

**Draft Statement on Renewables in Africa – Proposed for Adoption by the
Africa Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Renewables, Bonn 2004**

Africa is endowed with substantial renewable energy resources which can make a significant contribution to meeting the continents' energy needs for sustainable development.

We the participants of the Africa Preparatory Meeting agree to:

1. Support the principal objectives of the International Conference on Renewable Energy 2004 which are to:
 - a. Forge ahead the process launched in Johannesburg for the global development of renewables; and,
 - b. Engender worldwide consensus on the Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition.
2. Ensure sustainable production and efficient utilization of biomass fuels in all sectors, given its current predominance in the overall energy supply of most African countries.
3. Initiate, promote and enhance studies to assess and analyse renewable energy resources, as well as appropriate benchmarks to evaluate progress on renewable energy development.
4. Increase the attention given to renewables in national, regional and international policy documents.
5. Promote the incorporation of renewables in existing and planned energy master plans (inclusive of power/electricity master plans), and associated investment programmes.
6. Ensure the establishment and the strengthening of enabling institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks for the renewable energy sector, and especially in the area of public-private sector partnerships.
7. Secure financial support for renewables from existing national, bilateral and multilateral sources and other innovative financial sources for example, levies on conventional energy, climate related funds and micro-finance.
8. Support technology development, transfer, adaptation and capacity building for renewables aimed at lowering the cost, encouraging local manufacture and wider use of renewables.
9. Promote increased community and public participation in renewable energy development and dissemination as an important option for poverty alleviation, empowering women, income generation and enterprise creation.
10. Promote the development of renewables as a measure of enhancing energy security.

11. Document for wider dissemination, renewable energy initiatives and case studies that demonstrate options for overcoming barriers to renewable energy development in Africa.
12. Encourage the development of renewables as a way of to minimise desertification, and contribute to sustainable development.
13. Incorporate renewable energy education and awareness in educational curricula especially at secondary and tertiary levels.
14. Support Africa-based renewable energy programmes of international initiatives such as Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD), and the Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP).
15. Support the facilitation of a one-day conference for the African ministers of energy in order to prepare for the Bonn Conference on Renewable Energy.