

Documentation of the work of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) NMUN simulation*



NMUN•NY 2024 Session 1 24 – 28 March 2024

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United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Committee Staff

Director	Ruth Spickermann
Chair	Youssef El Massry

Agenda

- 1. Sustainable Energy for Development
- 2. Improving Gender Equality to Promote Economic Development

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
UNDP/1/1	Sustainable Energy for Development	Adopted without a vote
UNDP/1/2	Sustainable Energy for Development	Adopted without a vote
UNDP/1/3	Sustainable Energy for Development	23 in favor, 4 against, 11 abstentions
UNDP/1/4	Sustainable Energy for Development	25 in favor, 5 against, 8 abstentions
UNDP/1/5	Sustainable Energy for Development	Adopted without a vote
UNDP/1/6	Sustainable Energy for Development	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The United Nations Development Programme held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- 1. Improving Gender Equality to Promote Economic Development
- 2. Sustainable Energy for Development

The session was attended by representatives of 38 Member States and 2 non-governmental organizations.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of 2, 1 beginning the discussion on the topic "Sustainable Energy for Development." By Tuesday, the dais received a total of 6 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics such as education, infrastructure, data-sharing, financing, international collaboration, research and development, and equality. Throughout Monday and Tuesday, the delegates engaged in fruitful discussions, and worked in the spirit of unity and collaboration. In the formal sessions, some of the delegates express their member states foreign policy either by showing their support or criticizing proposals that do not fit their foreign policy, all that while maintaining diplomatic decorum.

On Wednesday, 6 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, one of which had amendments. The committee adopted six resolutions following voting procedure, four of which received unanimous support from the body. The delegates demonstrated exemplary professionalism and mutual respect throughout their interactions; actively engaging in constructive discussions on controversial topics, ultimately achieving consensus and finding common ground.



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Fully aware that indigenous people, ethnic minorities, and all communities that fall under the umbrella of marginalized people,

Deeply concerned that local colonized people are being exploited by large multinational corporations, who continue to perpetuate fossil fuel resources increasing colonized people's reliance on international companies instead of empowering them to manage their own regional assets,

Recognizing that a significant amount of land that has been previously used for fossil fuel exploitation and hydrocarbon infrastructures might be coming from ancestral indigenous land or current native communities,

Cognizant of the lack of reliable data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples identified in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues first and second sessions,

Deeply alarmed that development projects in the energy sector including the installation of infrastructure such as pipelines, and hydroelectric dams, are carried out without consulting or involving indigenous communities, often harming or displacing them in the process,

Taking into consideration that development must be done after basic human-rights-related needs are met and cannot be sustained without a strong foundation,

Drawing attention to the lack of sufficient protection afforded to marginalized groups, focusing on local indigenous peoples,

Reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, the United Nations Energy Program, and the Declaration on Decolonization,

Supporting the legally binding document of the International Labor Organization Convention 169 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention that guarantees the rights of indigenous people,

Noting with concern the lack of agency marginalized groups have in the field of sustainable energy development, especially in the policy design, the implementation of the infrastructures and the projects,

- Recommends Member States to conduct outreach programs with colonized people through anthropology research to facilitate communication over how their energy is obtained and used by consulting and actively involving those communities in any developments before any changes are made to ensure that they have access to the discussions and negotiations process;
- Resolves to provide agency to colonized people to empower their opinion on how to develop their own territory by continuing to act upon the *Declaration on the Granting of Independence to* Colonial Countries and Peoples which was adopted in 1960 in an effort to ensure selfdetermination to previously colonized communities;

- 3. Expresses its conviction to uphold Member States to Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 10 by continuing to hold conversations about the inclusion of colonized people, especially women and children in the future of sustainable energy by expanding on the globalization of databases for foundations, to include the registration of all traditional uses of resources in indigenous lands that can be useful towards sustainable energy development;
- 4. *Encourages* Member States to establish and support committees that include colonized peoples' voices for access to basic energy-efficient solutions which include but are not limited to:
 - a. Inclusion in future legislation regarding sustainable energy in their respective member states through elected representative official(s);
 - b. A guarantee that indigenous people obtain their rights to the renewable resources in their lands by encouraging community service workers to observe and register all infrastructures that are not granted accessible renewable technologies in different areas and institutions:
- 5. *Invites* all Member States to ensure that indigenous communities have their basic human necessities met, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 48/13, before being integrated into sustainable energy projects taking place on their claimed land, paying particular attention to the needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities;
- 6. Respects the territorial integrity and sovereignty of each Member State in the process of giving power back to colonized people while also respecting their diverse cultures, native languages, and ancestral land in the process of implementing sustainable energy infrastructure;
- 7. *Promotes* the engagement of Member States in open conversations with colonized communities, fostering their regional strengths to implement technologies, concerning sustainable energy that they are comfortable using and that actively respect their needs, values, and territories;
- 8. Encourages securing tenure laws over indigenous people's rights over their environmental resources, as well as assuring that there is effective participation in the environmental decision-making processes as well as respecting self-determined goals regarding energy development standards:
- Seeks increased active involvement of colonized peoples in working on the construction and implementation of sustainable energy infrastructures and development, ensuring that they get fair compensations for their work;
- 10. Recommends partnerships with NGOs who have already established relationships with colonized peoples to collect data and dissemination efforts among indigenous groups by providing local organizations with strategic advice, financial support, and technical training as requested.



