



The Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition

Information Note

Members, Objectives and Approach

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1. Introduction

The **Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition (JREC)** is made up of governments who have decided to co-operate actively on the promotion of renewable energy sources on the basis of concrete, ambitious and agreed objectives.

The coalition came together in Johannesburg during the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development, where the heads of nearly 200 states agreed on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI). The plan called on governments to urgently and substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources.

To date, almost 90 governments have signed the JREC Declaration, entitled “The way forward for renewable energies” (See annex). They have committed themselves to implementing the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation through a co-operative effort to increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, on the basis of national and/or regional targets and timetables.

JREC is co-chaired by the European Commission and the **Government of Morocco**. The JREC Secretariat is hosted by the **European Commission**.

2. Members & Objectives

JREC membership is the privilege of national governments. Members include ministers and their senior officials. JREC nevertheless develops its activities in **close partnership** with, and supported by, a broad stakeholder community including business, NGOs and academia.

In addition to developing their national renewable energy policies and measures, JREC members focus on **regional and international political initiatives** that foster the establishment of a global policy framework promoting an enhanced uptake of renewable energy. Such actions are aimed at guiding investments and developing global renewable energy markets.

3. Strategic Approach

JREC aims to consolidate and strengthen the cross-sectoral and cross-regional dialogue amongst JREC members whilst also involving other governments and stakeholders.

The focus is foremost on complementing and strengthening existing multi-lateral agreements, public and/or private partnerships and initiatives that promote renewable energy sources. In line with the JREC declaration (See Annex), such agreements

should contain clear objectives and timetables, complementing national and regional long-term renewable energy targets which governments have adopted or will adopt.

4. The JREC Secretariat

The role of the JREC Secretariat is to facilitate **effective co-operation and co-ordination** amongst JREC members. Its tasks include:

- **supporting the co-chairmanship** held by Morocco and the European Commission,
- **facilitating consultation amongst JREC members** by organising regular meetings,
- **assisting JREC members** in developing international initiatives, and
- **communicating** the results of the work to JREC stakeholders during events held in the margin of international conferences and meetings.

The Secretariat also represents the JREC in a number of associated partner initiatives and fora to **ensure synergies** and avoid overlaps where possible. Moreover the Secretariat actively participates in the preparation of relevant **international and regional conferences**. It also develops **selected initiatives** to support JREC members, in particular from **developing countries**. Two examples are the online **Global Renewable Energy Policies and Measures Database**, and the proposed **Global Renewable Energy Fund of Funds** –resulting from the Patient Capital Initiative, which studied the feasibility of creating an **innovative public-private financing mechanism**.

5. Further information

For more details and additional information, please visit the JREC website <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/jrec/> .

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Annex 1: The Coalition Declaration

**BULGARIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA,
THE EUROPEAN UNION, HUNGARY, ICELAND, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, MALTA,
NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, POLAND, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, THE
ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES, SWITZERLAND and TURKEY**

“THE WAY FORWARD ON RENEWABLE ENERGY”

1. We express our strong commitment to the promotion of renewable energy and to the increase of the share of renewable energy sources in the global total primary energy supply. We fully endorse the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, considering it a good basis for further international co-operation, and intend to go beyond the agreement reached in the area of renewable energy.
2. Increasing the use of renewable energy is an essential element to achieve sustainable development at national and global level. Renewable energy can provide important new ways to reduce pollution, diversify and secure energy supply and help provide access to energy in support of poverty eradication. Furthermore, the burning of fossil fuels is the biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions and these emissions need to be reduced to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to prevent dangerous climate change.
3. We commit ourselves to co-operate in the further development and promotion of renewable energy technologies. Recognizing the sense of urgency as expressed in paragraph 19(e) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, we will work together to substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources, with regular review of progress, on the basis of clear and ambitious time bound targets set at the national, regional and hopefully at the global level.
4. We have adopted, or will adopt, such targets for the increase of renewable energy and we encourage others to do likewise. We are convinced that this will help to implement the necessary policies to deliver a substantial increase in the global share of renewable energy sources. Such targets are important tools to guide investment and develop the market for renewable energy technologies.
5. We commit ourselves to working with others to achieve this goal, especially through the partnership initiatives being taken which could contribute to expanding the use of renewable energy, as well as forthcoming international conferences on renewable energy.

Annex 2: The Coalition Members

Europe – EU (25)

1. Austria
2. Belgium
3. Cyprus
4. Czech Republic
5. Denmark
6. Estonia
7. Finland
8. France
9. Germany
10. Greece
11. Hungary
12. Ireland
13. Italy
14. Latvia
15. Lithuania
16. Luxembourg
17. Malta
18. Poland
19. Portugal
20. Spain
21. Slovakia
22. Slovenia
23. Sweden
24. The Netherlands
25. United Kingdom

Europe – EITs (3)

26. Bulgaria
27. Romania
28. Turkey

Other Industrialized Countries (6)

29. Bosnia-Herzegovina
30. Iceland
31. New Zealand
32. Norway
33. Serbia and Montenegro
34. Switzerland

Latin America (5)

35. Argentina
36. Bolivia
37. Brazil
38. Chile
39. Colombia

Africa (11)

40. Botswana
41. Burkina Faso
42. Congo, Democratic Republic of
43. Congo, Republic of (Brazzaville)
44. Ghana
45. Kenya
46. Mali

47. Morocco
48. South Africa
49. The Gambia
50. Uganda

Middle East and Asia (4)

51. Afghanistan
52. Israel
53. The Philippines
54. Yemen

Aosis –South China Sea (1)

55. Singapore.

Aosis –Pacific Ocean (12)

56. Cook Islands
57. Federated States of Micronesia
58. Fiji
59. Kiribati
60. Marshall Islands
61. Nauru
62. Papua New Guinea
63. Samoa
64. Solomon Islands
65. Tonga
66. Tuvalu
67. Vanuatu

Aosis –Caribbean (14)

68. Antigua and Barbuda
69. Bahamas
70. Barbados
71. Belize
72. Cuba
73. Dominica
74. Grenada
75. Guyana
76. Jamaica
77. St. Kitts and Nevis
78. St. Lucia
79. St. Vincent and the Grenadines
80. Suriname
81. Trinidad and Tobago

Aosis –Atlantic Ocean (3)

82. Cape Verde
83. Sao Tome and Principe
84. Guinea-Bissau

Aosis –Indian Ocean (4)

85. Comoros
86. Maldives
87. Mauritius
88. Seychelles