

# COP15 Communiqué

## *Maximizing the Use of Renewable Energy to Solve the Climate Crisis, Achieve Energy Security, and Increase Global Prosperity by Increasing the Activities of the International Renewable Energy Agency*

As world leaders meet in Copenhagen to discuss new approaches to solve the climate crisis and chart a path to move beyond the Kyoto Protocol it is essential to acknowledge that the collective global failure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is directly related to the slow international development of renewable energy experienced thus far.

Conservation, efficiency and renewable energy represent the most viable solutions to the climate crisis as their full adoption will directly enable phasing out the burning of fossil fuels while providing reliable energy services and enhancing energy security worldwide. In addition, the full development of these three mitigation solutions provides valuable co-benefits such as high employment creation potential, improved public health conditions, pollution reduction, and new industrial opportunities.

The establishment of the International Renewable Energy Agency now presents a unique opportunity to quantum leap the imperative transition to a new energy paradigm that does not compromise the planet's climate and that serves equitably the needs of all the citizens of the world.

***We urge all official representatives and observers attending COP 15 to support the International Renewable Energy Agency, and its 137 member nations, to quickly establish the comprehensive training programmes, collaborative arrangements for the transfer of technology, and effective governmental initiatives and financial instruments that form the foundation for establishing a sustainable energy paradigm worldwide.***



**WCRE**

World Council for Renewable Energy



# The World Council for Renewable Energy

**All people are entitled to pursue their desires for a world that is increasing in its bounty, improving in its health, and growing in its capacity to host life. Each person might wish that his or her presence on this Earth will leave it slightly better off than before.**

Although the economic progress of the 20th century, based on fossil fuels and nuclear power, led to advantages in human society in many ways, it also caused an increasing threat to those principles.

As part of a global unrest with the status quo, and a world-wide call from every corner of the world for better solutions, the World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE) has been established to defend, develop, and promote policies on the multinational, governmental, regional and individual levels in favour of the wise and prudent use of natural and renewable forms of energy.

The WCRE, a globally operating independent organization, free of the vested interests of the present global energy system, will be the global voice for Renewable Energy in the concert of global energy discussion: a voice showing all the benefits of Renewable Energy for the quality of peoples life, for protecting the climate, renewing the industries, avoiding external costs and saving long-term costs, and keeping peace; a voice challenging governments and international organizations to set their priorities finally on Renewable Energy and force the replacement of conventional energies; a voice that helps to translate the lip-service often paid to Renewable Energy into powerful and comprehensive practice; a voice for a political "grand strategy" for Renewable Energy.

We should not talk about the economic burdens of climate protection any longer but about the chances for the global economy and civilization of the future offered by Renewable Energy. The WCRE must convince the global opinion of the potentials of Renewable Energy. It must show - without paying any tactical heed the undesirable developments, the dangers, hidden costs and the damage to civilization, caused by conventional energy supply. It must motivate and encourage governments and enterprises to develop strategies for Renewable Energy.

It must unify the interests for Renewable Energy and forge the necessary alliances integrating those parts of the conventional energy economy which accompany them on their way towards Renewable Energy without accepting conventional barriers. It is the world's forum for the political and economic concepts allowing to introduce Renewable Energy most rapidly.

The conventional energy economy is based on the theory that we cannot exist without fossil and nuclear energy - in spite of the fact that this theory is proved to be wrong. It operates within the established structures of energy supply. Therefore, the existing energy economy cannot be neutral towards all energy sources. It was developed and designed to provide today's dominant energy supply.

Thus it must adapt to the specific flow of fossil and nuclear energies with its infrastructures, energy technologies and business organizations, from their sources at comparatively few sites on our globe to their consumption everywhere in the world. Inevitably, the places where energy is consumed are more and more disconnected from those where it is generated. The consequence was the development of a long energy chain, every single link of it depending on the other ones.

