

# Third Meeting of the Sustainable Energy for All Advisory Board United Nations Headquarters 5 June 2014

# **Background**

On 5 June 2014, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim convened the third meeting of the Sustainable Energy for All Advisory Board in New York City. This meeting was held as a public session on the second day of the First Annual United Nations Sustainable Energy for All Forum. The proceedings were followed by a formal high-level luncheon and dinner.

The Advisory Board, consisting of a distinguished set of leaders from the private sector, public sector, and civil society, provides strategic guidance, while serving 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 (SE4All). The members of the Advisory Board are listed on the website: <a href="www.se4all.org">www.se4all.org</a>, the agenda is listed in Annex 1, the full summary report of the Forum is available on <a href="http://www.se4all.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/SE4ALL">http://www.se4all.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/SE4ALL</a> forum report final.pdf, the full reports of the Advisory Board committees are posted on <a href="http://www.se4all.org/about-us/advisory-board-committees/">http://www.se4all.org/about-us/advisory-board-committees/</a>.

## **Opening Remarks**

In his opening remarks, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that as a result of SE4All's efforts, a growing number of people "have light and power where there was none before." He described the new SE4All Forum as an annual meeting place for the global energy community, where it can assess progress and mobilize new partners, in order to shape a new energy future.

Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank, speaking via video message, conveyed the World Bank Group's commitment to working with participants during the "action phase" of SE4All.

Chad Holliday, Bank of America and Chair of the Executive Committee of SE4All, emphasized that action is needed in the next five years to fundamentally and sustainably change the energy system by 2030, and that we need to evaluate the risk-reward ratio of actions taken.

Kandeh Yumkella, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, highlighted the need to align politics, policy, pricing and partnerships, and called for investments of US\$600-800 billion per year over the next two decades to achieve the SE4All "energy revolution."

# **Summary of discussions**

Advisory Board members agreed that the SE4All Forum, with its diverse multistakeholder attendance, had proven to be a unique platform for aligning actions and processes with the overall goal. They saw the Forum as an entry point and catalyst for assessing of progress, inspiring and mobilizing further action, announcing partnerships and commitments, and for growing the broader movement. Members also welcomed the announcement of the 2015 Forum, which, they agreed, should continue to accelerate global momentum by linking the results of individual, local, regional, national, and international actions and processes with the ambitious global objectives, continually renewing the dialogue about the nature, pace and scale of change. They saw it as important to ensure that sustainable energy stays at the forefront of political attention.

Lastly, members encouraged all stakeholders to join next year's Forum to continue to build a global platform and network, to increase actions and efforts, and to contribute to the setting and shaping of the direction of the global policy discourse on energy.

Reporting on the Advisory Board Committee on Finance, Brazilian Development Bank President Luciano Coutinho summarized the scale of finance that needs to be increased, including an additional US\$45 billion for universal access and US\$394 billion for energy efficiency. Reporting on the Advisory Board Committee on Efficiency, Naoko Ishii, Global Environment Facility, highlighted the potential for efficiency gains through buildings, lighting, appliances, District Energy Systems, and transport. She cautioned that "silos" can hinder efficiency goals, but this can be overcome through a cohesive coalition of partners. Adnan Amin, IRENA, reporting on the Advisory Board Committee on renewable Energy, called for a knowledge framework to provide clear and accessible information on renewable energy to enable rational choices, and for debunking myths about renewable energy. Klaus Rudischhauser, European Commission, reporting on the Advisory Board Committee on Access, said most people without energy are in rural areas, and noted that solutions will depend on civil society, particularly women. He stated that the entire government must be involved to ensure that energy access translates into health, education, and other development outcomes.

In welcoming the impressive work of the Advisory Board Committees, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted that there is clear evidence that doubling the share of renewable energy is economically viable and beneficial to all. He highlighted that strong partnerships can provide the necessary money, and that public funding commitments can be used as leverage for private funding. He closed by calling for leadership for action on climate change and on reducing energy waste.

## Next steps

- Next Advisory Board meeting will be held in New York on 19 May 2015.
- A preparatory Sherpa meeting will be convened in Vienna on 26-27 March 2015.

#### Annex

• Annex 1: Agenda

## **ANNEX 1: AGENDA**

# 1. SE4ALL Progress Report: "Achieving Results and Shaping the Future"

- a. Kandeh Yumkella, SRSG and CEO of SE4ALL
- b. Chad Holliday, Chair of the Executive Committee, SE4ALL

# 2. Progress Reports from Advisory Board Committees<sup>1</sup>:

- a. Advisory Board Committee on Finance
- b. Advisory Board Committee on Access
- c. Advisory Board Committee on Renewables
- d. Advisory Board Committee on Efficiency

# 3. Way Forward

- a. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations
- b. Kandeh Yumkella, SRSG and CEO of SE4ALL

3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Available on http://www.se4all.org/about-us/advisory-board-committees/