



Inaugural Meeting of the Sustainable Energy for All Advisory Board

World Bank Headquarters

19 April 2013

Summary

Background

On the 19th of April, 2013, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim convened the inaugural meeting of the Sustainable Energy for All Advisory Board in Washington, D.C. This inaugural meeting consisted of a formal inaugural session followed by a high-level panel discussion.

The Advisory Board, consisting of a distinguished set of leaders from the private sector, public sector, and civil society, will provide strategic guidance and serve as global ambassadors for the initiative, conducting high-level advocacy for action on energy and mobilizing stakeholders on behalf of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative. The members of the Advisory Board are listed in Annex 1. Additional Advisory Board members are expected to be announced in the near future.

Opening Remarks

In his opening remarks, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon emphasized that energy is the “golden thread” that runs through all development issues. He told the Advisory Board that the time has come to move to the next phase of the initiative – *it is time to turn commitments into kilowatts* and it is critical that all three actors, i.e. public, private, and civil society, provide their full leadership to drive the society towards the three objectives of the initiative, i.e. universal energy access, doubling the share of renewable energy globally, and doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

World Bank President Jim Yong Kim stressed that we need to set concrete targets and milestones to drive our action. He reiterated the World Bank’s commitment to new partnerships with the United Nations, and in this context, highlighted that the World Bank Country Directors and UN Resident Coordinators would be meeting periodically to accelerate joint action, which can present an excellent opportunity to advance the initiative. He underlined the urgency of making it happen on the ground, and challenged the Advisory Board to think of a way this board will hold itself accountable to its commitment and the objectives of the initiative.

The UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson stressed that we need a 21st century roadmap to sustainability, working horizontally across all sectors that will help us connect the dots between issues, such as energy, water, food and climate change. Citing the United Nations General Assembly resolution to declare a Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, he stressed that there's a unique opportunity to put sustainable energy at the very heart of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, the Secretary-General's Special Representative and Chief Executive designate for Sustainable Energy for All, emphasized what makes the initiative unique – a clearly articulated global vision, unparalleled convening power, capacity to leverage large scale investment, unmatched ability to mobilize best practices, and a large network of diverse stakeholders.

He highlighted the initiative's achievements to-date: strong political momentum for the energy agenda, including over 70 countries opted-in to the Initiative; hundreds of commitments from all three sectors, financial and otherwise, put forward at the Rio +20; and a number of businesses taking strong leadership in many High Impact Opportunities.

Noting the urgent need for delivering concrete action on the ground, Dr. Yumkella outlined five immediate priorities: (1) Establishing Global Facilitation Team, (2) Dramatically Accelerating Country Action, (3) Expanding High Impact Opportunities, (4) Operationalizing Hubs, (5) Scaling up global advocacy and stakeholder engagement. He called on all of the advisory board members in the room to leverage their influence to advance the goals of the initiative and act as champions of the initiative.

As the Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Chad Holliday fully endorsed the priorities laid out by Dr. Yumkella. He reminded the Advisory Board that the size of the task at hand will require open communication, collaboration, and strong private sector participation. He underlined his commitment to draw upon his business career to make sure the initiative leverages the resources of the business community.

Summary of Discussions

Driving sustainable energy transformation must contribute to economic prosperity. H.E. Mr. Ólafur Grímsson, President of Iceland emphasized the link between sustainable energy and sustainable economies – while Iceland was once considered a small developing economy, it is now powered by 100% renewable energy that directly contributed to significant economic growth. He underlined the importance of the bottom-up approach, i.e. energy transformation can best happen community by community.

Sustainable Energy for All can change the paradigm of investment. The Country Action Panel composed of representatives from the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank underscored the importance of focusing on energy access in a sustainable way – developing countries cannot follow the same carbon-intensive growth trajectory that countries before them have followed. Participants

stressed that concerted efforts would be required to assist countries in policy formation, projects and programs, and investment prospectuses to facilitate finance.

The private sector has an enormous role in the initiative and stands to benefit from it at the bottom, middle and top of the pyramid. The High Impact Opportunities Panel pointed out that at the bottom of the pyramid, leading initiatives such as the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves are taking a market-based approach – a model that requires continuous refinement but has proven successful. They are leveraging the power of local women to sell the product to their peers. Policy and regulatory barriers such as irrational import duties on clean energy technologies would need to be removed to advance effective private sector engagements and investment, an issue that the initiative has a clear advantage to address. The initiative presents businesses with an excellent opportunity to remove emerging economies face.

Civil Society Organizations are critical in the advancement of the Sustainable Energy for All objectives. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representatives underscored that CSOs are already taking action and ready to step up collaboration. However, they need more organization and a ready platform – this is what the initiative will provide to foster partnerships with them at the local, national and global levels. The CSO Roadmap, which was compiled last year, provides a useful starting point. Civil Society organizations on the ground have an important role to play to ensure that energy initiatives create positive synergies, rather than trade-offs, with other aspects of their livelihood – for example, access to clean energy needs to be promoted to enhance food and water security. The importance of mainstreaming gender into energy policies and programs and the importance of women’s entrepreneurship in the success of the initiative were stressed.