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Keeping in mind the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) foundational 'whole-of-society' approach to providing holistic, modern, and inclusive solutions for Member States in transforming energy systems through an integrated agenda focused on technological, policy, and financial shifts,

Emphasizing the importance of international dialogue regarding sustainability to foster mutual understanding and international cooperation,

Recognizing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its commitment to combat climate change by increasing efforts toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and limiting global warming to a maximum of 1.5°C by 2030,

Noting the work of the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) for promoting a policy and practice reform around sustainability in the development of renewable energy,

Appreciating the Sustainable Energy Hub which facilitates collaboration between the Member States to increase the initiatives by encouraging summits to share information and resources to implement sustainable energy development,

Acknowledging that there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach to the development of sustainable energy and that appropriate collaboration, including data and technology sharing, is necessary while respecting the sovereignty of each Member State,

Paying tribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015) presenting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with an emphasis on SDG 17, encouraging transnational collaboration among Member States and enhancing sustainable energy development both for Most Developed Countries (MDCs) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

Guided by the principles of SDG 7 and the successful innovations of Member States whose sustainable energy production surpasses the production of nonrenewable fossil fuel energy,

Reaffirming the UNDP Digital Strategy 2022-2025 and the need to increase the inclusion of digital in UNDP programming to leverage the promising potential of digital technologies in sustainable energy development,

Bearing in mind the importance that data tracking, collecting, and sharing tools play in achieving full transparency, and responding to energy demands in the renewable energy sector,

Grateful for the immense potential for regional sustainable energy system development through knowledge-sharing and expert-led guidance in the implementation of new energy-producing plants and subsequent infrastructures,

Aware of regional geopolitical obstacles that make creating and maintaining reliable grid infrastructures a difficulty,

Recognizing the energy challenges faced by conflict zones and refugees and the impact of these challenges on sustainable energy development progress,

Praises funding from Member States and collaborative organizations specifically targeting the energy needs of displaced people and those living in conflict zones to promote inclusivity and mitigate inequality in efforts to develop sustainable energy,

Alarmed how 94% of displaced people residing in temporary camps do not have access to electricity, according to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR),

Seriously concerned by the International Energy Agency (IEA)'s estimate that 80 million kilometers of grid-line infrastructure must be added or replaced by 2040, reflecting a weak link in the formation of stable grids for sustainable energy provision,

Cognizant of the disparity in civil planning and regional planning capacity regarding energy-producing plants and grid-line infrastructure between the Global North and Global South as shown in the *Humanity Divided: Confronting Inequality in Developing Countries report* (2013),

Thankful for the work of the 91 Accelerator Labs co-managed by the UNDP and Member States in using data collection to reassess ground-level situations in real-time to direct efforts and funds efficiently,

- Encourages facilitating transnational technology transfer by expanding existing United Nations Universities (UNU) programs focused on renewable energy sources that draw upon Member States' expertise by:
 - a. Promoting Member States who excel in the usage of a particular renewable energy topic like solar, wind, geothermal, or any other renewable energy power, to share their knowledge;
 - b. Facilitating capacity building to deploy renewable energy sources on an international scale to eventually achieve a just transition to renewable energies;
- Suggests the implementation of online programs in the UNU network to ensure all Member States
 have access to global sustainable energy programs curated by the UNU with the help of leading
 Member States with specialized expertise in sustainable energy fields;
- Encourages increased collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Hub by inviting Member States
 to convene for Sustainable Energy summits and expos to share valuable resources and data in
 implementing sustainable energy development as emphasized in SDG Target 7.3;
- 4. Advocates for transparency and coordination between nearby Accelerator Labs to maximize the effectiveness of operations through joint efforts, ensuring efficient funding, and use of personnel;
- 5. Endorses further financial support from Member States for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to increase the usage of renewable energy sources through:
 - a. Encouraging public-private partnerships to mobilize additional resources for sustainable energy development projects;

- Leveraging innovative financing mechanisms such as green bonds, impact investing, and carbon pricing schemes to attract private sector investment in renewable energy, conservation initiatives, and sustainable infrastructure development;
- 6. *Invites* Member States to adopt a *Holistic Professional Proliferation Plan (HPPP)* to increase the number of qualified professionals who can contribute to sustainable energy development by:
 - Supporting the training of local technicians and engineers, based on existing UNU curricula, in both the deployment and the maintenance of infrastructures surrounding sustainable energy;
 - Encouraging Member States to make full use of a to-be-developed UNDP open-source digital platform to facilitate recognition and recruitment of professionals in the field of renewable energies like solar, hydropower, etc.;
 - Welcoming the expertise of professionals and educators in the field of sustainable energy and imploring them to participate in UNDP technology-sharing initiatives when called upon by Member States;
- Reaffirms the importance of enhancing institutional capacity and establishing governance frameworks in accordance with UNFCC's efforts to combat climate change by aligning national mitigation, adaptation, and resilience strategies with global commitments as done in UNDP's Strengthening Energy Governance Systems framework (2023);
- 8. *Urges* the facilitation of data sharing of best sustainable energy projects to promote informed decision-making across all Member States by:
 - a. Enhancing the establishment of researched data;
 - b. Allocating enough resources to share among Member States;
- 9. *Proposes* the creation of regional digitized platforms, propelled with the help of shared regional data between Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations to coordinate initiatives and maximize the efficiency of sustainable energy projects that impact regional zones;
- 10. Recommends implementing a comprehensive methodology for the creation of annual reports through the *Special Rapporteur* regarding environmental sustainability to enhance consistent transparency and energy security among each Member State by:
 - a. Individually detailing the transition progress for each type of sustainable energy infrastructure and how it affects carbon emissions levels:
 - b. Tracking the interdependencies of sustainable and traditional energy imports and exports between Member States, in the hands of promoting transparency in energy security.



