

Fifteenth session of the IRENA Assembly and Related meetings

11 January 2025 (Pre-Assembly Day)
12 to 13 January 2025 (15th IRENA Assembly)
St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Executive Overview

Updated 12 December 2024

Message from the Director-General of IRENA

It is my honour and great pleasure to welcome you to the fifteenth session of the IRENA Assembly which will take place on 12 and 13 January 2025, and related meetings which will be held on 11 January 2025.

As the supreme decision-making organ of IRENA, the Assembly, comprising 170 [Members](#), has been recognised as a strategic global platform for inclusive and diverse discussions on all facets of the energy transition.

Convening shortly after the conclusion of COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, the Assembly will provide a timely opportunity to build upon the momentum generated and address the critical role of renewable energy in global climate action.

Discussions at the fifteenth session of the Assembly will revolve around the theme ‘Accelerating the Renewable Energy Transition – The Way Forward’, with a focus on energy security, socio-economic development and financing options.

This Executive Overview has been prepared to assist participants in navigating the Assembly and its related meetings, and in identifying unique opportunities to engage in topics of interest and relevance.

I look forward to welcoming you to the fifteenth session of the Assembly in Abu Dhabi.

Francesco La Camera

Plenary Sessions and Ministerial Roundtables

Opening of the Assembly session – 5th World Energy Transition Day

12 January 2025, 10:00 to 10:30, Plenary Hall

The opening of the 15th session of the IRENA Assembly will take place on 12 January 2025 at 10:00 GST, with High-level statements including by the Presidency of the Assembly, the Host Country, the Director-General as well as by other high-level guests.

High-level Panel on Accelerating the Energy Transition – The Way Forward

12 January 2025, 10:30 to 13:00, Plenary Hall ([Background note](#))

The UAE Consensus marked a critical turning point by identifying an ambitious but achievable set of actions for keeping the 1.5°C target within reach. Yet, capacity additions for all renewable technologies are well below the required level to meet the tripling target, and energy efficiency improvements are similarly off track. Geographic deployment of renewables remains highly uneven, indicating that investments are not targeting the countries in greatest need. Significant challenges and barriers remain that must be urgently addressed if the tripling goal is to be achieved by the 2030 deadline, which calls for urgent action by policymakers and stakeholders.

This High-level Panel will feature in-depth discussions on ‘REthinking Energy Geopolitics to accelerate the transition’, and ‘Moving from Global to Regional – Opportunities for Accelerated Action to 3X’. Discussions will include reflections and visions for charting the way forward in accelerating the energy transition in light of the UAE Consensus, including multidimensional challenges in accelerating the energy transition, and the opportunities to drive prosperity and energy security. There will also be a focus on the importance of macro-economic planning, private finance, and international co-operation to scale up finance from a regional perspective. Special focus will be placed on the different circumstances, needs and priorities of countries and regions.

Annual Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025

12 January 2025, 14:30 to 16:00, Plenary Hall

The Director-General will present the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025, which has been updated to reflect developments since the twenty-eighth meeting of the Council, for adoption by the Assembly.



Following the Director-General’s presentation, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

General Member Statements

12 January 2025, 16:00 to 18:00, Plenary Hall ([Template for written statements](#))

Delegations wishing to share their national statements on experiences, priority actions and challenges related to the deployment of renewable energy, and exchange views on issues related to the energy transition in the coming decade and beyond, are invited to **register in the Speakers List** by sending a request noting the name and the title of the speaker to Assembly@irena.org, indicating in the subject line “IRENA 15th Assembly: Speakers List”. The requests will be considered observing international protocol precedence and the principle of “first come, first served”.

A preliminary Speakers List based on requests received will be circulated prior to the opening of the 15th session of the Assembly. Delegations are also invited to **submit written statements** to the Secretariat in advance of delivery. A template for written statements is available at this [link](#).

Full official written statements will be made available to the Membership on the [REmember Portal](#) and included as part of the official records of the session.

Ministerial Roundtable on Accelerating Africa's Energy Transition and Green Industrialisation Agenda

12 January 2025, 14:45 to 16:15, Room A2 ([Background note](#))

Launched at COP28 and rooted in the Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call for Action, the Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA) is an African country-led international partnership which brings together governments and stakeholders working to accelerate the deployment of renewables to enhance energy access, enable green industrialisation, and improve economic and societal resilience.

This Ministerial Roundtable will take stock of APRA's implementation a year after its launch, and present key outputs from its national consultative processes and project facilitation engagements. It will also provide a platform for outlining the national priorities of APRA countries, and for raising interest and support from potential partners to contribute to the achievement of APRA's objectives. Within this context, High-level representatives from APRA countries and global stakeholders will discuss how collective action can amplify individual efforts.



