouse gas emissions,

Acknowledging that renewable energy contributes to less than 20% of global energy usage and that the economic and social interdependence of LDCs and DCs in the energy sector would stimulate the increase in affordability and access to sustainable energy sources worldwide,

Recognizing the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) initiative to create joint off-grid energy arrangements to promote sustainable energy use across boundaries,

Noticing the success of the UN Technology Bank and expanding its impact with self-sufficient sustainability as the final goal,

 Encourages assisting Member States that are economically and/or territorially vulnerable by facilitating investments of numerous stakeholders in their local energy infrastructures, considering that clean energy technologies are not affordable nor accessible for all States, by recommending that:

a. UNDP ensures the development of renewable energy infrastructure projects in an agreeable and non-coercive manner in order to stimulate local economic ecosystems that:

i. Respects the balance of local markets (especially within LDCs);

 Learns from previous investments history of collaboration between DCs and LDCs to avoid exploitation and reinforce the concept of equitable and healthy economic partnerships;

- Supports the initiatives of Member States that implement interventions such as subsidies to promote clean energy sectors in order to incentivize the use of renewable energy sources;
- b. Development and investment banks invest in the local private sector in the form of long-term investment cycles through the following actions:
 - Investing in companies committed to selling their shares once achieving an objective predetermined by the investing bank and reinvesting them in the aforementioned companies;
 - ii. Establishing a stable and reliable energy sector in local communities by investing in sustainable infrastructures;
 - iii. Inviting further implementation of pilot projects to identify specific needs of each nation and regions from within, moving away from a one-size-fits-all approach to renewable energy projects;
- c. Regional non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL), are involved in the discussion, by encouraging regional collaboration among countries with similar vulnerabilities, such as Small Islands Member States (SIMS), and assisting the development of the initiatives proposed by Member States;
- 2. Calls for the international community to raise awareness amongst the public in order for all States to establish sustainable energy sources by:
 - a. Promoting youth activism and voices in order to raise support and awareness for these solutions;
 - b. Continuing to integrate women into the workforce in order to generate energy and income for this demographic;
 - Encouraging partnerships with NGOs and other Member States by accepting investments in specific projects that contributes to the establishment and implementation of renewable energies while considering the possibility of foreign interdependencies before accepting contracts;
- 3. Encourages investments, through the Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI) project which supports sustainable development by financing multilateral projects that are proven to promote healthy practices of respect and collaboration through an approval system as aforementioned in order to ensure that LDCs are not exploited in the process such as:
 - a. Energy infrastructure that promotes the multilateral cooperation of Member States in the same region, following the example of the hydroelectric projects where LDCs offer natural resources in exchange for technologies and capital investments from DCs that distribute economic benefits of the project equally between the States;
 - Programs, such as shared power grids, that will focus on financial and social benefits for all Member States, which could be used as a lead example of ensuring equity between stakeholders on an infrastructure project;
- 4. *Expanding* the UN technology bank through international collaboration between LDCs and DCs regarding sustainable energy by:
 - Supporting the continued implementation of previously established targets in the Science Technology Innovation (STI) surveys of LDCs;

b. Gradually expanding STI surveys in other Member States in the order of least developed to most developed: c. Facilitating the transfer of green energy technology and information through the strengthening and expansion of the Knowledge Management Framework operated by the UNDP: 5. Further encourages LDC and DC partnerships as a suitable and practical means to support new forms of sustainable energy by utilizing sources that are inherent to Member States, keeping in mind their physical geography and the STI survey, such as: a. Geothermal power, seeing as 70% of LDCs utilize geothermal energy as a common means of sustainable energy which can be increased by encouraging governments to invest into geothermal plants; b. Hydroelectric energy, due to the availability of small hydropower sites in many States, enabling the potential to facilitate new widespread forms of energy: Solar energy, through the use of highly efficient Photovoltaic cells (PVs) to maximize power output with the assistance of DCs providing refined technological research in the field; d. Hydrogen energy, considering greenhouse gas emissions of pure hydrogen energy

produce electricity, heat, and water;

- 6. *Emphasizes* economic stimulation for the development of affordable, sustainable, modern, and clean energy for all between LDCs and DCs by:
 - a. Encouraging the relief of debt owed to local investment banks, such as the Economic Commission Debt Relief Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), to states that invest the amount owed into renewable energy;

production produces nearly no pollution by combining hydrogen and oxygen elements to

- b. Allowing LDCs and DCs to enter a regional trade partnership based on the exchange of natural resources and knowledge on renewable energy technologies;
- c. Reducing imports of sustainable energy technologies, such as wind turbines and solar panels, to encourage the implementation of these technologies into low income Member States that lack the capital to produce them independently.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and the adoption of a comprehensive, people-focused set of international and transformative Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and renewing its commitment to work tirelessly for the full implementation of the agenda by 2030,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 73/236 of 20 December 2018, entitled "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all", in which it invited all relevant funding institutions and donors to continue ongoing efforts to finance access to clean energy and economic development in both rural and urban areas,

Noting General Assembly resolutions 71/251 on 23 December 2016 and 72/228 on 20 December 2017 in creating a centralized structure to improve the access to knowledge within Member States,

Emphasizing the results of the Programme of Action for the LDC's for the Decade 2011-2020, which established a "Technology Bank" in General Assembly resolution 71/251 on 23 December 2016, technology and information supporting mechanism dedicated to LDCs,

Re-emphasizing the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development adopted in 1992 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), which outlined 27 guiding principles for sustainable development, the necessity to strengthen the regional cooperation in energy sector and to promote the use of renewable and non-renewable energy sources without harming the ecosystems,

Appreciating the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), as the international organization in coordinating environmental initiatives in assistance to developing states, specifically, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to enhance their strategies towards the promotion of clean energy,

Approving the role of the United Nations Office for Partnerships (UNOP), which serves as a gateway for Partnerships between all Member States, foundations and other non-State actors and the United Nations system to further enhance the SDGs,

Bearing in mind the World Summit on Sustainable Development, A/CONF.166/9, and its focus on improving access to information communications technology (ICT), in order to put people at the center of development, calling attention to the high costs and elevated development time of establishing sustainable energy, which highlights the importance of Public-Private Partnerships, as well as ICT, and their value towards sustainable development,

Affirming the efforts of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources, and Peace established with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to improve access to energy regarding resilience building, and the establishment of action plans addressing the implementation of sustainable energy among others,

Concerned by the \$700 billion funding gap to successfully accomplish SDG 7, ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all,

Applauding the work of the UN Green Climate Fund, which combines concessional financing with low-interest loans in raising over \$10 billion for low-emission and climate-resilient development in Member States around the world.