## **Renewable Energies require different structures.**

Their energy flow is completely different. They are offered everywhere in the natural surroundings or they are cultivated there and harvested as biomass. They do have, however, a lower energy density than fossil and atomic energy. As natural energy supply solar radiation, solar heat, water, wind, biomass varies depending on the site and there will be different foci and forms of use on our globe, from one region to the other, when Renewable Energy are used. But everywhere it will be possible to coordinate the energy demand with the regional energy supply.

The sites where energy is consumed may become identical again with those where energy is generated. Economic winners of this development are the producers and users of numerous and manifold techniques for conversion and use of Renewable Energies in the field of electrotechnics, micro-electronics, building-technology, agro-technology, engine-technology, glass technology, and energy storage technology.

Renewable Energies represent a chance for an ecological industrialization, for a vital new agricultural and forestry economy, and an independent as well as a sustainable energy supply and they are the most important pre-condition to save the environment. Instead of few large structures of energy provision they need many small complementary elements.

They can be used in a flexible way, since any installed module can work separately. Thus they can be introduced quickly, as they don't afford a long time for construction.

**In summary: they need different conditions than those of the conventional energy economy - different technologies, different forms of use, different economic supporters, different political frameworks, and different education and training.**

It is an absurd situation that Renewable Energies - by far the largest, most sustainable, and most ecological energy potential at mankind's disposal - are underestimated whereas the atomic and fossil energy potentials are overestimated, in spite of their limited availability and their noxious impacts on the environment and climate.



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# A call for ...

... industrial, national and regional

*Half a century ago, grand strategies were initiated for the promotion of Atomic Energy in order to enter the postfossil era. Now is the time for an equally strong commitment to Renewable Energy.*

*Governments should no longer wait for a global consensus. In order to fill their responsibility to the people they are called to determine their own strategies in the common interest of the people. Pioneer governments, organizations, and companies will stimulate others thereby creating a new technological and industrial revolution. At the same time a new agricultural revolution based on the extension of food production to biomass production will be spurred. Biomass for energy and renewable raw materials will be produced whilst simultaneously safeguarding water resources.*

*These aspirations combine to compose the main challenge of the 21st century.*

## Basic Considerations

### 1. Change the current energy paradigm

The world society is at the defining moment of the change of the energy-paradigm from atomic/fossil energy to Renewable Energy. All policies should terminate the public promotion of atomic and fossil energy.

Renewable Energy and energy efficiency promotion require top priority. 500 billion dollars are spent annually for conventional energy investments. The shift to renewable energy requires a change in the investment flows to Renewable Energy, under the auspice of legal frameworks tailored to accommodate them.

New energy strategies must be focused on comprehensive national and global product calculations. These calculations show that the atomic and fossil system is already more expensive on a macro economic basis than an economy based on Renewable Energy is. The additional expense of fossil and atomic systems create an insurmountable social and environment burden of debt for generations to come. The political goal is to transform these benefits into microeconomic incentives for Renewable Energy investments.

### 2. Security policy is Renewable Energy policy

Our dependency on exhaustible fossil and uranium resources leads to the vulnerability of societies. Moreover, it is impossible to overcome the water crisis and resulting conflicts without shifting to Renewable Energies.

The atomic and fossil energy system is the main water consumer in many countries. An in depth look at international security requires the transfer of military expenditures for the safeguarding of fossil and atomic fuels and processing to the promotion of Renewable Energy. The conversion of military expenditure to Renewable Energy is the main focus of a new security policy.

### 3. Overcoming poverty with Renewable Energy

Promoting Renewable Energy is the most important step to fighting poverty. Developing countries are economically overloaded by the introduction of power lines in rural areas as well as by the import of fossil energy products based on world market prices.

Only local Renewable Energy can overcome the problem of energy imports consuming increasing shares of wealth in developing countries. Only Renewable Energy can stop the marginalization of rural areas in the world and the desperate living conditions of people in overcrowded cities.

The unique opportunity to achieve this is to provide electricity to decentralized rural areas as well as mobilizing the production of biomass in agriculture and agro-forestry.