Delegations are requested to confirm the intervention of their Minister or Head of Delegation at the Ministerial Roundtable by sending in their request to the Secretariat at Assembly@irena.org, indicating in the subject line “IRENA 15th Assembly: Ministerial Roundtable - APRA”.

Ministerial Roundtable on Scaling up Finance to Support the Energy Transition in Emerging Markets and Developing Economies

12 January 2025, 16:30 to 18:00, Room A2 ([Background note](#))

While energy transition investments have significantly increased globally, half of the world's population – living in more than 150 EMDEs outside Brazil, China and India, and representing one-third of global GDP – received just 10% of the world's energy transition investments, with Africa receiving less than 1%. Moreover, most of these investments are in the form of market rate loans, which add to the debt distress of EMDEs. These challenges require urgent political leadership to unlock the trillions needed to close the finance gap.

This Ministerial Roundtable will serve as a platform for discussing gaps in the current financing architecture to mobilise support from developed to developing countries, and the reforms needed for a just energy transition in light of the UAE Consensus and the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance. It will further identify policy reform and technical assistance partnerships to create an enabling environment and build institutional capacity in the energy and finance sectors, and explore how to strengthen private investor offers to derisk investments and attract capital.



Delegations are requested to confirm the intervention of their Minister or Head of Delegation at the Ministerial Roundtable by sending in their request to the Secretariat at Assembly@irena.org, indicating in the subject line “IRENA 15th Assembly: Ministerial Roundtable on Scaling up Finance in EMDEs”.

High-level Panel on Energy Transition Pathways in Emerging Economies

13 January 2025, 10:00 to 11:30, Plenary Hall ([Background note](#))

WETO 2024 indicates that global investments in energy transition technologies exceeded USD 2 trillion in 2023, setting a record. Industrialised economies accounted for 40% of these energy transition investments, totalling USD 800 billion. Meanwhile, emerging markets received 45% of global investments of around USD 900 billion, with the majority directed toward China, India, and Brazil. Due to projected levels of sustained energy demand increases in emerging economies during the period to 2050 and in particular in this decade to 2030, the role of emerging economies is pivotal for the success of the global energy transition to stay on track with the net zero ambitions.

This High-Level Panel will serve as a platform for discussions on accelerating the energy transition in emerging economies in this critical decade to 2030. High-level representatives from emerging economies will discuss their net zero pathways, energy transition strategies and plans for implementing the UAE Consensus and outcomes of the Global Stocktake. The emphasis will be on immediate acceleration of the energy transition and necessary technological, financial, and policy decisions. Countries actively engaged in South-South cooperation also have the opportunity to present lessons from international co-operation with other emerging economies.



Following the panel discussions, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

High-level Dialogue on Tripling Impact in Small Island Developing States: Accelerating Renewables, Climate Resilience and Sustainable Development

13 January 2025, 11:30 to 13:00, Plenary Hall ([Background note](#))

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have long recognised the transformative potential of renewables in advancing climate action and sustainable development. Whilst they have proven themselves to be the global voice in promoting the use of renewables, only 8.7 GW of total renewables installed capacity was achieved by the end of 2023. Accelerating efforts to fast track capacity deployment aligned with the COP28 global commitment for tripling renewables by 2030 will contribute to strengthening SIDS' resilience to climate change, which is not a distant threat but an immediate reality. This reality reinforces the urgency for SIDS to transition to renewable energy as a means of staying on the course toward resilient prosperity.

This High-level Dialogue will highlight the energy transition priorities of SIDS as outlined in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) and as well as at other energy and climate fora, including insights provided at the 27th IRENA Council meeting and COP29. It will focus on resources and strategies needed to scale up renewables-driven energy transitions in SIDS aligned with the Tripling Renewables goal to strengthen climate resilience, sustainability, and achieve energy security and independence.



Following the scene-setting presentations, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

Ministerial Dialogue on Innovative Sustainable Finance

13 January 2025, 14:30 to 16:00, Plenary Hall ([Background note](#))

COP29 achieved significant progress on carbon markets, marking the culmination of nearly a decade of work to operationalise country-to-country trading and a centralised carbon crediting mechanism under the Paris Agreement. Clarity was achieved on how countries can authorise carbon credit trades and guidelines for registries were established, with transparent technical reviews ensuring environmental integrity. Additionally, the adoption of standards for the UN's centralised carbon market opens new financial flows for developing countries and provides capacity-building support to least developed countries, enabling their effective participation in the market.

