

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Reference: DG/LT/2016/O/11564

19 July 2016

Dear Ms Pia Kjaersgaard,

I am writing to you regarding the potential for collaboration between your national Parliament and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Formally established in 2011 as an intergovernmental organisation, the Agency promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy. IRENA has 175 countries and the European Union engaged in its activities and cooperates with a range of stakeholders, including national governments that guide the Agency's work, international organisations, private sector and civil society.

The recent adoption of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals are set to accelerate the global energy transition already underway. Last year, renewable energy deployment grew to unprecedented levels, and investment into renewables reached a record USD 286 billion. As a result, IRENA's figures show that the renewables sector is yielding significant socio-economic benefits to countries, including emerging as a significant employer, now generating more than 8.1 million jobs.

As our global energy system undergoes this historical transformation, IRENA is looking to engage with key Members of Parliament around the world who have an interest in renewable energy and its inter-linkages with socio-economic development, technology, policy and finance. IRENA seeks to support parliamentarians in their work, including through the regular dissemination of up-to-date and relevant information on renewable energy. Our periodic *REview for Parliamentarians* as well as our webinars address topics that are of specific interest to parliamentarians such as renewable energy legislation.

In addition, last January IRENA hosted its first *Legislators Forum* in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on the sidelines of the Agency's annual Assembly meeting. The forum served as a platform for a substantive dialogue between legislators and renewable energy experts on the deployment of renewables. Participants also attended the Assembly, which provided them with an opportunity to engage with over 180 country representatives and other stakeholders on the latest trends in the renewable energy sector.

.../2

Ms Pia Kjaersgaard  
Secretary General  
Denmark

Following the success of this first meeting, IRENA will be hosting a second *Legislators Forum* on 13 January, 2017. In this context, I would appreciate your support in bringing this meeting to the attention of relevant Members of your Parliament. As IRENA works to expand its outreach to Members of Parliament, I would also be grateful if you could share with the IRENA Secretariat the names and contact details of Heads of relevant committees and other active parliamentarians interested in the areas of renewable energy, or more broadly energy and sustainable development, so that the Agency can provide them with the latest available information in this field.

I look forward to enhancing IRENA's engagement with you and other interested Members of Parliament on renewable energy.

Sincerely,



Adnan Z. Amin  
Director-General