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Keeping in mind the importance of Article 2(7) of the UN Charter to be sustained, allowing for Member State's sovereignty in pursuit of energy production and stability,

Emphasizing that Member-States will adhere to the regulations established by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA),

Expressing Concern that according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA) the global energy demand is projected to rise by 47% by 2050 as compared to 2021, the increase in energy demand can be met by shared energy projects from The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), The Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), East African Federation States (EAF), and The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN),

Cognizant of the grave injustice that there remains 775 Million people without access to electricity, as per the International Energy Agency (IEA), in the year 2022, the vast majority of whom reside in Africa and Asia,

Bearing in mind how 85% of global renewable energy investment catered to less than 50% of the world's population,

Reaffirming the commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States.

Conscious of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 in its commitment to assist people in ensuring they have access to clean and affordable energy,

Observing a lack of financial resources as a major obstacle to successful progress toward the roll-out of clean energy solutions in many developing countries,

Acknowledging the impacts of disproportionate infrastructural investments on marginalized and rural communities identified by the IEA tracking of SDG 7: Energy Progress Report 2023,

Determined to share knowledge concerning renewable energy production as well as technologies to enable the transition to green energy,

Taking into consideration that many of today's developed countries have profited for a long time from access to cheap fossil fuel energy which has contributed substantially to their economic development and prosperity,

Highlighting that the infrastructure should be focused on linking energy-deficient countries with resource-rich countries to find funding with the IMF, World Bank, and the private sector,

Understanding that sanctions pose a threat to the economic functions of the international community by hindering investment in developing nations,

Emphasizes the importance of financing and the improvement of the infrastructure, but also focuses on research on new technologies for power grid infrastructure that facilitates energy transfer between developing nations,

Reaffirms Universal Energy Facility's (UEF) efforts to ensure sustainable energy for Sub-Saharan Africa by providing energy sources such as mini-grids as stand-alone solar power systems which are being implemented by the Africa Minigrids program (AMP),

Concerned by the existence of major reporting discrepancies in climate assistance funds by Member States' described by the 2020 Climate Finance Shadow Report, leading to an increasing inability to accurately measure climate mitigation efforts through sustainable energy,

Seriously concerned by the fact that 94% of the population residing as wards of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) refugee camps lack access to reliable electricity,

Emphasizing the continued implementation of nuclear power on the international scale as an alternative energy resource to improve global electrification and sustainable development, placing significance on the Rosatom state nuclear energy corporations model for use of their capital to facilitate the building of nuclear power plants in developing nations,

Adopting efforts to make current infrastructure more efficient while also building up newer infrastructure for more reliable capabilities,

Remembering the UN's commitment to the recognition of Indigenous rights cited by the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Taking Note of the significant potential for hydropower and solar power in developing regions, especially in the case of African States which according to the IEA have only utilized 11% of their hydropower potential, the UNDP urges the African Union's Economic and Energy Commissions to work jointly to discern the useability of these untapped sustainable resources,

Noting the Climate Finance Shadow Report in relation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a step to ensure accountability and transparency in financing climate goals,

Mindful of the fact that all energy development projects require an immense amount of capital,

- 1. *Emphasizes the importance* of article 2(7) of the UN Charter, permitting Member States to express their sovereignty through:
 - Investing in sustainable and traditional energy sources that maximize local economic development potential, while simultaneously acknowledging the need for plans to scale out harmful and polluting energy sources to achieve SDG 7;
 - b. Utilizing their current energy infrastructure to help reach their development goals and ease the costs of energy transition efforts;
 - c. Nations are called upon to consult and consider all citizens' voices, especially those with Indigenous status, and regardless of economic standing, ethnicity, creed, or sex, states must make all possible efforts to address all concerns when considering and implementing the state's given energy policy;