Believing that sovereignty in action, when addressing goals reliant on natural resources, ensures relevancy and efficiency as geography, geology, and ideology greatly vary between Member States,

Concerned by the lack of regulatory standards that would ensure citizens first access rights to modern energy standards and administer outside investor's influence on Member States' energy infrastructures,

Expressing concern that less developed countries and small island developing states, particularly energy deficient and debt distressed states face compounded challenges to accomplishing SDG 7,

Applauding the work of the UN Green Climate Fund, which combines concessional financing with low interest loans in raising over \$10 billion for low-emission and climate-resilient development in Member States around the world,

Realizing the importance of foreign direct investment, which totaled \$1.75 trillion in 2016 to furthering the efforts to meet SDGs and improving access to renewable energy and energy infrastructure,

Calling to mind all Member States that through paragraph 70 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the International Community has engaged in achieving the Technology Facilitation Mechanism third goal of creating an online platform for knowledge transfer,

Emphasizing the importance of inclusive programs such as scientific research and ICT education programs as the means of effective distribution of knowledge transfer in order to create, distribute, and manage modern energy systems,

- Urges all Member States to reaffirm their commitment to SDGs 7 and 10 by developing national plans
 with clear and measurable targets for sustainable energy development and strengthening related
 regulatory institutions with the goal of strengthening these sectors to protect against abuse and
 facilitate knowledge exchange and promote partnerships by connecting Member States facing similar
 situations or sharing relevant experiences;
- 2. *Emphasizes* the need to fully include women in the process of providing modern energy for all by having gender inclusive energy planning and policies through a partnership with UN-Women and expanding programs such as the Women's Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Energy program, which empowers women to be the change in providing modern energy in their communities;
- 3. *Urges* all Member States to participate in the Partnership Program established under the UNOP, which would:
 - a. Act as a method for facilitating knowledge transfer while promoting gender equality;
 - b. Educating developing countries in systems of sustainable energy development and the consequences that come from using unsustainable energy sources;
 - c. Facilitating regular dialogue between participating developed and developing states as well as non-state actors with scheduled annual exchanges of sharing expertise in the energy sector;
 - Organize educational workshops, conferences which will highlight general and individual challenges and possible solutions, achievements and share information about their most relevant practices;

e. Increase labor mobility through exchange programs for university students and skilled worker within the framework of the Partnership between developed and developing states;

- f. Be supported financially among the participant states, the burden of the costs shall be shared among the states equally;
- 4. Supports all Member States to take action in creating online platforms for knowledge sharing as such instruments have the potential for increasing innovation in energy production and distribution technologies, providing access to global research and improvements in regard of green transition, facilitating participation of rural, low-income urban communities, and those with traditionally differential access to the internet, and ensuring cost efficient cooperation and best practice sharing between context-like Member States;
- 5. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) discusses as part of the special events in its 74th session with regional agencies and UN-related entities, the expansion of education programs that emphasize skill and employability training to current and younger generations in order to expand the geographical scope of such programs to ensure inclusive energy education, by:
 - a. Encouraging the partnership of scientific research and an expanded ICT 4-year education programs with schooling systems and local communities;
 - b. Suggesting the financial support of education networks and the private sector in addition to regional organizations;
- 6. *Invites* the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other relevant stakeholders, to expand their debt relief efforts in the way of debt swaps to include debt conversion projects related to the development or improvement of energy infrastructure and industry, specifically targeting low and middle-income developing countries with large debt burdens and poor energy development;
- 7. Suggests the reconvening of joint research teams between Member States, operating in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Group of Experts on Renewable Energy by:
 - a. Updating the research infrastructure with any changes deemed necessary to more completely understand the financial needs of each nation for green energy development;
 - b. Researching the energy needs of Member States and identifying the types of energy generation best suited to meet those needs and how macro and micro-financing can fulfill those needs based on the information freely given by those countries;
 - Recommending any technical assistance needed in those countries to establish such infrastructure;
 - d. Requesting that all findings are to be published for the use of NGOs and other partners in development to create a system of information that will operate as transparent for all parties;
 - e. Operating under the UNECE's mandate and functions, and under the previously allocated funding for the group;
 - f. Consisting of experts in civil engineering, finance, regional geography, and local cultural advisors;
- 8. Approves of the continuation of efforts to create micro-funding opportunities for energy development to overcome the challenges that individuals viewed as a credit risk face when obtaining traditional bank financing by using property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing, whereby property improvements are paid back through a line item on the property owner's tax bill;

- 9. Encourages all Member States to recognize the importance of ICTs in the implementation of sustainable energy practices by contributing expertise to the Technology Bank in order to aid an efficient knowledge transfer in agreement with SDG 7 through:
 - Supporting and improving scientific research for LDCs, and SIDS through a technological hub, which can be used to lessen socioeconomic discrepancies between these groups of people;
 - b. Making energy and technology more accessible in regions currently lacking access;
- 10. *Recommends* Member States underline the necessity to encourage private-public partnerships through the UNEP Finance Program, which facilitates the international community to strengthen the partnerships between private sector and civil society:
- 11. Supports the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies already working in remote regions, within the process of building resilient infrastructures, utilizing workers and experts from developed countries, in order to receive expertise and best practice resources, which would improve economic activity of the respective countries;
- 12. Calls upon all Member States to promote the benefits of energy roadmaps in cooperation with the UNEP and UNDP for energy sector analysis, national priorities, and trends to create and estimate the possible scenarios in energy sector for 2050 in order to strengthen regional cooperation;
- 13. Recommends that the Green Climate Fund expands its mandate to include large-scale sustainable electric generation projects and direct appropriate funding to meet the energy needs identified by the joint research teams;
- 14. *Encourages* the private sector, international organizations, educational networks, and other NGOs to make use of the research team reports, online platforms and energy targets set by Member States to become partners in development by investing in sustainable forms of energy production;
- 15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit at its next session a report on the progress of the solutions in this resolution to allow for a better understanding of the impact of the solutions and to assess the situation at that time;
- 16. Welcomes further initiatives on these issues.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goals in Resolution 70/1 on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7, in which affordable, sustainable access to energy for all was set as a global goal to reach by 2030,

Deeply alarmed by the lack of progress of the SDGs on a global scale and the remaining time until the target date for achieving the SDGs,

Recalling the goals presented by the Secretary General's initiative "Sustainable Energy for All" (SE4ALL), and General Assembly resolution 69/225 on the "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy" which combines the increased use of new and renewable energy sources,

Upholding the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (2015) which calls upon Member States to "substantially increase the share of renewable energy and double the global rate of energy efficiency and conservation" by 2030,

Reiterating the importance of expanding global hydroelectric infrastructure projects, which (apart from generating energy) assists with water control, reduces flooding, provides stable irrigation, and stimulates national economies,

Recognizing previous efforts of hydroelectric dams, which have an extremely high efficiency rate (ranging from 90-95%) making it one of the most efficient sources of energy, and the need to renovate and modernize such technologies,

Emphasizing the importance and usefulness of regional and local off-grid electrification projects for rural areas in Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

Acknowledging the progress made in supporting off-grid and mini-grid solutions through programs like the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) in Low-Income Countries (LICs),

Stressing the urgency to incentivize youth in developing Member States to participate in sustainable development education through the means of competitions, grants and research to culminate sustainable development,

Recognizing that not all Member States are able to transition to a fully functional economic market for all energy practices,

Expressing concern about the lack of national policies and regulatory frameworks for clean cooking fuels in countries with large access deficits, as pointed out in the Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) Report 2018,

Taking into consideration the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Report Derisking Renewable Energy Investment: Off-Grid Electrification, which notes the importance of the private sector in creating and enabling off-grid energy systems when Member State governments are unable to invest,

Remembering the International Renewable Energy Agency's report Renewable Energy Auctions in Developing Countries 2013, which promotes the use of reverse auctions in order to increase cost efficiency for developing countries.

