

Initiative for the founding of an International Renewable Energy Agency – IRENA

The German Bundestag has adopted the following decision:

I. The German Bundestag notes:

The German Bundestag welcomes that the Federal Government is taking the initiative for founding an International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) as an international governmental organisation that is to support and advance the active utilisation of renewable energies on a global scale.

The deliberations and the results of the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg clearly illustrated the growing worldwide interest in renewable energies. These energies play a key role in the protection of the global climate and the environment, resource conservation, the fight against poverty in developing countries and securing the long-term reliability of supplies. This International Agency would be a decisive step for promoting worldwide technology transfer in connection with renewable energies and increasing energy efficiency (especially the necessary efficient utilisation of energy). The task of international promotion requires full concentration on the subject by way of a separate governmental organisation. The promotion of renewable energies is no longer just a question of commercial energy supplies, but in many cases one of autonomous energy utilisation and the introduction of corresponding technologies. Since renewable energies open up the option of distributed energy utilisation in order to exploit its potential, it is of crucial importance to broaden the knowledge basis in a wide variety of different occupational fields.

II. The German Bundestag calls upon the Federal Government:

1. to swiftly bring to a conclusion the conceptual considerations regarding the initiative for founding IRENA and to develop a plan for its realisation, taking into account the preliminary work performed in this context at the International Impulse Conference in Berlin in June 2001;
2. to appoint a commission made up of international members to assess the prospects of success of the various strategies and concepts for the realisation of IRENA that are currently being discussed in the international arena, to advise the Federal Government and to support it in its international canvassing work for the realisation of this initiative;
3. in the framework of the 2004 budget process, to state a figure for the financing requirement for implementation of the initiative and to request the necessary funds.