- 2. Calls upon the Member States to commit to an Electrification Pledge to fully light the globe by the year 2050 by:
 - a. Working through already created regional blocks of Developing Nations such as but not limited to ECOWAS, CEMAC, EAF, and ASEAN to establish International Regional Power Districts that can share energy grids and production among regional grouped states, participation in these regional grids shall be on an opt-in basis;
 - b. Incorporating and using all available energy sources preferring renewable and green sources such as hydroelectric, but also including traditional natural resources, which is important to ensure that energy remains affordable;
 - c. Creating individually supported grids while retaining a regional mindset to maintain a level of interconnectedness to help provide power to each other in case of disruptions;
 - d. Asking that the international community and its global funders look to support large power-producing projects that can support electrical demand in multiple states;
 - e. Urging the integration of UNRWA camps into existing power supply structures when possible and when not create/construct a viable and reliable power system for the camps;
 - f. Bearing in mind that the need for broadband access already exists in the developing world and will only grow with increased access to electricity, all electrification projects should consider the future need of internet when constructing and expanding grids;
- 3. Recommends that to accumulate the necessary funding for energy development projects:
 - Member States and the International Monetary Fund help finance renewable energy infrastructure in states that require outside financial support in building their renewable energy infrastructure, namely through initiatives such as the Just Energy Transition Partnership;
 - Member States prioritize internal funding towards sustainable energy development by advising the creation of national committees dedicated to the managing of domestic funds set aside for sustainable energy development;
 - The World Bank guarantees preferential interest rates for the financing of sustainable energy projects in countries, and strongly encourages governments' national banks to do the same;
 - d. Member States work with developing nations that would benefit most from increased energy production and diversity to implement nuclear energy grids, through financing structures such as those used by ROSATOM;
 - e. Member States are urged to meet the Official Development Assistance or ODA target of at least 0.7% of the GNI;
 - Member States prioritize infrastructural investments in energy projects for rural and marginalized communities to build resilience and increase energy access among the most vulnerable;

- 4. Recommends Member States to review international economic sanctions for aid from donating nations in an effort to increase access to foreign investment for states that are in need of financial and resource support to achieve their goals of sustainable energy for all, by;
 - a. Recommending the reevaluation of international barriers that have stifled the ability of some developing nations to make progress on their sustainable energy projects;
 - b. Fully allowing member states to freely engage in the transfer of sustainable development infrastructure and capital without further stipulations while fully maintaining the regulations based on the IAEA;
- 5. Further improves the regional knowledge-sharing platform within UNDP to include and facilitate the transfer of renewable energy technologies and best practices to countries around the globe, with a focus on capacity building and fostering sustainable development, additionally:
 - a. Hopes to enable all countries to maintain and improve their resilient electricity grid for themselves;
 - Establishes an optional Technical Exchange Program, in which nations can volunteer to send out technical experts in the energy sector to help and teach local counterparts best practices and methods of operation;
 - c. Supports and urges the expansion of bilateral and multilateral agreements between developed and developing nations as it pertains to energy development;
- 6. Encourages the development of education systems in developing Member States through:
 - a. Developing vocational training programs catered towards developing sustainable energy infrastructure and technology;
 - b. Inviting Member States to promote capacity building and skills development in the hydroelectric sector, including training programs for engineers, technicians, and local communities, to ensure effective operation and maintenance of infrastructure;
- 7. Acknowledging the importance of climate project transparency, this highlights:
 - a. New accounting rules and practices are recommended within the 2020 Climate Finance Shadow Report by all donors under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) ensuring that Members Report a full list of their projects and the grant equivalent of their climate finance efforts;
 - b. The need to fully report project value when part of broader initiatives and the estimated value of their actions specifically targeting climate change particularly devoted to LDCs and SIDS, while also reporting how the climate finance value of projects reported are calculated and the terms of any finance that is provided;
- 8. Advocates for the localized efforts that aim to electrify regions that are otherwise too remote to be connected to a national grid system, projects that modernize existing systems to make them more efficient and ecologically friendly initiatives such as:

- Urging the UEF to expand its regional efforts into decentralized energy infrastructure within local and rural communities as it further continues the efforts of the African Minigrid Program (AMP);
- Encouraging Member States with oil and gas-based economies to invest in research and development for carbon sequestration and carbon dioxide injection technology in order to reduce technology costs and mitigate adverse side effects of fossil fuel uses;
- 9. Encourages the Economic and Energy Commissions of Africa to work together to establish an African Solar Energy Upscaling Committee (ASEU) to take advantage of the sun belt region and the African Hydroelectric Energy Exploratory Committee (AHEEC) to examine the feasibility of harnessing the energy of Africa's rivers through:
 - Developing vocational training programs in these regions in order to increase the number of experts working on manufacturing solar-powered technology and hydroelectricpowered energy;
 - b. Supporting funding initiatives to advance research and development efforts in solar energy and hydroelectric energy which would increase efficiency and lower costs;
 - c. Advancing trade agreements to allow for energy export across borders from countries with excess energy;
 - d. Collaborating with other member states and stakeholders to implement joint solar and hydroelectricity energy initiatives;
 - e. Sharing data and information related to solar and hydroelectric energy resources and projects within their respective jurisdictions.



Committee: United Nations Development Program

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, especially SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action) about ensuring access to affordable, sustainable, and energy for all, making cities and communities sustainable and taking urgent action to combat climate change, with the specific focus on target 7.2, seeks to increase the global percentage of renewable energy by ensuring sustainability in the energy sector by 2030,

Underlining the General Assembly Resolution 77/327 which emphasized the value of education, academia, technology, and entrepreneurship to achieve energy sustainability, as well as the importance of investing and international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology,

Recognizing United Nations Framework Classification for Resources' (UNFC) engagement with hydrogen since 2017, which emphasizes low emission of hydrogen as an innovative solution to carbon neutrality,

Applauding the group of experts on renewable energy for their efforts to increase the portion of sustainable energy used in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region,

