

CODE: UN-HABITAT/RES/1/2
COMMITTEE: United Nations Human Settlements Programme
TOPIC: Expanding Sustainable Energy Sources and Consumption in Developing Areas

1 *The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),*
2
3 *Realizing* the United Nations (UN) was founded for the purpose of fostering global
4 communication and that the sharing of scientific information is to the benefit of humanity,
5
6 *Realizing* that UN-Habitat was founded to pursue humanitarian development through
7 international cooperation on housing and habitation,
8
9 *Recognizing* that taking preventative action in regards to sustainable development provides long-
10 term cost benefits,
11
12 *Fully aware of* the necessity of reducing the global carbon footprint and dependency on fossil
13 fuel-based development in order to maintain global environmental wellbeing,
14
15 *Highlighting* the foremost role of reliable energy sources in enactment of effective development
16 policy,
17
18 *Reaffirming* that “sustainable energy” refers to sources that can meet the energy demands
19 of populations today without compromising the resources available to energy needs in the
20 future,
21
22 *Seeing* that wind currents and solar radiation are distributed across state borders and that
23 mapping such energy sources is optimized on a regional level,
24
25 *Cognizant of* the multivariate energy needs of Member States, including the differing demands
26 concerning urban infrastructure, rural access, and climate particularities,
27
28 *Taking note* of the increased involvement of sustainable action groups in advocacy for
29 sustainable construction practices and building standards;
30
31 *Emphasizing further* the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable,
32 socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable
33 development,
34
35 *Confident in* the instrumental role of incentives in public-private partnerships regarding the
36 development of sustainable energy solutions,
37
38 *Expressing* appreciation of the role of North-South and South-South cooperation mechanisms in
39 realizing sustainable development,
40
41 *Recognizing* the significant contribution of the parties to the United Nations Economic
42 Commission for Europe toward financing development of European sustainable energy sources,

43
44 *Applauding* the work of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on mapping
45 sustainable energy sources on a state-by-state basis and on its continuing mission to promote the
46 adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy,
47
48 *Aware of* the need for increased high-level international collaboration and commitment when
49 conducting cooperative projects to develop renewable energy resources,
50
51 *Reaffirming* the need to take more substantive action to mobilize the provision of adequate
52 financial resources of sufficient quality to arrive in an expedient manner,
53
54 *Recognizing* the role of Member State governments in the success of efforts of the Carbon
55 Sequestration Leadership Forum and the Experts Group on Clean Fossil Energy in developing
56 creative solutions to mitigate the effects of fossil fuels,
57
58 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 41/128 which recognizes the inalienable right to
59 development and sovereignty over wealth and natural resources,
60
61 *Realizing* that higher levels of energy consumption in developing areas occur through industrial
62 and commercial activities, and noting that sustainable development will be a globally beneficial
63 investment in promoting economic development and lessening environmental damage in
64 developing areas,
65
66 *Taking note with appreciation* the success of the Asia Regional Cooperation Projects, especially
67 the China-Japan-Korea low-carbon symposium, which highlight the possibilities of addressing
68 the issues of reducing carbon emissions in regional areas,
69
70 *Recognizing* the importance of fora for discussion and research to foster collaboration, such as
71 those initiated by the UN Economic Commission for Europe in its Convention on Environmental
72 Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,
73
74 *Appreciating* the consistent and detailed analytical reporting produced by the International
75 Atomic and Energy Agency (IAEA) in regards to international energy development patterns and
76 introducing the strategic facet of capacity into the discourse on energy policy,
77
78 *Noting with appreciation* the work done by the United Nations Development Programme
79 (UNDP) in providing options for Member States to access the necessary resources required to
80 maintain a standard of living closer to the targeted Sustainable Development Goals,
81
82 *Appreciating* the efforts taken by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in
83 assisting the international political economy's transition into a more sustainable economy for the
84 future,
85
86 *Strongly supporting* the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) in
87 how it has focused on environmental and social concerns and made neutral reports regarding
88 energy potential in regions,

89

90 *Emphasizing* UN-Habitat’s Plan of Action for 2014-2019 in its efforts to counteract the negative
91 impacts of concentrated urban populations that suffer from a lack of renewable energy while
92 lacking adequate income to consume modern energy being generated,

93

94 *Noting with appreciation* past collaborative efforts to develop sustainable energy options for both
95 developed and developing countries, as described by General Assembly (GA) resolution 67/263
96 and the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development outcome document entitled “The
97 Future We Want,” which calls for the creation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

98

99 *Affirming* the importance of SDG 7, which strives to ensure access to affordable, reliable,
100 sustainable and modern energy for all, and SDG 7.2, which refers to increasing substantially the
101 share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, not only to combat climate change but also
102 to pursue energy security for MemberStates, and foreseeing the need for regional cooperation to
103 achieve this SDG by 2030,

104

105 *Recalling* GA resolution 65/151 of 20 December 2010, by which the Assembly designated 2012
106 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, and mindful of the subsequent launch by
107 the Secretary-General of his initiative, “Sustainable Energy for All”, which highlight the
108 international community’s commitment to advancing sustainable energy technologies,

109

110 *Recalling* GA resolution 67/215, which is in regards to the lack of access to energy and
111 sustainable modern energy services as an important factor that directly corroborates with social
112 efforts, specifically targeting issues of equity and economic concerns,

113

114 *Recalling also* that GA resolution 58/210 emphasizes that the world solar program of 2005 is
115 aimed at encompassing all forms of new and renewable energy including; solar, thermal,
116 photovoltaic, biomass, wind, hydro, tidal, ocean, and geothermal forms,

117

118 *Emphasizing* GA resolution 65/151, which highlights the importance of investing in access to
119 cleaner energy technology options and a climate-resilient future for all,

120

121 *Affirming* GA resolution 66/288 which highlights the central role of technological cooperation
122 for the achievement of sustainable development and requested relevant UN agencies to identify
123 options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the maturation, transfer and usage of pertinent
124 technology,

125

126 *Recalling* GA resolution 64/206 which highlights that each Member State must take primary
127 responsibility for its own development,

128

129 *Noting* the work 3TIER has done as a global organization that provides energy risk analysis, data
130 assessment, and forecasting for renewable energy projects,

131

132 *Emphasizing further* DESERTEC’s role in the international community as a group that assesses
133 regional sustainable energy potential,

134

135 *Recognizing* the success of World Bank Green Bonds, providing an avenue for fixed income
136 investors to invest in eligible projects that seek to mitigate climate concerns and parties effected
137 since 2008, raising significant funds resulting in Green Bonds through 78 transactions in 18
138 currencies,

139
140 *Further recognizing* the World Bank’s Energy Sector Management Assistance Program
141 (ESMAP) as an effective way to reform energy policy and structure further and future budgeting,
142

143 *Recalling* one of the objectives of UN-Habitat which is to promote, for effective national
144 evaluation plans and activities, greater international cooperation in order to increase the
145 availability of resources to all developing countries, as established in Paragraph 222 Section D in
146 the Habitat Agenda laid out at the City Summit in Istanbul of June 1996,
147

148 *Affirming* UN-Habitat’s 2013 Global Report on Human Settlements statement that Member
149 States become more likely to use non-renewable methods for city expansion and urban
150 development when accommodating the population boom in urban areas,
151

152 *Reaffirming* the need for UN-Habitat to follow through in its commitment in Resolution
153 24/10, “Urbanization and Sustainable Urban Development in the Post-2015 Development
154 Agenda,”
155

- 156 1. *Recommends* that Member States analyze the following facets in approaching sustainable
157 energy policies and strategies as focal points:
 - 158 a. Observing Equity as a theme to target the social and economic barriers to sustainable
159 energy confronting the inequities both internationally and domestically to reduce global
160 disparity;
 - 161 b. Regarding Capacity as a regional and domestic criterion in making targets and
162 recommendations, using analytical reports and studies from the IAEA, (UNDP (UNEP)
163 and other data collecting institutions in order to consider differences in energy potential
164 and internal geographical distinctions;
 - 165 c. Noting the significance of Environmental factors such as issues regarding land protection,
166 climate change, air quality, water quality, soil quality, and waste management;
 - 167 d. And, recognizing Economic interconnectivity by performing due diligence in the
168 assessment of energy use and productivity, diversification of energy sources, and factors
169 affecting economic security such as import dependency and strategized fuel stockpiling;
170
- 171 2. *Recommends* that the World Bank assist in the funding of capacity development in Member
172 States to produce renewable energy, who meet the aforementioned criteria, noting that the
173 World Bank’s ESMAP focuses on the following six topics: procurement, financing,
174 buildings, transport, assessments, and urban planning, for the Member States that have
175 agreed upon this criteria but is not limited to such;
176
- 177 3. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, in consultation with the Committee of
178 Permanent Representatives, to produce a report with recommendations on sustainable energy
179 sources in developing areas, including the need and feasibility of the establishment of a high
180 level political forum on regional sustainable energy development collaboration and exchange

- 181 modeled on the meeting in Geneva in June 2014 of the parties to the United Nations
182 Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Environmental Impact
183 Assessment in a Transboundary Context;
184
- 185 4. *Encourages* Member States to develop a regulatory framework to oversee usage and
186 implementation of funds to develop sustainable energy sectors, based on the criteria outlined
187 as:
- 188 a. The collaboration with and through the UNEP to assist in the budgetary structure of the
189 sustainable financing of Renewable Energy Technology to meet the following criteria,
190 recognizing that a portion of necessary financing will come through UNEP's budget to
191 meet the specific needs of the Member State in question;
 - 192 b. Adopting a regulatory framework within each Member State aimed at overseeing the
193 development of sustainable and renewable resources, and allow for the oversight of such
194 development by the UNEP's various regionalized programs who will, through their
195 mandate, monitor institutions aimed at the conscientious management of the
196 environment, and who will periodically report to UN-Habitat on its findings;
 - 197 c. Committing to participate in educational programs and strategic summits organized by
198 UNEP and in collaboration with IRENA, to discuss the development of renewable
199 resources and ways in which to implement such development per regional factors;
 - 200 d. Provision of funds to train and educate local citizens in the implementation and upkeep of
201 sustainable energy initiatives;
 - 202 e. Incentivization of outside funding through the development of an effective renewable
203 energy infrastructure, through the adoption of the above criteria, and through the
204 acceptance of distributed funds,
205
- 206 5. *Expects* the increased participation of Member States concerning the development of
207 International Grid Interconnection by, *inter alia*:
- 208 a. Assessing economic, legal, regulatory, social, and environmental factors unique to areas
209 to benefit from the international grid interconnection;
 - 210 b. Providing training, analytical and tactical support for construction and maintenance of
211 energy grids in urban areas with the long-term goal of broadening to rural areas;
 - 212 c. Sustaining information-sharing mechanisms among areas to increase transparency
213 initiatives;
214
- 215 6. *Encourages* logistic and financial cooperation with organizations such as the IRENA, which
216 currently maps various energy possibilities and has functions at the global, regional, and
217 national levels, to pursue the mapping of wind currents and solar radiation on a multi-state
218 and regional basis;
219
- 220 7. *Emphasizes* the diverse resource needs of developing Member States that necessitate
221 attention to both regional and national sustainable energy production capabilities to create
222 appropriate urban development measures by:
- 223 a. Meeting benchmarks for the share of sustainable energy of national energy consumption
224 such that Member States achieve at least:
 - 225 i. 1 percent by 2020;
 - 226 ii. 4 percent by 2025;

- 227 iii. 7 percent by 2030;
- 228 b. Recommending that Member States that have reached such targets continue to invest in
- 229 sustainable energy;
- 230 c. Requesting that IRENA verify national statistics on sustainable energy use;
- 231
- 232 8. *Draws attention to* the benefits of liberalization of domestic energy production and
- 233 incentivizing the production of sustainable domestic energy via, *inter alia*:
- 234 a. Encouraging establishment of small power producers, defined as private enterprises that
- 235 generate electricity from traditional or nontraditional sources, disallowed from direct
- 236 retail energy sales or distribution;
- 237 b. Mandating major public utility authorities to fulfill specified purchase quotas of
- 238 domestically-produced energy from small power programs, with a goal of 30 percent of
- 239 total public energy purchases from domestic small power producers by 2030;
- 240 c. Fostering entrepreneurial ingenuity by incentivizing private small power production of
- 241 non-traditional sources such as wind, solar, and mini-hydro energy;
- 242
- 243 9. *Suggests* the implementation of financial incentives in Member States, for the purpose of
- 244 alleviating the economic barriers to adopting sustainable energy sources and innovation in
- 245 the field of renewable energy by:
- 246 a. Providing tax exemptions for energy producers and retailers to pursue more sustainable
- 247 energy sources as part of their regular supply;
- 248 b. Providing subsidies and establishing private-public partnerships with the technology
- 249 sector to pursue more renewable energy innovation;
- 250
- 251 10. *Further recommends* industries and commercial organizations to enforce stricter high energy
- 252 efficiency standards to curtail excessive consumption of energy;
- 253
- 254 11. *Invites* Member States to collaborate with the UN-Habitat, with the purpose of identifying
- 255 complementary resource potential, to identify for each Member State the:
- 256 a. Feasibility to establish small power solicitation programs to increase domestic energy
- 257 production from:
- 258 i. Non-traditional sources such as wind, solar, and mini-hydro energy;
- 259 ii. The Small Power Producers program for major energy and utility authorities;
- 260 b. Current and future urban energy consumption needs;
- 261 c. Potential renewable energy resources, including but not limited to regions with high:
- 262 i. Photovoltaic resource potential;
- 263 ii. Wind speed and power potential;
- 264 iii. Hydroelectric power production potential;
- 265
- 266 12. *Urging* Member States to promote the use of small scale wind turbines in residential areas to
- 267 improve the share of sustainable energy within Member States;
- 268
- 269 13. *Endorses* the expansion of North-South and South-South city twinning initiatives, as well as
- 270 other urban partnerships such as urban transnational networks and trans-local strategies to
- 271 include:

- 272 a. Building more mutually beneficial conditions that foster enhanced solidarity and
273 partnership;
- 274 b. Increasing the visibility of these twinning arrangements as models to spread international
275 awareness;
- 276
- 277 14. *Supports* regional cooperation with civil society organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders
278 to implement effective accountability mechanisms by:
- 279 a. Expanding both regional and information-sharing mechanisms and internal reporting
280 frameworks to include quantitative assessments of energy trends and a groundwork for
281 the sharing of best practices;
- 282 b. Encouraging the development of anti-corruption legislation pertaining to resource
283 allocation for sustainable energy solutions in both urban and rural areas;
- 284
- 285 15. *Encourages* UN-Habitat's Executive Director's office to coordinate with local environmental
286 conferences in the promotion of community involvement to provide:
- 287 a. Authoritative assistance Personnel for local committee conversations on the topics of
288 energy sustainability in UN-Habitat's projects and the Habitat III conference;
- 289 b. Aid in the creation of sustainable action groups in the local communities of the
290 conference by providing support and assistance to leaders of UN-Habitat projects;
- 291 c. Relevant data and research from the International Bodies, IAEA, IRENA, ESMAP, to
292 assist in the local efforts within the specified communities in the region;
- 293
- 294 16. *Expresses its hope for* the implementation of sustainable systems of urban transport that de-
295 emphasize vehicular reliance on fossil fuels by:
- 296 a. Increasing accessibility of public transport in urban areas by implementing programs to
297 target specific demographics , with an emphasis on renewable energy sources, such as
298 hydrogen fuel cells, electric and solar power, depending upon the particular Member
299 State's current infrastructure and energy capacity, as determined by IRENA and the
300 ESMAP;
- 301 b. Encouraging funding from public sector organizations, including the UNDP;
- 302 c. Suggesting the inclusion of such renewable resource technology within the emergency
303 services of the Member State in question;
- 304
- 305 17. *Encourages* Member States to focus on ensuring that developing urban areas with higher
306 energy consumption rates are prioritized in transitioning toward sustainable energy resources;
- 307
- 308 18. *Recommends* industries to uphold sustainable practices by investing in energy-efficient
309 approaches in order to reduce the environmental damage in developing areas by recycling
310 materials in industrial activities to reduce their carbon footprint;
- 311
- 312 19. *Endorses* the efforts with Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum and the Experts Group on
313 Clean Fossil Energy in producing clean efficient energy;
- 314
- 315 20. *Supports* the creation of research and technological collaboration workshops for Member
316 State government officials at local and municipal levels to be led by UN-Habitat that focus
317 on energy efficiency, climate change, and resource technology cooperation projects;

318

319 21. *Recommends further* that Member States continue to consider and examine public opinion
320 regarding potential policy measures and current energy legislation to ensure that policy
321 measures regarding sustainable energy development are ethically introduced, and
322 legitimately enforced;

323

324 22. *Calls upon* all Member States to respect each Member States' development priorities on the
325 basis of their respective development statuses.