Acknowledging the work of existing sustainable energy programs, such as the International Renewable Energy Agency's (IRENA) Small Island Developing States Lighthouses Initiative, that facilitates access to sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy for secluded areas,

- Urges Member States to take affirmative action towards achieving the SDGs and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, particularly SDG 7, focusing on energy efforts, new alternative energy sources, and decentralizing energy grids by:
 - a. Working collaboratively with the United Nations Department of Global Communications, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and related bodies;
 - Using the ECOSOC's Statistical Commission to create statistical models that aid small and medium sustainable energy projects, providing financial relief and thus creating an environment for them to grow;
- 2. Encourages Member States to incentivize the promotion of sustainable development education programs, following the Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development powered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), that focuses on renewable energy sources and empowerment efforts for small and medium efforts by:
 - a. Incentivizing secondary and tertiary education schools through the means of competitions and grants;
 - b. Promoting research opportunities for secondary and tertiary students to further contribute to the development of small energy sources;
- 3. Recommends financing hydroelectric, solar-energy and off-grid projects by:
 - Requesting the establishment of public-private partnerships between Member States and relevant stakeholders, with a focus on dam construction and grid expansion incentivized by methods such as fixed percentages of regular billing;
 - b. Encouraging collaboration between Member States and financial institutions like the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the Global Environment Facility (GEF);
 - c. Asking Member States to provide incentives to the private energy market by using multilateral partnership and:
 - i. Requesting Member States to ensure that the national investment gap in the field of sustainable energy will be covered by this fund;
 - ii. Suggesting governments to provide the financial measures that ensure the investments will exceed the public investment gap;
 - d. Encourages the collaboration between government stakeholders and the electricity suppliers in the development of a legal or regulatory framework for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to assist Member States in reducing the cost of new mini-grid and off-grid connections and to help ensure the creditworthiness of national utilities;
 - e. Enhancing public guarantees to make private investment in sustainable energy technology attractive and to ensure that each investor has an equal opportunity to succeed;
- 4. *Recommends* the use of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDGF) to support the private sector, especially focusing on environmentally friendly energy solutions by:

a. Encouraging every Member State to donate up to 2% of its GNI on top of its current donation to the SDGF in order to have enough financial capacity within the fund to sustain the entrepreneurs: b. Requesting the implementation of a panel of experts which reviews the projects and decides which ones to support depending on conversion capability and economic conditions within the, giving preference projects in Least Developed Regions (LDR) and Least Developed Economies (LDE); c. Urging all Member States to recognize the importance of the private sector and private-public partnerships for young entrepreneurs in implementing solutions for sustainable energy

younger generations:

5. Encourages developed Member States to collaborate and partake in exchanging knowledge transfer with developing Member States and to use existing bodies such as World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to encourage bilateral agreements in a bid to facilitate favorable energy engagements by:

access by inviting previously-established businesses to create opportunities for local,

- a. Encouraging Member States to share patented knowledge regarding sustainable energy sources on various knowledge and utilize WIPO international searches;
- b. Encouraging intellectual property protection for local renewable energy solutions to:
 - i. Encourage innovation in the sustainable energy projects in Member States:
 - ii. Use international patent systems provided by bodies such as WIPO;
- c. Expanding the jurisdiction of the Technology Bank to include all Member States will ensure the whole international community has access to this forum;
- d. Monitoring and verifying the information gathered and shared through a voluntary monitoring process similar to the Global Partnership initiative, which would be based on principles highlighted in the Busan Partnership Agreement such as the mutual accountability amongst partners and the development of priorities by Member States;
- e. Ensuring the six main languages are included in this platform so that all Member States have access to this information;
- f. Encouraging national governments to translate this information into their country's indigenous languages so that Indigenous communities will not be excluded from this vital information;
- 6. Reminds every Member State guided by the principle of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to address regional priorities that in order to keep peace and sustainable development in their regions it is necessary to:
 - a. Provide Member States with knowledge and technology transfer while also adopting their solutions for certain regional problems;
 - b. Cooperate with every state in the region to be able to find consensus on how to tackle regional problems like drought;
 - c. Be aware of regional solutions first and expand the efforts from there on;

- d. Once a regional solution is implemented and working in a stable region head on to less stable regions with similar geographical characteristics to transfer knowledge and technology to implement such solutions there;
- 7. Supports the replacement of diesel-powered water pumps with solar-powered water pumps by expanding the UN Solar Drip Irrigation Program (which is supported by The Solar Electric Light Fund (SELF) organization and the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics) in order to foster sustainable agricultural growth and access to clean water, lower production costs and increasing sustainability of water usage, the prevention of greenhouse gas and increases market opportunities for solar energy;

- 8. *Emphasizes* that regional off-grid projects are a reliable source of energy production especially in rural areas and therefore suggests the following measures:
 - a. Invites relevant organizations and Member States to a new side panel at the 2020 High-Level Political Forum to enable knowledge and information transfer of such projects;
 - Requests that all relevant stakeholders promote a plan by the 2020 General Assembly Second Committee meeting detailing administrative and financial support for extending offgrid infrastructure, with intents to broaden ROGEP through a small-scale community renewable energy program;
 - c. Encourages the establishment of smaller local power networks, known as mini-grids, in areas not yet connected to the main electricity network, which are operated by small hydropower or photovoltaic systems, to give the rural population better access to electricity;
- 9. Calls upon UN-Energy and the UN Department of Economics and Social Affairs (DESA) to analyze the effectiveness of reverse auctions, in which private energy contractors bid for the prices at which they are willing to provide governments with energy infrastructure, so that developing nations might be better advised when enacting renewable energy policies;
- 10. Encourages dialogue regarding case-by-case debt relief, as expressed in the General Assembly resolution 72/204 of 2017, which also discusses the role of high debts and their potential for prohibiting the growth of economic infrastructure and recognizing the effect on efforts to proffer modern energy for all, therefore encouraging further collaboration of all Member States to actively engage in practices that do not place disproportionately high interest rates on LDCs and LDRs on energy projects;
- 11. Recommends the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to:
 - a. Support the development of necessary policies and regulatory frameworks regarding technical and planning aspects on access to renewable energy sources including:
 - i. Technical solutions include local mini-grids that support multiple communities without being attached to the national energy grid, designed to fit regional needs;
 - ii. Planning solutions include supporting Member States in the planning stages, such as providing consulting on implementing clean cooking solutions on a grassroots level:
 - Identify together with support of the World Bank successful regional and national approaches to clean cooking solutions and submit an annual report to the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs by the year 2020;
 - c. Encourage increased support from Member States and the UNDP for the Clean Cooking Alliance under the United Nations Foundation to promote the distribution of clean cooking

215	technology especially in LDCs, thereby decreasing the percentage of the world population
216	without access to clean cooking by 10% by 2030;
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218	12. Proposes that Member States implement policies that facilitate the adoption of renewable energy
219	systems, such as renewable energy source conversion efforts to help make the transition for
220	countries to alternative energy easier until they build their own capacities for sustainable energy by
221	2022 by implementing the following measures.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Emphasizing that universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is a precursor to poverty eradication regarding the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), and that the increased use of renewable energy, particularly in decentralized and off-grid systems, could make a significant contribution to that goal,

Deeply concerned for the current state of progress on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7: ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, and the forecasted inability of the international community in achieving the sustainable and affordable aspects of the goal by 2030,

Considering the outcome of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992) recognizing that special attention should to be given to the needs of environmentally vulnerable and least developed Member States.