This session will convene Ministers, policymakers and developers to explore advanced strategies for financing the development of renewable energy. With the central focus on leveraging innovative financial instruments, discussions will highlight the potential of carbon credit markets as a mechanism to incentivise emissions reductions, allowing developers to access financing, and countries and companies to offset carbon footprints. The session aims to identify scalable solutions, foster partnerships, and mobilise public and private capital to accelerate the shift toward sustainable energy and climate resilience.



Following the scene-setting presentations, Members will have the opportunity to make interventions from the floor within an allotted time of three minutes.

Consideration of Administrative and Institutional matters and other mandates

13 January 2025, 16:00 to 18:00, Plenary Hall

The Chair of the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth Council meetings will present the conclusions of the Council meetings on specific administrative and institutional matters, for consideration by the Assembly. The Assembly will also consider a number of mandates, as outlined in the provisional agenda included in this transmission.

High-level and Stakeholder meetings

- **SDG7 on Sustainable Energy: The Road Ahead**
 11 January 2025, 09:00 to 10:30, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event, organised by IRENA in collaboration with UN-DESA, will facilitate dialogue on how the commitments in the Pact of the Future and the upcoming third review of SDG7 at the High-Level Political Forum 2026 can generate momentum and shape global efforts for a just energy transition. It will mobilise stakeholders, including governments, international organisations and the private sector, to collaborate on advancing SDG7 and contribute inputs to the SDG Summit 2027 for post-2030 sustainable development planning.
- **2025 IRENA Legislators Forum – Legislative Pathways for the UAE Consensus: Tripling Renewables and Doubling Efficiency**
 11 January 2025, 09:30 to 12:30, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))
 This edition of the IRENA Legislators Forum will provide a dedicated platform to explore legislative pathways that align with the ambitious targets outlined in the UAE Consensus. By engaging in dynamic discussions and collaborative workshops, legislators will gain the practical tools and insights necessary to integrate the tripling renewables and doubling energy efficiency goals into their respective NDCs and national energy strategies. The Forum offers a significant opportunity to align national policies with global climate ambitions and foster collective action.
- **High-level Dialogue on Accelerated Partnership for Renewable Energy in Central Asia**
 11 January 2025, 09:00 to 10:30, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))
 This High-level Dialogue will highlight the main opportunities and challenges for scaling up renewables-based energy transitions in Central Asia, and key areas the Accelerated Partnership for Renewable Energy in Central Asia (APRECA), unveiled by IRENA at COP29, can contribute to the national efforts. The event will also offer an opportunity to underscore national and regional considerations with respect to the four action areas of APRECA.
- **Key Enablers for the Energy Transition: Grid, Solar and Storage**
 11 January 2025, 11:00 to 12:30, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))
 The forthcoming publication by IRENA's Coalition for Action on 'Key Enablers for the Energy Transition: Solar and Storage' provides crucial recommendations on how renewable energy storage solutions are instrumental in achieving global energy goals. This event will showcase key recommendations to guide stakeholders in implementing effective renewable energy and storage strategies, facilitating expert dialogue and highlighting the benefits of integrated solar storage solutions as well as addressing deployment challenges and strengthening public-private collaboration.
- **Meeting SDG7 and climate ambitions through renewables-based clean cooking**
 11 January 2025, 11:00 to 12:30, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will showcase successful examples of integration of renewables-based clean cooking into the climate agenda, such as clean cooking in NDCs and climate targets in National Clean Cooking strategies. It will explore the role of climate finance in enabling developing countries to achieve their targets, as well as approaches needed to achieve cross-sectoral collaboration in energy access and the climate space; and meet the twin goals of SDG7 and climate action.

- **Environmental impacts and benefits of renewables**
 11 January 2025, 14:30 to 16:00, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))

This event will focus on the local environmental impacts and benefits of renewables, convening policymakers, experts and industry stakeholders to discuss the available solutions, experience and examples to address potential environmental issues and maximise benefits, as well as the policies and measures needed to address barriers in diverse market contexts. Feedback will also be sought on the Agency's work in this area.
- **Global Coalition for Energy Planning: Shaping the Agenda for Action**
 11 January 2025, 14:30 to 16:00, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))

Building on established platforms including IRENA's Global Network on Long-Term Energy Scenarios (LTES), the G20's Global Coalition for Energy Planning (GCEP) seeks to establish a voluntary, collaborative global framework to support national governments in strengthening their energy planning capacities for developing and implementing energy transition strategies. At the first Energy Planning Summit in 2025, the GCEP will launch its Agenda for Action, a voluntary set of priorities and activities to strengthen planning capacities worldwide. This event will bring together governments and stakeholders to discuss and provide input for shaping the Agenda for Action, helping ensure it addresses countries' key priorities and needs.
- **Empowering Lives and Livelihoods with Renewables**
 11 January 2025, 14:30 to 16:00, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))

