

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

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20 September 2018

Dear Honorable President,

I have the pleasure to invite you and interested members of your parliament to the fourth IRENA Legislators Forum, that will be held on 10 January 2019 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in conjunction with the Agency's ninth annual Assembly.

The IRENA Legislators Forum brings together a growing global network of parliamentarians with an interest in accelerating the deployment of renewable energy to achieve sustainable development. It presents a unique opportunity to engage with experts, share best practice and contribute to the global discussion on the transformation of the energy system. Participating legislators are also invited to engage in a public-private dialogue on opportunities in growing renewable energy markets worldwide and the role of the private sector. Legislators would also be able to attend the IRENA's annual Assembly, gathering representatives of over 170 countries, private sector and non-governmental entities, international and regional organisations to discuss the road ahead to accelerate renewable energy deployment at the national, regional and international levels.

A new energy reality is reshaping the way energy is produced, distributed and consumed around the world. Over the last years, we have witnessed dramatic falls in the cost of renewable power to the extent that all commercially available renewable power generation technologies will be competitive with fossil fuels by 2020 in many parts of the world. In parallel, we are starting to see dramatic shifts in the way energy systems operate. These changes are not only disrupting the energy sector, they are reshaping economies and creating new opportunities including job creation, improved health and gender equality.

Furthermore, the imperative of the energy system's transformation has risen to the forefront of the global agenda with the drive to implement the Paris Agreement on climate change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Policy decisions made today will determine whether the energy system of the future can deliver across three key areas: economic growth and development; energy security and universal access; and environmental sustainability.

Hon. Pia Kjaersgaard President of the Danish Parliament Denmark Over the past four years, IRENA has been extensively reaching out to members of parliament, with the firm conviction that they play a key role in the process of formulating energy and related policies, allocating budget, overseeing implementation of such policies, and bolstering public acceptance and support for the deployment of renewable energy. