

Addis Ababa Communiqué

Second High-Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13 February 2014

We

The African Ministers responsible for Energy, the European Union Ministers responsible for Africa-EU energy relations as well as our representatives, the African Union Commission and the representative of the European Commission, present at the 2nd High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership.

Expressing

Our sincere gratitude to the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union Commission for the efforts undertaken in the hosting of the Second High Level Meeting, as well as the European Commission and the Africa-EU Energy Partnership Secretariat for their valuable support.

Agreeing

That the provision of affordable and reliable access to sustainable energy in its various forms remains one of the key challenges for future economic, environmental and social development, including employment, in Africa and Europe;

That addressing the energy challenges facing both continents requires a holistic perspective, reflecting the needs of all stakeholder groups including both households as well as productive consumers, and with particular attention to gender sensitivity both in energy production and consumption;

That Energy Efficiency measures harbor a large potential for increased energy security and cost-effectiveness which has not yet been fully explored and exploited, thereby constituting an important gap in the landscape of instruments towards the Africa-EU Energy Partnership and Sustainable Energy for All targets;

That the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets can only be achieved by putting in place sound policies and regulatory environments, public financial resources and capacities at all levels to promote energy market development, and by mobilizing substantial private investment from both Africa and Europe;

That addressing energy needs will require both on grid and off grid electricity solutions for productive and household uses and community services as well as energy solutions for heating and cooking; and

That substantial synergies and resource efficiencies can be tapped by exploring the potential of the nexus approach for integrating energy into other sectors, for example health, water, climate and agriculture.

Acknowledging

The “Joint Statement of the African Union Commission and the European Commission on the Implementation of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership”, signed by Commissioners Ibrahim, Michel and Piebalgs on 8th September 2008, as well as the Africa-EU Energy Partnership Targets, endorsed by all present Ministers and parties at the First High Level Meeting in Vienna on 14th of September 2010;

The various national, regional, bi- and multilateral initiatives, programmes and projects implemented by African and European Union Member States, as well as organisations and non-state actors from the two continents

contributing to the Africa-EU Energy Partnership's 2020 Targets, in coherence with the Sustainable Energy for All objectives and the ongoing post-2015 process;

The priorities formulated and considerable progress made under the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility, as well as under the Partnership's Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme in supporting the promotion of renewable energy markets in Africa;

The important role the civil society, the private sector and academia play in a variety of areas key to the accomplishment of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership's goals, as highlighted e.g. at the First Stakeholder Forum in Cape Town on May 2012; and

That the AU Conference of Energy Ministers, held in November 2012 in Addis Ababa, recognized the Africa-EU Energy Partnership as one of the key initiatives in achieving the Sustainable Energy for All objectives in Africa.

Take note of

The First Africa-EU Energy Partnership Status Report 2014, detailing significant progress made by stakeholders on meeting the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets as well as giving an authoritative perspective on developments in the African energy sector;

The Africa-EU Energy Partnership Action Programme listing commitments for the period post-2013 contributing to the achievement of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets, including an activity inventory taking stock of the specific contributions by African and European partners; and

The African Union Agenda 2063 that recognize the strategic role of energy in sustainable development, industrialization and job creation in Africa.

Recommend

1. To substantially increase the efforts by both continents to achieve the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets on energy access, energy security, renewable energy and energy efficiency and to mobilise the necessary resources;
2. To allocate the necessary resources to realize the full potential of the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme as the Africa-EU Energy Partnership's specific delivery mechanism to mobilize meso-scale renewable energy investments;
3. To implement the projects of the PIDA Priority Action Plan, by taking them into consideration for support through financing and technical assistance facilities within the framework of the Partnership;
4. To continue implementing the conducive reforms on policy and regulatory frameworks in Africa in order to provide an enabling environment and enhanced capacities for increased private sector investments which will ultimately contribute to the achievement of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets;
5. To reinforce the dialogue between policy-makers and stakeholders from the private sector, civil society and the academia on topics corresponding to the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets: energy access, renewable energy market development, energy efficiency and cross border interconnections;
6. To investigate the added value of an Africa-EU Energy Efficiency Programme, supporting energy efficiency efforts in Africa across all sectors, while at the same time contributing to climate change mitigation and to food security;

7. To align the Africa-EU Energy Partnership actions to the increased international efforts undertaken in the energy sector, in particular the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative;
8. To continue the reporting and monitoring of the implementation of Africa-EU Energy Partnership activities with the intention to monitor progress towards achieving the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets as well as the Sustainable Energy for All goals; and
9. To leverage assistance to specialized energy-institutions such as the African Energy Commission (AFREC), Power Pools, Regulatory Authorities and other relevant organizations within the Regional Economic Communities in enhancing their data collection and statistical systems on energy production, distribution, trade and consumption in order to contribute to improved planning and decision-making for energy infrastructure investments in Africa.

Message to the EU-Africa Summit 2014

We call upon the EU-Africa Summit

1. To provide political leadership, materialised through the Africa-EU Energy Partnership, towards sustainable development and mutual prosperity in the context of the emerging post-2015 agenda, towards the Paris climate conference to be held in 2015 and the United Nations Decade for Sustainable Energy for All;
2. To take ambitious decisions that build upon the progress made under the Africa-EU Energy Partnership and accelerate future progress towards achievement of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership 2020 Targets through related ongoing and innovative new programs and instruments;
3. To interlink the most relevant natural resources – namely energy, water and agriculture – and to provide effective incentives for efficient and productive use of resources and marginal cost-recovery mechanisms as well as the mainstreaming of gender; and
4. To facilitate coordinated dialogue and cooperation between policy makers, regulators, investors and financiers, private sector, civil society and academia in order to facilitate private sector engagement, to enhance public-private partnerships and to establish an enabling business environment, key to achieving the Africa-EU energy targets.

Africa-EU Energy Partnership

ADDIS ABABA, 13 February 2014