Reaffirming the importance of General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development to economically promote the growth of sustainable energy systems in the context of independent power producers at regional scales,

Deeply appreciative of the importance of the Sustainable Energy For All (SEforALL) Forum serving as an international platform regarding modern energy,

Recalling the recommendation of the Second Committee to the General Assembly in its report 73/538/Add.9 of 13 December 2018 which introduced off-grid solutions in General Assembly resolution 72/224 on "Ensuring access to Affordable Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All,"

Reiterating the international community's promise to reach those trailing furthest behind and to focus its efforts where challenges are greatest, ensuring no one is left behind,

Acknowledging Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) United Nations Statistics Division's (UNSD) publication "Energy Balances 2016," presenting energy data for over 200 countries and areas for the years 2015 and 2016,

Having studied the work of the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Knowledge Base created by the second session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management in August 2012,

Recalling the need for each Member State to adapt national development strategies, policies and favorable environment settings for the achievement of sustainable development regarding all levels of action and sectors, specifically addressing the establishment of off-grid and decentralized energy solutions to address shortcomings in existing centralized grid systems,

Having devoted attention to the uniqueness of local resources and their availability across diverse Member States, including how this affects the realities of funding off-grid and decentralized systems,

Mindful of the difference between off-grid and decentralized energy systems, decentralized implying that links to grid systems exist but power production is not limited to centralized energy sources so as to work towards a shared economy.

Expresses its concern in the lack of decentralized energy grid systems to provide adaptability in energy transfer to preserve energy security in cases of compromised energy production systems to ensure reliable access to energy,

Noting that off-grid and decentralized energy production systems are the most cost-effective solution for over 70% of unconnected rural populations,

Taking into account with appreciation that the global market for micro-grid electrification is predicted to be valued at \$400 billion,

Recognizing the need for flexible payment initiatives to fund off-grid energy systems in rural areas of the globe to facilitate public-private initiatives and incentives as well as civil society and non-governmental organization's participation,

Bearing in mind the global shortage of skilled labor workers needed in establishing off-grid energy solutions, particularly concerning the final tasks in project implementation.

Noting with optimism the ever-decreasing costs of renewable energy technologies which permit, wind, solar, and other sustainable technologies to compete with traditional fossil fuel-based technologies in light of growing labor markets which will accommodate the production, mobilization, installation, and maintenance of renewable energy technologies,

Expressing its hope for the post-modern energy sector on current aspects of evaluation, accessibility, affordability, reliability, and sustainability, but also for entrepreneurs and business models that have the potential to shift as independent power producers gain the ability to sell independently produced decentralized energy,

Fully supporting the guideline principles of United Nations Development Programme's strategy note 2017-2021 on Delivering Sustainable Energy in a Changing Climate,

Recognizing that decentralization can reduce carbon emissions by nearly half, reduce power costs by nearly 40%, and eliminate many of the inefficiencies that centralized power systems face in all Member States,

 Recalls the necessity of cooperation and knowledge-sharing between Member States, thereby suggesting to expand on the United Nations Multi-stakeholder Technical Advisory Group on SDG 7 (SDG7-TAG) with the creation of the Affordable Contribution to Clean Energy from Sustainable Sources (ACCESS) Program by:

 Establishing a database, forum and conference wherein Member States can share knowledge about affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy to expand their potential energy production and access through:

Member States:

of energy to expand clean energy diversity by:

i. Collaborations between developed Member States and developing Member States;ii. Willingness of Member States to receive information and feedback from other

 Utilizing UNSD's data collections of energy resources, collected via the World Bank and International Energy Agency including data on energy sources countries are currently employing and potential opportunities, as well as address the three pillars of the efficient use

 Utilizing data collected on country production trends in order to improve existing production and facilitate new production infrastructure if needed;

ii. Emphasizing household data collections and implementation of new technologies;

- 106 iii. Building energy storage infrastructure through existing science and technology; 107 ίV. Harnessing data on existing transportation systems in order to utilize and expand 108 transportation capabilities and encouraging bilateral cooperation between Member 109 States to give remote areas access to the electricity grid by connecting them to the 110 nearest foreign or domestic hub; 111 112 Dividing UNSD's data into energy subgroups to then disperse geographical and technical, 113 private and public sector expertise so Member States can strategize based on their country's 114 energy strengths by: 115 116 Gathering expertise from various country energy experts and companies to improve 117 tailored methods of energy production and expansion and uploading information on 118 the ACCESS database: 119 120 Organizing bi-annual meetings based on energy sub-groups to facilitate knowledge ii. 121 transfer: 122 123 2. Recommends the establishment of the Rural Improvement through Sustainable Energy (RISE) Fund 124
 - in order to finance off-grid solutions and to enhance access to energy in remote areas in collaboration with UN Energy, which:
 - a. Offers funding to renewable and sustainable energy projects with particular focus on off-grid solutions in remote areas;
 - b. Allows Member States as well as local communities to apply as beneficiaries in case they provide concrete proposals for establishing a renewable energy access project in remote areas;
 - Invites all Member States to contribute with their budget in accordance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in order to effectively collect and distribute financial resources on a global level:
 - 3. Requests the revisiting of the events held at the Sustainable Energy for all Forum 2020 in Africa which will:
 - a. Raise awareness on the topic of off-grid solutions;

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- b. Introduce the RISE Fund to the international community to both donors and potential beneficiaries:
- c. Further invite private companies to engage in partnerships to join the funding of renewable energy solutions;
- 4. Encourages governments and public-private enterprises via inter alliance cooperation between micro financing institutions and the energy sector alongside organizations such as but not limited to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA) to financially and organizationally establish novel micro-funding frameworks for small scale focussing on:
 - a. Community development bursaries such as labour training programs;
 - b. Providing small business start-up funding and investment auctions to empower marginalized and rural communities;
- 5. Fully conscious that policies and regulations strongly influence the development of off-grid renewable energy sectors, particularly with the deployment of stand-alone grid systems, mini-grids, and

regionally webbed mini-grids, so as to provide energy for lighting, cleaner cooking, and to support the delivery of public services, as solutions within national energy access strategies to continue collaboration with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to provide a durable foundation for market development and to incentivize stakeholders, where:

- Electrification planning and strategies are encouraged to clearly identify the areas to be reached by grid extension within a reasonable time frame and the areas suitable for off-grid solutions and make the information available to all relevant stakeholders;
- b. Stability and clarity in policies and regulations is crucial for the development of off-grid renewable energy solutions;
- c. Centralized electricity sector frameworks through green citizenship incentives support the deployment of dedicated mini-grid policies and regulations licensing and permitting requirements, tariff setting frameworks, main grid arrival implications, taxation credits and micro-funding frameworks for citizens seeking to become independent power producers and financing considerations;
- d. Adequate standards and quality control measures are introduced to avoid the proliferation of low-quality products, standards that encourage sustainable development without discouraging adaptation and delivery model innovation, given to the life-cycle impacts of the systems to address broader sustainability aspects;
- 6. Draws attention to the intricate network of human resources needed for advancing development of modern and sustainable energy for all, which includes but is not limited to academics, engineers, financial analysts, transportation service workers, manufacturers, and most notably skilled labour workers whose responsibility is essential for the widespread, proper, safe, and lasting installation and maintenance of renewable decentralized energy systems;
- 7. Stresses that Member States and other non-governmental organizations, such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), should recognize tertiary education facilities and labour training institutions as potential investment opportunities to grow the human capital needed for mitigating a global shortage of skilled labour workers to ensure sustainable maintenance and installation of renewable energy technologies;
- 8. Emphasizes the potential value of feed-in tariff incentives for power generation from wind, biomass, or small hydro plants designed to accelerate investment and deployment of renewable energy technologies to ensure that all current and recurring capital costs are covered at a confident rate of return to lower the cost of electricity access in order to meet the targets of the 2030 Agenda;
- Endorses the continuation of previously established multilateral investment initiatives such as but not limited to the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) who have already shown exceptional progress in local economic development and job market creation in some of the most impoverished areas in the world;
- 10. Welcomes a sharing economy that lets citizens purchase and sell independently collected energy back into grid networks so that everyone can have the opportunity to become a local independent power producing stakeholder, provided that Governments and non-governmental organizations can help finance and incentivize citizens via taxation credits and micro-funding frameworks to purchase, transport, and install renewable energy technology to empower populations living both in urban and rural regions;
- 11. *Greatly appreciates* Member States who recognize the vital role that universal, affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy has in poverty eradication as well as being foundational for all the SDGs.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 21 October 2015, which established the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) with Member States committing to its full implementation,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 56/200 of 15 February 2002, 60/199 of 13 March 2006, 64/206 of 11 March 2010, 70/201 of 23 February 2016, 71/233 of 6 February 2017, 72/224 of 25 January 2018, as well as General Assembly resolution 73/236, emphasizing that universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is an integral part of poverty eradication and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

Deeply concerned that ,as stated in General Assembly resolution 73/236, "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all," at current progress rates, none of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to modern energy will be achieved by 2030,

Addressing indicator 7.A of the 2030 Agenda that proposes to enhance by 2030, international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy, research and technology, including renewable energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology,

Fully concerned about the current financial strains on both developed and developing Member States alike that arise from the achievement of the SDGs,

Fully aware that less than one percent of total UN expenditures on the SDGs are aimed to SDG 7,

Recalling paragraph 70 of the 2030 Agenda and its creation of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism,

Recognizing the role of women in development and the need to share best practices in order to fulfill the 2030 Agenda whilst promoting gender equality as stated in General Assembly resolution 70/219 of 15 February 2016, as well as the positive spillover effects that gender equality in access to energy has on the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing the responsibility each state has to collaborate and share knowledge to implement sustainable and renewable energy everywhere and furthering our ability to accomplish SDG 17,

Recalling the Secretary General's 2018 report on *The State of South-South Cooperation*, and how South-South initiatives contribute to the achievement of the SDGs,

Fully aware that the field of renewable energy presents many opportunities for Governments and all other stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society and international organizations to work together on this pressing challenge,

Determined to foster a working relationship between Member States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the field of renewable and sustainable energy,

Having studied the results of the Project of Common Interest between Member States, which has benefited countries in transitioning from fossil fuels and sharing clean energy production,

Considering that world markets are especially difficult to reach for landlocked or developing countries, not only because of the limited possibilities to access them but also for the several structural obstacles that prevent the attainment of universal access to energy, including a lack of access to renewable energy funding,

Noting the implementation of 2005 Year of Microcredit through the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in uplifting rural citizens out of extreme poverty, providing impoverished and disadvantaged groups with necessary capital,

- 1. *Promotes* the incorporation of South-South and Triangular cooperation (SSTC) and Public-Private-Partnerships (PPP) by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in its global initiatives, such as the Solar Lantern Project, which is implemented by UNIDO with technical support from Member States and the private sector, to increase access to off-grid energy through solar voltaic lanterns that provide light to schools and hospitals in rural areas:
- 2. Calls on developed Member States with substantial knowledge in sustainable energy to facilitate labor mobility and knowledge transfers through sustainable energy training schools for developing nations to send their citizens to learn various forms of sustainable and renewable energy and apply this knowledge in their Member States in support of the Joint UNIDO-Energy Academy Europe training program: Sustainable Energy Solutions, as well as the United Nations Institute for Training and Research's e-learning course on Renewable Energies for Developing Countries;
- 3. Encourages all Member States to support education regarding the implementation of SDG 5, in collaboration with SDG 7, and to close the gender gap within the energy sector by expanding the scale of existing education programs, workshops and toolkits by inviting IRENA to reach out to more Member States as well as to put more emphasis on gender equality in the energy sector within their workshops by cooperating with United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);
- 4. Endorses the reinforcement of UN agencies such as UN Energy, for the purpose of helping countries to establish different sustainable energy generation systems for diversification of their energy sources based on their own needs, and to help gain access to their respective regional energy markets, suggesting funding these systems and materials in an open way to country's will, through:
 - a. Building the power plants independently using their own national budgets and receiving a complete revenue share:
 - b. Requesting assistance from Multilateral Development Banks on financing mechanisms, that will help the countries in establishing their own energy sources;
- 5. *Encourages* the Sustainable Energy For All (SE4ALL) to assist Member States in fulfilling their commitments to SDG 7 by:
 - Advising Member States to seek financing through Public-Private Partnerships using feed in tariffs for sustainable energy companies to increase participation for the private sector in a Member States renewable energy market;
 - Encouraging Member States to work alongside local NGO's to provide assessments on the
 most pressing issues related to lack of energy sources that local communities have to provide
 targeted solutions to communities using the funds have been provided;
- 6. Suggests that the Technology Facilitation Mechanism use its expertise and financial resources to improve the transfer of renewable and sustainable energy technologies by working in cooperation with the *Technology Bank*, established by the *Istanbul Program of Action*, and to use all official languages of the UN for easy accessibility of all Member States;

7. Supports the amendment of the Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC) as well as other programs to expand their qualifications for debt forgiveness for developing countries to include the creation of sustainable energy sources within the country;