Recalling the General Assembly Resolution 64/206 emphasized that promotion of the renewable energy including solar-thermal, wind, hydro, and geothermal forms could contribute to the achievement of the global goal, and support the use of renewable and clean energy production,

Noting the General Assembly Resolution 78/157 which recalls that the achievement of SDG 7 ensuring universal affordable and clean energy, requires an urgent and steep rise in energy investment and finance,

Highlighting the General Assembly Resolution 69/231 which notes the importance of foreign direct investment to build and strengthen productive capacity,

Recognizing the Energy Access Theme Report which states that mini-grid and off-grid solar systems are needed to address the international challenge of lack of electricity,

Reaffirming the General Assembly Resolution 78/141 which states that financing and de-risking support is crucial in most developing countries,

Taking in consideration the State of Electricity Access Report 2017 by the World Bank which stated that the transfer of the risk would sharpen incentives to deliver by the result-based financing,

Conscious of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) that promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, advice initiatives related to geo-diversity, geo-heritage, and geohazards risk mitigation,

Approving the Africa Mini Grids Program led by the United Nations Development Programme which provides technical assistance to establish an enabling environment for private investment to expand the mini-grids market,

- Calls upon private and public stakeholders to invest in the research, development, and funding of
 research programs for nuclear fusion by Member States, as a replacement for nuclear fission and
 other forms of energy production as a means to create a long-term alternative and sustainable
 source of energy to reduce waste and pollution. These measures are proposed to ensure an
 eventual transition to sustainable energy;
- Recommends Member States to make the transition from fossil fuel to hydrogen through funding research on making hydrogen-fueled cars safer, the optimization of the cost-profit scheme for businesses, and awareness campaigns on the benefits of hydrogen;
- Welcomes UNDP to introduce result-based financing into its Africa Mini Grids Program to guarantee ensured return to investors and enhance incentives strengthening the information platform between investors and recipient projects in line with UNDP's SDG Investment Platform;
- 4. Invites all Member States to promote inclusivity and mindful consideration of all minorities affected through the organization of workshops that would take place in any willing Member State, sensibilization campaigns on the benefits of sustainable energy for development, and engaging in partnerships with NGOs to facilitate the inclusion of local organizations representing women and marginalized communities in decision-making processes;
- 5. *Encourages* the group of experts on renewable energy to expand into Africa to help harness all viable sustainable energy resources based on their climate, territory, and economic state;
- 6. Suggests UNDP redirect a portion of funds received from the International Monetary Fund to go towards geothermal exploration and installation globally by paving the way for a low-cost operational sector for renewable energy aiding in a just transition and equitable access to energy through:
 - a. Assistance from Member States regarding geothermal knowledge and expertise to Member States in the Americas Region;
 - b. Assistance from Algeria to MENA region and African Member States to help harness their potential geothermal resources;
 - c. Assistance from Sweden to European Member States to improve their geothermal activities;
 - d. Assistance from Japan to Member States in the Pacific region to help leverage their geothermal potential;
- 7. Invites all willing Member States to support an increase of global water energy use through:
 - a. The funding of willing Member States in the global south in building facilities for producing water energy;
 - b. Analyzing differences in the regional profile and possibilities for using water energy by the International Geoscience Programme;
- 8. *Encourages* Member States to prioritize the development of wind energy projects in regions with high wind resources potential through:

- a. Ensuring proper environmental and social impact assessment;
- b. Consultation with local communities to address concerns and mitigate adverse impacts.



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Reaffirming the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 and Agenda 2030, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, and the Plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Acknowledging the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), which focuses on economic growth, environmental sustainability, and the creation of a more sustainable and inclusive society,

Alarmed and concerned that 675 million people lack access to electricity, with 80 % of that population living in Asia and Africa,

Emphasizing that more than 21,000 mini-grids and almost \$200 billion are still required to give 490 million people access to mini-grids by 2030, as mentioned in the Technical Report published by the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program,

Recognizing inadequate capital mobilization, including but not limited to persistent underpricing or excessive losses in developing Member States as a principal financial deterrent in the field of sustainable energy,

Stressing the need for private investments in developing countries as according to the World Bank in 2022 private investments into infrastructure made up approximately 100 billion USD, showing the importance of private investments for developing countries,

Recognizing the disparity in access to modern energy services between developed and developing states, urging the need to bridge this gap,

Recognizing the importance of exchanging best practices of successful clean energy on an international level by sharing knowledge and expertise on successful initiatives within their respective territories,

Reminding that research is at the core of development, support in the form of investment can propel states into achieving sustainable energy for development,

Considering that those who lack access to energy are essentially cut off from the world, and such communities can be stunted in multiple sectors, such as education and health care, and result in a struggling economy,

Noting the fact that the population living in Africa and Asia experiences a deficit in access to electricity, accounting for 75% of the global population, as stated in the Energy Progress Report 2023,

Acknowledging that in addition, 1.4 billion people are expected to have no electricity in 30 years without new policies,

Guided by the successful innovations of countries whose sustainable energy production has surpassed their reliance upon unclean energy sources such as oil, coal, and gaps,

Encouraged by Member States that have resolved their energy crisis to progress towards a renewable energy source that falls in line with SDG 7,

Appreciating the efforts of grassroots initiatives, such as the "Promoting Green Transformation in the Pacific Region towards Net-Zero Emissions and Climate-Resilient Development" generously funded by Member States in collaboration with the UNDP,