This event will explore and promote financing solutions that address the energy needs of healthcare systems, particularly in underserved areas, by showcasing successful case studies and derisking strategies. It aims to highlight best practices for scaling renewable energy investments in healthcare and foster collaboration between governments, the private sector and international organisations to strengthen policy frameworks and improve inter-Ministerial coordination for climate resilience and energy access in health systems.
- **Public-Private Dialogue – Building community support for the energy transition**
 11 January 2025, 16:30 to 18:00, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))

The Public-Private Dialogue offers a multi-stakeholder platform for leaders from governments, the private sector and civil society to examine guiding principles and effective approaches to accelerate just and inclusive energy transitions supported by communities and citizens. Through the exchange of best practices and lessons learnt, the event will facilitate cross-sectoral partnerships to understand diverse perspectives and challenges, build consensus, and find common solutions.
- **2025 IRENA Youth Forum – Youth for Accelerating a Renewables-powered Energy Transition: Innovation, Action, and Impact**
 11 January 2025, 16:30 to 18:00, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))

Aligned with the overarching objectives of the 15th IRENA Assembly, the sixth edition of the IRENA Youth Forum will emphasise youth leadership in advancing energy security, socio-economic development, and innovative financing mechanisms, in line with the findings of the Global Stocktake and the outcomes of COP28 and COP29. With the support of the IRENA Youth Council, the Forum will inspire dialogue, innovation and action to advance the global energy transition, placing youth at the heart of solutions for a sustainable energy future.
- **Enablers for scaling up trade in green commodities**
 11 January 2025, 16:30 to 18:00, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))

Building on IRENA's latest joint publication with WTO on 'Enabling global trade in renewable hydrogen and derivative commodities', launched at COP29, this event will explore the critical role of coherent strategies in promoting green hydrogen and hydrogen-derived commodities that are essential to decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors. It will gather stakeholders and government representatives, including from prospective exporting and importing countries, to discuss enabling measures for the development of international markets for green, hydrogen-derived commodities.

Side Events

- **Energy Transitions across the Mediterranean: Enabling Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future**
 11 January 2025, 12:30 to 14:00, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will convene Mediterranean stakeholders, including governments, industry leaders, financial institutions and civil society, to determine the critical policy, regulatory, market and financial conditions necessary to unlock renewable energy infrastructure investment in the region. It will foster regional dialogue and collaboration, promote a shared vision and develop actionable recommendations to create a more integrated and sustainable Mediterranean energy system.
- **Sustainable Aviation Fuels: Launch of the IRENA-ICAO Collaboration**
 11 January 2025, 12:30 to 14:00, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will highlight the formal announcement of the collaboration between IRENA and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the establishment of the ICAO Finvest Hub as a dedicated module of the ETAF Platform. It will feature a High-level fireside chat on the collaboration's potential to accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels through targeted financing mechanisms and introduce potential pilot projects in selected countries.
- **Innovative Renewables Risk Mitigation Instruments**
 11 January 2025, 12:30 to 14:00, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event, organised jointly by IRENA and the Sustainable Renewables Risk Mitigation Initiative (SRMI) partners, will tackle the pressing need for innovative risk mitigation strategies tailored to address specific macro-economic and structural challenges in emerging markets and developing economies, and unlock greater investments.
- **Climate Principles to Unlock Grid Financing**
 12 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will conduct consultations among utilities represented by UNEZA, finance partners of ETAF, IRENA Members and key stakeholders over the Green Grids Initiative's Climate Finance Principles, will be instrumental to advancing implementation of the UAE Consensus and the Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge. The consultation will help refine the approach, with the goal of building consensus among a critical mass of investors.
- **Policy Recommendations for Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2050**
 12 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will present findings from the IRENA Coalition for Action's forthcoming publication on 'Policy Recommendations for Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2050', which dives into recommended policies to get the world back on track for meeting both the short-term tripling target as well as the ultimate 1.5°C target by 2050. Discussions will explore these policy focus areas to define a clear and cohesive pathway toward a 100% renewable energy future.
- **Planning and prospects for renewable power: Central Africa**
 12 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))
 Featuring the launch of the report 'Planning and prospects for renewable power: Central Africa', this event will present high-level outcomes of the Regional Africa Modelling Analysis & Planning Support Programme for Central Africa, delivered by IRENA in partnership with the Central African Power Pool, to country decision makers, key African institutions, and major international partners.
- **Global Offshore Wind Alliance – Catalysing Inclusive Offshore Wind Growth through Strategic Partnerships**
 13 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A1 ([Concept note](#))
 This event will convene offshore wind stakeholders to foster strategic partnerships across the entire offshore wind energy value chain, enhance global knowledge exchange on best practices, technological advancements, regulatory frameworks and lessons learned, and facilitate in-depth discussions on innovative financing mechanisms and strategies to mobilise investments in offshore wind projects, particularly in emerging markets.