- 8. Support entities which promote foreign direct investment into developing countries to support economic growth, reduce poverty and improve lives in the renewable energy sector, and understands the need for continuous cooperation with NGOs and private investors to further support work with the UNDP and all other relevant UN organizations by:
 - a. Encouraging collaborations between the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, UN-Women, and UNCTAD to elaborate and align regional and national strategies to ensure sustainable energy for all;
 - Participating in regional round tables consisting of members specializing in business, engineering, accounting, and science they will give they will share with experienced member states their best practices on fund management and apply them accordingly towards each specific member states and their specific needs;
 - c. Participating in the new UNEP FI Energy Efficiency Finance Platform;
 - d. Participating in forums and roundtables to discuss and solve the issue of corruption in the use of funds for renewable energy investment, inviting relevant bodies such as the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency to share best practices;
 - e. Helping Member States to report all financial details of external funds and investments into renewable energy:
 - f. Identifying possible revenues and donors that can be utilized for sustainable energy investments, in order to improve economies and create additional jobs in the renewable energy sector;
 - g. Helping governments to implement policies to ensure a more responsible use of energy within the private sector as well as a reduction of carbon emissions;
 - h. Promoting of research and development efforts from the private sector aimed at new green energies sources, as well as the endorsement of the Action Plan For Promoting Private Sector Contributions:
- Requests an expansion in UNEP efforts regarding disaster relief programs with the assistance of developed Member States with experience in implementation of sustainable energy to provide opportunities for experts to assist post-disaster Member States, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developign States (SIDS) to provide hands-on experience to labor on the ground;
- 10. *Encourages* the introduction of an effective regional energy management system in order to promote energy efficiency, as done by the Regional Building Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP), which created a regional system in which multilateral co-operation between member states helped improve energy efficiency;
- 11. Suggests the expansion of Dynamic Tidal Power with regional energy generation programs through UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPO), modeled after Funding Ocean Renewable Energy through Strategic European Action (FORESEA), to assist island Member States that does not have the area and capability to create land-based generators by providing LDCs and SIDs with free access to knowledge and testing facilities in exchange for annual fixed rate of power produced;

- 12. Suggests the expansion of microfinance policies that would provide funding to energy investments in rural areas to create a micro-grid community-based business model by:
 - a. Emphasizing the cooperation between micro financing institutions and the energy sector in aiding indigenous communities in conjunction with labor training program such as UNOPS;
 - b. Focusing on the decentralization of energy power plant to rural areas with initiatives that align with reliable and sustainable goal;
- 13. Encourages academic institutions and private companies belonging to the technology and innovation sectors to redirect human, material, and monetary resources in developing nations to boost existing and upcoming research and entrepreneurship projects, in order to understand first-hand their needs, apply inclusive and effective solutions promptly, and strengthen international and PPP to benefit both the local and external territories;
- 14. *Encourages* Member States to work internationally and regionally to increase knowledge transfers and energy related joint research programs that target:
 - Geographical relationships between member nations with the intention of establishing beneficial relations for all;
 - b. Making energy affordable by lowering energy transportation costs;
- 183 c. Making transportation energy usage more efficient.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee.

Guided by the role of the General Assembly in promoting international co-operation in the economic and educational fields, as stated in Article XIII of the Charter of the United Nations (1945),

Supporting Article 21 and Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) consisting of the right to equal access of public services and necessary social amenities in all Member States,

Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goal 4 which "ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunity for all", Goal 7 which "ensures access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all", Goal 9 which "builds resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation", Goal 12 which "ensures sustainable consumption and production patterns" and Goal 17 which "strengthens the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development,"

Recalling its General Assembly resolution 73/236 of 20 December 2018 on "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all," which emphasizes the importance of access to sustainable energy for poverty eradication and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015),

Considering the work done by the United Nations Expert Working Group on Energy Connectivity (EWGEC) as a powerful tool in multilateralism and advice on sustainable energy cooperation,

Recognizing the previous work of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Independent Team of Advisors which provide strategic recommendations based on economic analysis and provides civil society consultations and briefings,

Supporting the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), which works towards green energy projects in developing countries and aids developers, financiers, and technology providers in implementing more sustainable practices,

Acknowledging ways non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and non-profit organizations, such as the Environment and Energy Thematic Trust Fund, have aided participating countries in their efforts to establish clean technology,

Re-emphasizing on the importance of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) as an initiative to accelerate a global market for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Systems (REEES),

Responding to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (2002), which underscores the need to take further actions to mobilize scientific and technological knowledge to Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) for energy transformation,

Realizing the importance of education, especially for science, technology, engineering, and math concentrations in LMICs with needs of affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy to be able to build infrastructure and technology for the supply and saving of energy,

Supporting fully the Sustainable Energy For All Forum which encourages the communication among participants in an exchange of ideas and resources in the promotion of the Sustainable Energy for All movement to advance Goal 7 of SDGs.

Welcoming efforts to promote off-grid renewable energy for ensuring access to electricity, especially in LMICs, by Member States and the United Nations,

Noting with deep concern that the World Bank reports that 1.6 million people have little or no access to electricity, especially in rural areas, thus limiting economic opportunities and leads to social issues such as health problems and unsafe environmental conditions,

Acknowledging the importance of partnerships among developed and developing countries to create an educational framework that targets Goal 12 of SDGs.

Considering the Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy 2018 (RISE 2018) states that clean technologies in households are the most underfunded SDG 7 target area.

Deeply convinced that building sufficient educational systems is a priority for LMICs to increase the level of knowledge of energy within those countries,

Acknowledging that free markets and free enterprises are crucial actors and partners in the transformation process to a carbon-free energy regime,

Observing that energy consumption is expected to grow, especially on account of economic activities, such as agriculture, transportation, construction, and the food industry, deploring that only 20% of energy consumption is renewable causing countries to rely on unsustainable sources of energy,

Keeping in mind the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Review of Policies to Improve the Effectiveness of Resource Use in Schools in purpose to distribute, utilize and manage to improve the quality, equity and efficiency of school education in the fields of science and technology for renewable energies but to also provide financial resources in order to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

1. Considers the strength of multilateral cooperation in the assistance of independent sustainable energy sources with the UN EWGEC to support regional solutions on energy poverty by:

 Supporting cooperation from multilateral regional groups and stakeholders on solutions for energy poverty through the use of advisors and working groups to better streamline UN support and management of renewable energy infrastructure;

b. Understanding regional difficulties in terms of power supply in order to improve UN support and management of renewable energy infrastructure;

 Supporting actions in UN-Energy for the eradication of energy poverty through Public Private Partnerships to further support the UN EWGEC and their cooperation with regional organizations with protocols and reports to provide data on renewable energy readiness and regional solutions for energy poverty;

 d. Emphasizing Member States to create a program among with Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), in which civil society will be informed and educated about the area of technologies for renewable energies and micro entrepreneurs will be counseled and subsidized for the transition to renewable energies;

 e. Involving private stakeholders in which investors should be guaranteed a Return on Investment (ROI) on energy infrastructure with binding regulation which protect the LMICs from getting exploited;