Recognizing that decentralized solutions such as mini-grids and stand-alone home systems are the most affordable way to enable over half of the population access to electricity by 2030, according to Sustainable Development Goals 7 according to Data provided by the International Energy Agency,

Supporting the African Minigrid Programme (AMP) implemented by UNDP together with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) with Global Environment Facility (GEF) founding,

Acknowledging the need for increased and ongoing research on sustainable energy solutions significantly to aid vulnerable groups such as refugees, Internationally Displaced Persons (IDP), and migrants,

Acknowledging the worldwide contribution to the struggle for access to energy and its distribution to isolated communities, and the international communities initiatives, such as the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (Mountain Partnership), which focuses on promoting the diversification of resources, knowledge, and skills in mountainous areas,

Welcoming the Strengthening Utility and Promoting Energy Program (SUPER) aiming to improve utility performance, legal and regulatory framework, and strengthen human capital in the field of sustainable energy,

Expressing its satisfaction with Member States with significant exports of natural gas, oil, and other older forms of energy that are still being produced within those Member States,

Deploring the 19% average pay gap between men and women in the energy sector globally, as reported by the World Economic Forum in 2022,

Keeping in mind the conclusions from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization UNIDO and UN Women's "Gender Equality In the Sustainable Energy Transition" report (2023), as well as its framework for promoting gender-responsive investing in the sustainable energy transition,

- Reaffirms its commitment to further extend its partnership with the World Bank and private sectors to mobilize financial resources in support of developing countries to promote mini-grids and off-grid solutions by:
 - a. Supporting the partnership between Member states and the World Bank in the implementation of the World Bank's national electrification strategy;

- b. Promoting UNDP investment tools such as the Sustainable Development Goals investor Map and derisking renewable energy investment framework;
- c. Engaging in partnerships with NGOs to facilitate action by local organizations through strategic advice, financial support, and technical training;
- Recommends Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), especially regional and transnational banks, to scale up green bonds further, allowing Member States to invest and drive forward sustainable projects according to their budgets;
- 3. Welcomes the developing partnerships that Member States are cultivating within the UNDP in which their financial backing is paramount in the continuation of UNDP operations;
- 4. *Proposes* the creation of Green4Green, a debt-for-climate swap initiative that would follow the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund in forgiving portions of debt for developing Member States contingent on funding sustainable energy projects and initiatives;
- 5. *Encouraging* the Member States whose primary source of energy production is renewable energy to review the steps they took in development and consult the UNDP for their development plans;
- 6. Invites developed Member States whose primary source of energy production is renewable energy to enhance their collaboration with developing Member States by offering guidance to Member States in policymaking, technologies, and financial services or offering standard prices determined reasonably for oil and other natural gas resources for sustainability in line with UNDP recommendation to help guide policymaking for Member States whose needs for energy may be resolved;
- 7. Encourages the identification and direction of financial resources towards less developed and small island developing states by leveraging the knowledge on financial resource allocation from Member States with proven successful initiatives;
- 8. *Encourages* consulting cooperations and linkages between developing and developed Member States by:
 - a. Enabling investment partnerships of said countries so that distinctive responsibilities are guaranteed;
 - Advising developing countries in national funding opportunities for local, sustainable energy projects by inviting Non-Governmental Organizations to mediate between civil society and state officials to find, build, and maintain these investment partnerships and funding opportunities;
 - c. Proposing the adjustment of low-interest rates for sustainable energy and infrastructure projects for developing countries, provided by developed Member States;
- 9. Asks the UNDP country offices for the creation of a research program called the Self-Sustaining Emergency Battery Operation (SSEBO), aiming to build an infrastructure that not only acts as an autonomous battery but also can be portable and move with displaced people:

- a. Designating this battery for those living in conflict zones, post-natural disaster, and rural and impoverished areas;
- b. Designing this infrastructure to be used as an energy source for cooking and lighting;
- c. Ensuring the overarching goal to ensure that vulnerable groups have access to a form of energy;
- d. Inviting private funders and willing Member States to fund this project and prioritize the evolution of energy and what that can look like for others;
- 10. *Promotes* the expansion of sustainable energy infrastructure within isolated communities and refugee camps by:
 - Expanding the research database with the Data Future Exchange that would provide information on methods for developing sustainable energy based on geographically isolated areas such as mountainous or desertified areas;
 - Collecting and organizing existing data from all relevant UN databases—as well as applicable national databases of Member States—through web-scraping algorithms to craft case-specific reports to allow Member States with similar characteristics (e.g. geographical, demographic, etc.) to save time and resources in collaborating to share solutions and sticking points;
 - Emphasizing green energy to hard-to-reach populations—such as isolated rural areas, desertified areas, and mountainous regions—and refugee camps to mitigate national inequalities in energy access by creating mini-grids;
- 11. Asks for the strengthening partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the development of research from refugee camps pertaining to the amount of carbon emissions emitted from refugee camps, as well as the different non-sustainable sources used; other forms of research needed to include how the implementation of solar panels and other sustainable forms of energy have offset carbon emissions and did the development of such technology helped refugees;
- 12. Invites Member States to establish the Coalition for Support and Training Assets (COSTA) Member States with the mandate to mobilize expertise, knowledge, and technological resources by:
 - a. Drawing on the expertise of researchers, engineers, information technology experts, and economists from Member States of both developed and developing States to facilitate the transition process towards clean energy;
 - Supporting innovation and knowledge sharing in sustainable energy through exchanging best practices on an international level from Member States that have implemented successful cleaner energy strategies within their respective territories;
 - c. Mandating COSTA to facilitate collaboration between the States and other stakeholders to accelerate the transition towards clean energy;