### 4. Overcoming the double standard of energy market dogmas

In the OECD countries atomic energy gets two thirds of funding for energy R&D while the renew-

# Grand Strategies for Renewable Energy

able energies receive 8%. That must be reversed. A “leveling of the playing field” with atomic and fossil energy is required that ensures market privileges for Renewable Energy in order to compensate for the long-term advantages which atomic and fossil energies have enjoyed by:

- **public research, development, subsidies, development credits, and insurance and tax privileges**
- **totaling an amount in the trillions of dollars**
- **global agreements for tax free fossil air and sea-transport fuels,**
- **unpaid environment damages,**
- **protected regional an electric power markets,**
- **trade privileges and publicly financed infrastructures,**
- **international institutions aimed at atomic technology transfer and fossil energy.**

These privileges established the myth of a superior competitiveness of atomic and fossil energy;

**Leading to the overall underestimation of Renewable Energy resources and blockades against them.**

This unfair double standard leaves the introduction of Renewable Energy to the market.

## 5. *Initiating a new industrial and agricultural revolution*

Promoting Renewable Energy creates new industrial jobs and revitalizes the agricultural economy. There is a large variety of new industrial incentives given to Renewable Energy technologies and their mass production.

The incentive covers the entire building industry including small and medium size enterprises (“solar architecture”), the automobile-industry (new generation of solar fueled motors), the entire field of electric and electronic, machinery and chemical industries (Renewable Energy conversion and applications, PV cell and glass materials, information technologies), the steel industry (windmill towers), the shipbuilding industry (energy self-sufficient ships). Extending agricultural yield to energy and industrial raw material will revitalize the sector.

## 6. *Renewable Energy: the short-term alternative*

Since decentralized Renewable Energy options do not require extraction or mining technologies, international transport infrastructures, long construction time for power plants, or cross-country transmission lines, they can be more easily and quickly introduced and decentralized than atomic and fossil energy.

A Renewable Energy system consists of many modules each module capable of working independently from others. The installation of a wind power or PV-Module takes just few days. Every village in the world could have an immediate power supply or could implement the production of transport fuels from biomass.

**Renewable Energy** makes it possible to tailor energy investments to actual energy needs in a flexible way, while avoiding overcapacities.

**Renewable Energy** can be introduced extremely quickly to meet the energy demands of the people.

**Renewable Energy** can serve as a shortterm alternative as soon as there is manual capacity for its applications and adequate financing opportunities.

## 7. *Energy independence for all nations and regions*

Energy independence is in everyone’s best existential interest, and with Renewable Energy it is possible for all. Energy independence would stabilize national and regional economies as well as reinforcing peace-keeping efforts.

Releasing countries from incalculable economic risks caused by the increasing fossil energy prices. Renewable Energy makes national economies more stable and leads to more equality within the world economy because of the rationalization of yielded resources.



# Executive Summary – World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE)

**The WCRE is the global voice for Renewable Energy. It operates independently and free of the vested interests of the present global energy system. As a nonprofit and non-governmental globally working organization it is focused on developing policies and strategies for Renewable Energy.**

Its mission is to bring Renewable Energy into the mainstream of world economy and lifestyle. It seeks to convince the global opinion of the potentials of Renewable Energy while showing the undesirable developments, the dangers, hidden costs and the damage to civilization, caused by conventional energy supply. It is the world's forum for political and economic concepts that are most suitable to assist in rapidly accelerating the introduction of Renewable Energy.

For achieving its objectives the WCRE's major areas of activity encompass information, agenda setting and networking. Information as a mean to improve worldwide understanding about Renewable Energy policy and strategy issues by pointing out the massive and immediate need for Renewable Energy and its availability for all power demands.

All WCRE bodies – the high profile Chairmen Committee and Advisory Board, associated organizations and WCRE members of all sectors of Renewable Energy – are highly committed to further establish better synergies within the Renewable Energy community and beyond and to strengthen the movement for a better sustainable planet.

***“Renewable Energies represent a chance for an ecological industrialization, for a vital new agricultural and forestry economy, and an independent as well as a sustainable energy supply and they are the most important pre-condition to save the environment.”***



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