FORUM: General Assembly 2 (GA2)
QUESTION OF: Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, and Renewable Energy for All.
SUBMITTED BY: Republic of India
CO-SUBMITTED BY:

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2,

Recalling Resolution 77/170, 'Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all' adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 2022

Acknowledging the importance of reliable and affordable energy for all as a crucial element of economic growth worldwide,

Recognizing that energy accounts for over 2/3rds of global GHG emissions and therefore emphasizing the importance of rapidly transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy to limit global warming to 1.5°C in accordance with the Paris Agreement,

Fully aware of the fact that, in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C, yearly investments in renewable energy transition technologies must quadruple from 1.3 trillion USD in 2022 to over 5 trillion USD by 2030,

Noting with deep concern that more than 8 million deaths occur every year due to fossil fuel related air pollution,

Deeply concerned that the number of people without access to reliable electricity is set to rise by 20 million in 2022, the first increase in over 20 years, exacerbated by the covid-19 pandemic,

Reiterating the importance of transitioning to renewable energy source in a way such that global energy security and access to energy supplies is not affected, especially in LEDC countries with fragile energy supply systems,

Emphasizing that the scale of change in social, economic, and political frameworks required for a rapid energy transition is so large that there must be flexibility within new agreements which acknowledge that different countries with different socio-economic conditions will require unique systems suited for them to accomplish real, tangible progress,

1. Urges governments to increase equitable access to reliable and renewable energy by:
    a. Investing in large scale renewable energy projects in the form of solar plants, wind farms, hydroelectric dams etc,
    b. Investing in smart electrical grid infrastructure through the construction of powerlines, substations, and microgrids , especially in rural areas that were traditionally disconnected from national electric grids,
    c. Investing in research and development of new non-traditional renewable energy sources such as fusion energy or tidal power,

2. Recommends the creation of a UN sub-committee named the United Nations Program on Renewable Energy Development (UNPRED) that exists under the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and will support renewable energy projects in developing countries by:
    a. Collaborating with the IEA (International Energy Agency) to identify key areas in developing countries where potential renewable energy projects could be developed without substantial cost to the host country,
    b. Collaborating with the national government of the host country and providing financial and technical assistance to ensure:
        i. The effective implementation and construction of the renewable energy project without substantial budget overruns or delays,
        ii. The effective integration of the project into the national electricity grid, providing clean and reliable electricity to the region,
    c. Providing financial and technical assistance to national energy operators to help them modernize and expand their national electrical grids, therefore reducing energy transmission waste and increasing access to electricity,

3. Recommends governments to optimize national policy to incentivize private investment in renewable energy sources by:
    a. Introducing energy procurement policies that prioritize renewable energy such as:
        i. Feed-in-tarrifs (FITs) in new energy markets which is when the government provides guaranteed above market prices to renewable energy suppliers, which helps them gain profit and continue delivering energy even in times of volatility.
        ii. Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS), which are policies that mandate utilities (which are the companies that provide power) to generate a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable energy sources, thereby increasing demand for renewable energy,
    b. Removing regulatory hurdles associated with renewable energy development such as:
        i. Reviewing all existing regulations related to establishing new energy projects, and wherever possible repeal unnecessary or cumbersome licenses, procedures, and administrative fees,
        ii. Consolidating diverse and complicated permit and approval systems for renewable energy projects on local, state, and national levels into one easily navigable central energy policy,
    c. Introducing incentives for both large- and small-scale renewable energy projects through:
        i. tax breaks and financial subsidies
        ii. technical support,
        iii. low-interest loans,
        iv. subsidized access to raw materials.