- d. Calling upon for the inclusion of the Indigenous and ethnic minority communities, all genders and youth in all decision-making processes for sustainable energy development and expertise sharing in Member States;
- 13. Stresses the need for ongoing efforts in creating equality for all within the field of financing solutions for sustainable energy, namely in the consulting cooperations and investment partnerships to develop a gender-inclusive workplace, by:
 - Inviting all global funds to take into consideration biases in energy organizations and prioritize investments in organizations that do not discriminate employees based on intersectional factors including but not limited to gender, age, religion, or nationality;
 - b. Fostering gender-balanced staffing and representation of women in managerial positions and highlighting the role of women in external communication;
 - c. Safeguarding women in working fields acting upon sustainable energy solutions through a zero-tolerance policy on sexual harassment and violence prevention through internationally agreed-upon guidelines and ensuring the objective review through an implementation of an open communication channel dedicated to women as their safe space to issue gender-based challenges within the workplace;
 - d. Asking the AMP to add "female empowerment through equal access to energy" as a fourth key area of opportunity and acting on it through gender-sensitive methods;
 - e. Recommending the Global Environment Fund to focus their procurement of funds on organizations where the share of women in the workforce amounts to at least 40 percent or are led by women;
- 14. Recalls ongoing international efforts for Gender-Based Analysis as data gathering method of women working on approaches for sustainable energy for development to add information to an international gender-sensitive data hub through:
 - a. Recognizing existing challenges within already done approaches on financing for energy for sustainable development;
 - Reducing identified challenges in upcoming approaches for financing energy for sustainable development to create an overall inclusive, gender-sensitive, and genderequal environment;
 - c. Redistributing female-dominated responsibilities such as housekeeping and care work to engage them in the process and the design of financing solutions for sustainable energy;
 - d. Responding to female needs within the workplace, such as childcare, to install equal working opportunities.



Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Sustainable Energy for Development

The United Nations Development Programme,

Seeking to educate people of all Member States on how the benefits and implementation of hydro, solar, and wind energy sources promote development and work towards meeting the sustainable development goals (SDGs) related to sustainable development and energy,

Emphasizing the importance of investing in healthcare infrastructure and training healthcare workers in conflict-stricken areas is vital for addressing prevalent health challenges worsened by the lack of energy resources, which includes combating waterborne diseases, air pollution-related illnesses, improving access to clean and sanitary facilities, and ensuring sustainable energy solutions which support healthier communities,

Cognizant of the need to establish reliable sources of finance as well as ensuring that local populations are both involved and the primary beneficiaries of investments in energy initiatives as exemplified within the Sustainable Energy For All Initiative (2014) with a particular focus on rural and marginalized communities, as well as the utilization of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI),

Bearing in mind the need for early childhood education while preserving cultural customs and practices in light of SDG 4, which focuses on quality education through inclusive and equitable practices, the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education, and following Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stating education as a fundamental right,

Emphasizing helping local communities with sustainable projects by supporting local suppliers, gradually guiding them towards less raw materials and energy consumption while using renewable sources for energy production,

Affirming the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) policies, stressing the need to incorporate new policies for development in existing training programs to advance SDG 7,

Reiterating the importance of the Agenda 2030, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women,

Discussing the role of international partnerships and collaboration in facilitating the global transition to sustainable energy systems, including technology transfer, capacity building, and financial support,

Acknowledging the importance of including women working in fields of sustainable energy development in honor of SDG 5, which emphasizes gender equality by empowering women and girls,

Recalling the considerable amount of subsidies currently granted to fossil fuel companies, which perpetuates reliance on non-renewable energy sources,

Stressing the need to address energy poverty and ensure universal access to clean and sustainable energy services, especially in developing countries,

Acknowledging the historic disparities among States in the use of sustainable energy production sources compared to unclean energy sources,

Emphasizing the global nature of the endeavor for sustainable development and the limited capacity of some Member States to contribute funds,

Noting with gratitude the Asian Development Bank for promoting the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program,

Appreciating Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights to guarantee the right to education for all,

Mindful of the link UNICEF has drawn between education and energy within Policy Brief 4: Energy And SDG 4 Quality Education (2019),

Recognizing the importance of information sharing among fellow Member States regarding the most sustainable development practices,

Noting with concerns that about 14 percent of households in indigenous reservations lack electricity access,