- f. Forming both bilateral and multilateral agencies along with Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to support energy infrastructure manufacturing;
- g. Supporting ECOSOC's independent team of advisors in giving expert advice and research development for the UN EWGEC;
- 2. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, and regional stakeholders to study economic guidelines regarding reform packages for developing States that would:
 - a. Prioritize funding for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) who have shown initiative in funding, supporting, promoting, and developing clean energy industries that are deemed innovative, efficient, and notable by the respective Member State by:
 - Placing emphasis on regionally focused funding to promote independent economic development of LDCs;
 - ii. Encouraging partnering with intergovernmental organizations and independent programs to provide solutions and technology for everyone, no matter race, ethnicity, gender, religion or economic status:
 - iii. Recommending developed Member States to grant a higher percentage of their economic output towards the World Bank Green Bond and Environment and Energy Thematic Trust Fund, as they have a larger income per capita compared to Developing Member States;
- 3. Requests Member States to use sustainable debt approaches in the implementation of monetary and fiscal policies to promote access and the use of clean energy by:
 - a. Trading carbon tax debt between low carbon producing countries, mainly developing countries through the UN Global Compact initiatives for a carbon economy market;
 - b. Allocating a portion of carbon tax revenues to support the energy access projects;
- 4. *Encourages* Member States to effectively mobilize financial resources including domestic and external funds and restructuring the prioritization scheme for the public sector subsidies for energy projects including through methods such as:
 - a. National budgets, grants, loans, and equities, energy funds from both bilateral and multilateral agencies along with PPPs to support energy infrastructure manufacturing;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to designate two top categories of energy projects and two priority technologies most suitable for Member States, which eligible projects will;
 - c. Recommending that Member States create tax relief environments for NGOs interested in investing in their priority energy project categories and technologies;
 - Requesting continued focus on further implementation for funding in the area of clean breakthrough technologies for households, such as biogas, solar, and crop residues through policies that incentivize adoption of these technologies;
- 5. Requests Member States to develop infrastructure or improving already existing infrastructure for renewable energy systems such as wind-, solar- and hydro-energy or ideally further emerging technologies in Member States that have low access to electricity by:
 - a. Encouraging domestic economies to grant fiscal subsidies to renewable energy sources in order to allow affordable sustainable energy production;

b. Advising transnational monetary incentives for energy production to allow for economic growth for renewable energy manufacturers; c. Encouraging LMICs to adopt more sustainable solutions adopted to the environment with help and leadership from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; d. Increasing funding from organizations that support sustainable energy; 6. Stresses the importance of financial alleviation of energy poverty by strengthening the United Nations

- Development Programme Strategy Note on Sustainable Energy 2017-2021 through several proposals such as but not limited to:
 - Involving multi-stakeholder initiatives with Member States through the UN Bioenergy for Sustainable Rural Development project;
 - b. Using the UN De-risking Renewable Energy Investments to reduce cost and increase efficiency in Member States;
 - c. Using the resources of the UN Parliamentary Action for Renewable Energy in increasing transparency and efficiency of unilateral and multilateral programs in Member States;
- 7. Strongly recommends the International Energy Agency (IEA) to further support the role of the Committee on Energy Research and Technology (CERT) in aspects such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Promoting already existing IEA Technology Collaboration Programme (IEA TCPs) with the primary focus on strengthening the role of the Working Party on Renewable Energy Technologies (REWP);
 - b. Forming a collaboration with the United Nations and its Member States to complement the IEA's lack of connectivity to non-OECD Member States;
- 8. Recommends Member States ensure that their education system enables students to reach their full potential, especially in the science and technologies such as energy for the purpose of gaining students' interest in new energy systems, for example by:
 - a. Training local teachers to teach the most updated knowledge and technologies of clean and modern energy as well as promoting an entrepreneurial and sustainable culture;
 - b. Providing educational trainings for teachers in soft skills such as communication to better understanding of students' needs for the purpose of advancing in clean and modern energy;
 - c. Establishing a common international online forum and e-learning platforms with videocourses and coaching to provide access to scientific knowledge about clean and modern energy for students as well as other persons which would be promoted by teachers and updated regularly by experts in the field of energy;
 - d. Improving partnerships with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Technology Innovation Lab (UNTIL) to provide mobile communication devices for remote regions to have access to the internet and thereby enabling people to access to scientific and technological knowledge on energy transformation by;
 - e. Facilitating cooperation among educational institutions and social and economical actors to enable students to gain more practical experience through;
- 9. Welcomes capacity-building in the energy sector through the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Finance Initiative Working Group by:

- Supporting infrastructure development through the UN Global Programmatic Framework for Low-Carbon Buildings;
- Assisting in the development of financial energy efficiency investments to help provide upfront investment which has become the largest obstacle in energy development;
- c. Encouraging the UNEP FI Asset Management Working Group to provide assistance from private financial organizations and regional Development Banks to find capacity in at-risk member states:
- 10. Supports the expansion of energy data collection provided by the UN Statistical Commission with the consent of Member States to allow for:
 - a. The extension of national audits that measure energy use for the improvement in national supply and demand, such as that of the national Analysis of Main Aggregates (AMA) and the UNEP:
 - b. Working with organizations such as the IMF, World Bank, and regional development banks to assist financially and technologically in various energy sector operations;
 - The transfer of knowledge and information from developed countries to LDCs on the most affordable and sustainable energy methods to promote LDC investment in renewable and clean energy sources;
 - d. The launch of public awareness campaigns in order to increase communication between local governments in promoting efficient forms of domestic energy consumption;
- 11. Requests Member States and other relevant stakeholders increase the accessibility and affordability of energy in rural areas, especially in colder seasons, for example by:
 - a. Establishing a power network which covers a wider part of the population for example to promote off-grid renewable energy;
 - b. Subsidizing energy prices or potentially lowering the price through the use of renewable energy further;
- 12. *Encourages* cooperation among Member States and NGOs to make a gradual transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy by:
 - a. Collaborating with NGOs to educate communities on sustainable development through programs that would provide job-training on working with new sustainable infrastructure;
 - Cooperating alongside governments and private businesses to ensure progress toward Goal
 7 of SDGs by advising businesses and public infrastructure projects on how to convert into
 cleaner and renewable energy;
 - c. Developing more efficient industry practices in regards to energy consumption and production;
 - d. Working with developing Member States to reorganize into green infrastructure through innovative business models and partnerships that would ensure access to sustainable sources of energy.



Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Ensuring Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Access to Energy for All

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Emphasizing General Assembly resolution 70/422 which calls for international cooperation and a strengthened United Nations on the front of sustainable energy for all and alarmed by statistics presented by the International Energy Agency that states there are 1.1 billion people who do not have access to electricity,

Acknowledging its resolution 3/217 A, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), Article 25 recognizing that everyone has the right to a standard of living, adequate for the health and well-being,

Underlining the importance of resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2015) and its positive impact on every Member State, making a special reference to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 that focuses on affordable and clean energy, as well as including renewable energy and investment in energy infrastructure,

Expressing concern for the necessity of implementing gender equality in all realms of life in line with the aims of SDG 5 and resolution 72/234 on "Women in development,"

Convinced of the effectiveness of working with International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in order to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Bearing in mind that less than 1% of overall UN expenditure on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goes towards energy and energy infrastructure in households is the most underfunded of SDG 7 target areas which impacts half of the world's population due to hazardous energy cooking sources in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and according to the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, causes 4 million premature deaths each year,

Reiterating the importance of resolution 72/224 on "Ensuring affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all" which encourages cooperation to increase governance, capacity building, and inclusive sustainable growth within the private energy sector, in line with priorities promoted in the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) through the generation trade of profit,

Recalling resolution 55/2 "United Nations Millennium Declaration,"

Acknowledging resolution 69/225 on the "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy," outlining the necessity to launch viable market-based strategies,

Recalling the vast potential of the UN-Energy committee to develop multilateral programs, specifically the possibility to expand the Junior Professional Officer Programme,

Underlining the importance of LDCs' reliance on the UN Green Climate Fund (GCF) in enabling and funding different sustainable programs to be carried out in LDCs,

Supporting public-private-partnerships (PPP) as a means to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all,

Recognizing the paramount importance of local communities' participation in foreign investments.