- **Global Geothermal Alliance Annual Meeting – Geothermal in action: Driving sustainable development and energy transition**

13 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room A2 ([Concept note](#))

The Annual Meeting of the Global Geothermal Alliance (GGA) will bring together members and partners of the GGA to have an exchange on the challenges and opportunities in the geothermal sector, share knowledge and experiences and provide feedback and guidance on the priority areas of focus for the GGA to better support faster deployment of geothermal power and heat globally.

- **Skilling for Tripling Renewables: Enhancing International Collaboration**

13 January 2025, 13:00 to 14:30, Room B1 ([Concept note](#))

As IRENA develops a new call to action on skills that aims to drive domestic and global cooperation, this event will facilitate feedback on the principles in the call to action as well as consider specific commitments to accelerate domestic and global skilling for the energy transition, including sharing existing standards and qualification frameworks; distribution of open access curricula and training materials; exchange of best practices including policies and measures; and providing advisory services and technical assistance in areas of expertise.

Evening Engagements

Women in Diplomacy

11 January 2025, 18:30 to 20:30 ([Concept note](#))

This dinner event, hosted by IRENA and the UAE, will provide an opportunity for invited diplomats and officials to network, share knowledge, and explore how AI-driven innovations can accelerate renewable energy deployment and address climate change impacts.

Assembly Dinner Reception

12 January 2025, 18:30 to 20:30, Ballroom Terrace

Participants are cordially invited to a dinner reception hosted by the Agency on the occasion of the 15th session of the Assembly.

Essential Information for Participation

Venue: The 15th session of the IRENA Assembly and related meetings will be held at the St. Regis Hotel in Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, from 11 to 13 January 2025.

Registration: Registration links have been sent to all delegations, along with an information note on organisational arrangements for the 15th session of the Assembly.

Delegations who have not yet completed their registration for the 15th session of the Assembly are kindly requested to complete their registration at the earliest, and no later than **3 January 2025**.

Visa arrangements: Delegates requiring a visa should contact Protocol@irena.org. Please bear in mind that for visa requests received after **23 December 2024**, visa issuance cannot be guaranteed.

Badge issuance: Badges will be issued on 11-13 January 2025 from 08.00 to 17.00 in the registration area (Manhattan lounge) next to the main lobby of the venue, St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi.

Credentials: All IRENA Members are kindly requested to ensure that Credential Letters for their representatives at the 15th session of the Assembly are submitted in a proper form and in a timely manner, no later than **3 January 2025** at Credentials@irena.org. For more information, please refer to the Notification by the Director-General.

Credentials Committee: Members wishing to serve on the Credentials Committee at the fifteenth session of the Assembly are invited to submit their expressions of interest to the Secretariat at Secretariat@irena.org no later than **27 December 2024**.

Agenda and sessional documentation: The provisional agenda of the fifteenth session of the Assembly as well as the annotations and background notes for the various discussions are included in this transmission and will also be made available on the Member portal '[REmember](#)', for Focal Points officially designated to IRENA.

Should you require access to '[REmember](#)', please contact REmember@irena.org.

Related Matters

Bilateral meetings: Subject to availability of space and services, every effort will be made to accommodate bilateral meetings. Requests should be sent to Bilateral@irena.org, indicating in the subject line "*IRENA Assembly – Bilateral meeting request*".

Requests for bilateral meetings with the Director-General should be addressed to the Office of the Director-General at ODG@irena.org.

Interpretation: Simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish will be provided during the Assembly session.

Overflow room: A designated overflow room will be made available during the Assembly session to observe the proceedings of Plenary sessions, allowing participants to stay informed and engaged.

Communications Advisory: For more information on public engagement and media opportunities for delegations at the Assembly, please refer to [this link](#).

Live streaming: In the interest of enhancing transparency and inclusiveness, open sessions and meetings of the Assembly will be live streamed on the IRENA website.

Queries: Questions relating to the Assembly, including on registration and organisational arrangements, should be referred to the Secretariat at Assembly@irena.org. For queries relating to visa arrangements, please contact IRENA Protocol at Protocol@irena.org.