“Energy & Women’s Health” High-Impact Opportunity has been launched. At the launch of the *Energy & Women’s Health High-Impact Opportunities*, Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General, World Health Organization, and Ms. Kathy Calvin, CEO, UN Foundation, stressed the nexus between energy and women’s health, but also other areas, including education, food security, and economic growth. Energy provides light that is necessary for women to give birth safely, cold storage is required for vaccines and perishable food, light for children to study, and safe stoves for cooking. The strong correlation between the lack of reliable electricity and high childhood mortality rates was highlighted. For example, in hospitals in Africa where *We Care Solar* provided electricity for lighting and medical equipment, mortality rates decreased by 70%. Ms. Lakshmi Puri of UN Women, declared that women should not only be *objects* of the initiative but *agents* of the initiative. Energy will empower women to take ownership of their own livelihood, health, and well-being. Mr. Bruno Biasiotta of Phillips shared their company’s new commitment to the Sustainable Energy for All, i.e installing 10 additional communal lighting centers over the next two years. The centers enable better access to healthcare, children to play, and people to engage in commerce. Energy is the building block of the sustainable city.

Thematic and regional hubs are being conceptualized and established. The African Development Bank informed their plan to establish an African Hub for SE4ALL shortly.

The Government of Denmark also provided an update on the progress towards the establishment of an Energy Efficiency Hub for SE4ALL. More news and progress on hubs such as Renewable Energy hub to be hosted by IRENA would be expected in the coming months.

The Global Tracking Framework provides a comprehensive tool and a set of indicators that will track progress towards the Sustainable Energy for All objectives.

Representatives from the World Bank and the International Energy Agency provided a preview of the Global Tracking Framework for Sustainable Energy for All. Covering 180 countries and 98% of the global population, it provides a comprehensive framework for tracking progress against the three objectives. Participants enthusiastically welcomed the framework, stressing that it would be of enormous help both in regards to guiding actions on the ground as well as informing global debates on the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Based on current findings, it was underlined that the status quo *will not* put us on track to achieve the 2030 goals. Bold action is required to achieve it, and The initiative would be the leading mechanism to accelerate action. The Global Tracking Framework will be launched at the Vienna Energy Forum scheduled to take place in May 28-30.

Energy must be fully integrated into the post-2015 development agenda. Participants emphasized the need to develop and establish “sustainable energy for all” as a global goal, supported by a set of targets. They stressed that universal energy access, increasing the use of renewable energy, improved energy efficiency and addressing the nexus between energy and other development issues are at the heart of all countries' core interest, which must be deeply rooted in the development agenda beyond 2015.

Catalyze actions at all levels to transform the world's energy systems towards an equitable and sustainable future. Participants stressed the need for taking action immediately by working on all the immediate priority actions presented by Dr. Yumkella. Advisory Board members and other participants expressed strong commitment to advancing concrete action by the time of the next Advisory Board meeting in September 2013 in the margins of the annual UN General Assembly meetings.

Annex I

Sustainable Energy for All Advisory Board¹

Those with () were absent from the inaugural Advisory Board meeting on 19 April 2013.*

Co-Chairs

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank Group

Private Sector

- José Manuel Entrecanales, Chairman and CEO, Acciona (*)
- Michael Liebreich, Chief Executive Officer, Bloomberg New Energy Finance (*)
- Jean-Marc Ollagnier, Group Chief Executive, Accenture Resources
- Lutaf R. Kassam, Group Managing Director, Industrial Promotion Services Limited (*)
- Mustapha Bakkoury, Chief Executive Officer, Moroccan Solar Power Agency
- Helge Lund, CEO, Statoil (*)
- Ceri Powell, VP of World Wide Exploration, Royal Dutch Shell (*)
- Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, CEO and Managing Director, MASDAR (*)

Civil Society, Foundations, and Eminent Personality

- Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General, IUCN
- Mary Robinson, President, Mary Robinson Foundation (*)
- Strive Masiyiwa, Founder, Carbon War Room; Executive Chairman, Econet Wireless
- Reema Nanavaty, Secretary-General, Self-Employed Women's Association (*)
- Klaus Schwab, Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum
- Ratan Tata, Former Chair, Tata Group (*)
- Sheila Oparaocha, Executive-Secretary, Energia

Finance Institutions

- Donald Kaberuka, President, African Development Bank

¹ As of 19 April 2013. Additional members to be announced in the near future.

- Luis Alberto Moreno, President, Inter-American Development Bank (*)

Government Officials

- Edison Lobão, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Brazil
- Christian Friis Bach, Development Minister, Denmark
- Andris Piebalgs, Development Commissioner, European Commission
- Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia, Minister of Power, India (*)
- Elizabeth Dipuo Peters, Minister of Energy, South Africa (*)
- Gunilla Carlsson, Minister of Development Cooperation, Sweden (*)
- Justine Greening, Secretary of State for Int. Development, United Kingdom (*)
- Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, President, Iceland
- Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud, Deputy Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Saudi Arabia (*)
- Michael Spindelegger, Foreign Minister and Vice Chancellor of Austria (*)

UN Organisations

- Margaret Chan, Director-General, WHO
- Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP
- Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP and Chair, UNDG
- Gyan Chandra Acharya, High Representative, Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

International Organizations

- Suleiman Jasir Al-Herbish, Director General, OPEC Fund for International Development
- Maria van der Hoeven, Executive Director, International Energy Agency
- Adnan Amin, Director General, IRENA