Noting that LDCs are often caught in debt traps and forced to pay high interest rates on loans which prevents the growth of sustainable energy due to not having enough funds to provide energy in the long-term.

- Recommends the evaluation of unequal electricity distribution to further the implementation of interconnected grid systems to expand on current systems in place and provide further access to LDCs as well as remote areas in order to:
 - a. Increase the reliability of the supply of energy as well as the security of energy in all Member States:
 - b. Fund further research to pave the way for more pragmatic and achievable development ideas;
 - c. Emphasize the importance of accurate and relevant data when moving forward with the use of interconnected grid systems and therefore should consider the use of International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to continue with cost studies, benefit studies and technology briefs;
 - d. Consider asking for assistance by the IRENA in order to support this transition by fostering an
 effective action plan and ensuring that all future action aligns with the 2030 Agenda for
 Sustainable Development;
- 2. *Calls upon* Member States to increase official developmental aid efforts, specifically in providing energy to developing states, and LDCs through:
 - a. Promoting a higher level of investment in infrastructure by working alongside United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE) to close the gap of energy usage between urban and rural areas in LDCs;
 - b. Partnering with LDCs to establish shared inter-regional power grids that will be mutually beneficial to all Member States involved;
 - c. Providing energy to LDCs through the implementation of off-grid renewable energy systems such as solar energy systems;
 - d. Considering the importance of clean energy, it is suggested to prioritize a portion of the funds towards modern, affordable, and green energy specifically through the expansion of grid systems using resources such as the Environmental Trust Funds, the Green Climate Fund, and Sustainable Energy For All (SEforALL);
- 3. Encourages Member States to implement a collaborative alliance between UN-Energy and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in its Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, a multilateral internship program, to facilitate knowledge transfer, economic development, and implementation of green energy education programs, by creating partnerships between Member States lacking affordable energy and Member States having advanced clean energy knowledge and development, in order to:
 - a. Partner current engineering students from Member States with low levels of renewable energy production and a corporation in the advanced energy industry in a Member State with high levels of renewable energy production;
 - b. Further develop JPO internships that focus on students from developing Member States with the purpose of sharing the knowledge they learned and participate in the improvement of clean energy domestically;

- c. Promote equal gender participation in the energy industry through advertising of women in the energy field and by recognizing the considerable input that women bring to the sustainable development field;
- 4. Requests Member States to facilitate public-private partnerships in the energy sector with advanced technologies and LDCs to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, especially in LDCs, highlighting strong and sustainable relationships, with an emphasis on transparency and accountability;

- 5. Further invites Member States to develop specific policy plans meant to show improvement in relevant key areas of energy accessibility, affordability, and sustainability with the specific goal of improvement being for Member States with less than ninety-five percent access to energy, to decrease the portion of the population without access to energy by a minimum of twenty-five percent or to provide reliable energy to the whole of its population by 2030 and for member nations who have populations with greater than ninety-five percent access to electricity, to decrease their carbon emissions by a minimum of twenty percent relative to 2010 emission levels by 2030;
- 6. *Emphasizes* the need for increased cooperation between Member States, international organizations, and the private sector in order to finance the implementation of sustainable energy methods in both developed Member States (DCs) and LDCs;
- 7. Recommends Member States consider the creation of sustainable energy financing for the purpose of development and the implementation of infrastructures for sustainable energy practices by:
 - a. Fostering multilateral trade and the exchange of resources to provide financing mechanisms for the promotion of sustainable development through:
 - i. Establishing partnerships between enterprises in both the public and private sector;
 - ii. Expanding governance standard through the implementation of EITI standards to provide LDCs on how to best allocate funds and resources;
 - iii. Encouraging mutual growth for all nations by instituting a fair exchange of goods from trading assets set by current global market prices;
 - Considering collaboration between Member States and the relevant stakeholders to generate financial incentives and mechanisms within the energy sector to expand the efforts being made for the consecution of SDG 7, specifically regarding the development of access to energy infrastructures in households of LDCs;
- 8. *Emphasizes* the importance of reframing UN-Energy's status to a program in order to expand its responsibilities focusing on the management of resources, guided and funded by each Member State, in order to asses governments' abilities on the following steps:
 - Evaluating the local and regional needs and capacities of each member state by collecting data concerning the usage of resources in the respective region in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of resource flows;
 - b. Developing and implementing methods and plans of action based on the outcome of the evaluation, to provide efficient solutions that suit each Member State;
 - c. Suggesting Member States to participate in a Green Bond Program by allocating financing support towards constructing sustainable and clean energy infrastructure;
- 9. *Calls upon* all Member States to advocate for an increase in PPP energy projects funded on a global scale through subsidies from the United Nations frameworks and the World Bank by:

a. Inviting Member States to designate priority projects as eligible for funding and submit these projects to the World Bank for approval;

- b. Further reiterating that subsidies can include tax deductions for renewable energy projects;
- c. Strongly urging for an increased number of PPPs in order to further promote sustainable development, energy efficiency and renewable energy;
- d. Welcoming industrialized countries to facilitate knowledge transfer in developing countries by sending domestic companies to such regions;
- 10. Recognizes the need for Member States to have access to affordable, sustainable methods of funding energy development, and encourages Member States to work to secure energy funding through debt swaps, where debt incurred by Member States to establish and improve energy infrastructure could be bought by other Member States, international organizations, and the private sector;
- 11. Endorses a lookback on the debt-restructuring policies to encourage the complete funding of the Green Climate Fund through Debt Swaps to emphasize that energy infrastructure promotes jobs and energy efficiency, increases capacity for developing states, and ensures an equal distribution of energy infrastructure;
- 12. Suggests that Member States promote the installation of sustainable energy methods in ways such as:
 - a. Increasing Official Developmental Aid in LDCs in order to help them get out of debt and start investments in sustainable energy methods;
 - Increase Official Developmental Aid as well as implementing International Monetary Fund policy in LDCs in order to help them get out of debt and start investments in sustainable energy methods;
- 13. Encourages States to lower interest rates on loans given to LDCs that are granted with the purpose of improving sustainable energy infrastructure in order to prevent LDCs from being caught in debt traps that prevent long term sustainable energy access;
- 14. *Recommends* a study be carried out by UN-Energy to evaluate the allocation of international funds for energy infrastructure concerning:
 - a. How funds are currently being distributed between Member States, with a particular focus on the difference of funds between developed and developing Member States;
 - b. Ways that these funds can be better distributed to take into consideration Member States who do not have access to the amount of funding they need.