- 1. Further recommends the implementation of sustainable energy curricula led by member-states with support of the UNDP into member-state education programs to increase public knowledge on the benefits and uses of sustainable energy sources, specifically hydro, solar, and wind, to promote global development and sustainable development goals 7, 11, 12, and 13 through:
 - a. Providing educational workshops and information sessions for students ranging from primary schools to secondary schools, as well as higher institutions of learning;
 - Implementing green-go projects to foster hands-on, in-depth understanding of class and workshop materials, such as encouraging communal gardens and formation of interactive websites dedicated to methods of sustainable development (tree-planting, communal clean-ups, volunteer work);
 - Encouraging inclusivity in programs for minorities and youth that avail leadership roles in entrepreneurship opportunities to promote advocacy for the usage of more clean energy in several institutions;
- 2. Recommends Member States to accelerate the transition to an affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy system by investing in renewable sources, prioritizing energy efficient practices, and adopting clean energy technologies and infrastructures while encouraging Member States in their participation in Sustainable Development conferences to spread awareness on sustainability by:
 - a. Building International partnerships with sustainable energy-focused organizations that could provide support with funding for developing countries that are working towards

sustainable energy;

- Having programs that support Scaling Up Renewable Energy (SURE) which helps partner countries meet bold international climate commitments by continuing their transition to more widely accessible, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy that spurs inclusive economic growth and reduces emissions;
- c. Expanding on existing partnerships with the World Bank regarding funding;
- 3. *Encourages* Member States to create initiatives that incentivize private organizations such as businesses, donors, and for-profit parties to contribute to the funding of the various programs that are aimed towards SDGs 4, 7, and 12;
- 4. *Emphasizes* the importance of including NGO education material that is inclusive of indigenous people's cultural traditions and values regarding the topic of sustainable energy and their lack of access to resources and exceptionally reliable energy:
 - a. Recognizing and respecting indigenous knowledge systems and practices related to sustainable energy;
 - b. Highlighting the impacts of energy poverty and lack of access to reliable energy on indigenous communities;
- 5. Requests the implementation of a comprehensive educational initiative to raise awareness about clean and sustainable energy solutions that will help this program target the local communities and provide them with the knowledge and skills necessary to transition to renewable energy sources by:
 - a. Providing information on various clean energy technologies and their benefits, including solar, wind, biomass, and hydroelectric power;
 - b. Looking to open a conversation on this issue to understand how unreliable energy practices affect their everyday life and what their needs are;
 - Collaborating with community centers, local government officials, local non-profit
 organizations, and local businesses to maximize the academic program's reach and
 impact;
- 6. Further requests the creation of the International Economic Cooperation Program to promote cooperation by implementing information and communication technology (ICT) with the usage of technologies powered by renewable energy and the development of more technologies created with wind and solar power by implementing training programs on how youth, minorities, locals, and all international communities use this technology;
- 7. Encourages Member States to undertake partnerships with an extensive range of sustainable energy specialists that could provide them with technical advice, support, and assistance towards an effective energy transition from fossil fuels to sustainable energy:

- a. Fostering international collaboration, innovation, research, and knowledge-sharing towards an eventual energy transition;
- Establishing programs from developed countries to educate and train the local population of developing countries to make them able to maintain their energy infrastructure to ensure they have and keep a resilient energy system;
- c. Harnessing the collective expertise of researchers, engineers, architects, lawyers, scientists, the private sector or other experts;
- d. Aligning the advice given with their national and international politics and adapt to their regional needs and assets;
- e. Establishing centers strategically located around the world to provide customized advice tailored to the specific needs of each nation;
- 8. Recommends the development of local investment and finance plans that ensure locally-beneficial arrangements while also working through the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) to explore private investment-financing solutions:
 - a. Encouraging NGOs to collaborate with youth and provide funding for youth initiatives;
 - b. Recommend member states to eliminate their financial burden regarding sustainable energy programs and practices;
- Further Recommends the establishment of a Renewable Initiative for Collaborative Action (RICA), which aims to encourage Member States to redirect fossil fuel subsidies towards the development of sustainable energy infrastructures, which would assist Member States financially while reducing the funding and promotion of hydrocarbons;
- 10. *Expresses support* for inclusivity and representation for women in the field of renewable energy development by:
 - Establishing partnerships between educational institutions and local governments or businesses to provide internships or practical learning experiences for students in the field of renewable energy;
 - b. Creating attainable pathways for women from underprivileged backgrounds to enter these fields;
 - Introducing classes that are well-resourced, culturally sensitive, and respectful of heritage
 that is focused on literacy and science to make children well aware of ideas like
 sustainability and conservation from an early age;
 - d. Monitoring the representation of women in the field of sustainable development through Gender-Based Analysis (GBA), which collects and gathers statistical information on females in the workforce within the already existing GBA informational hub, so that reliable data on female representation and inclusivity can be obtained of all Member States;

- 11. *Encourages* the creation of a United Nations global sustainable energy transition database to enable countries to share educational content and promote educational trends among each other;
- 12. Establishing standardized formats for data sharing to enhance interoperability and accessibility;
- 13. *Supporting* capacity-building initiatives to empower countries, particularly those with limited resources, to utilize the database effectively for educational purposes;
 - a. Providing technical assistance and training programs to enhance countries' data management and analysis capabilities;
 - b. Establishing partnerships with international organizations and academic institutions to offer expertise and resources for capacity-building efforts;
 - c. Offering specialized training and technical assistance programs tailored to the specific needs and challenges faced by countries lacking electricity access aimed at equipping them with the necessary skills and resources to utilize the database efficiently despite infrastructural limitations because, as of 2021, 43% of Africans lacked access to electricity, with 590 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa according to the International Energy Agency.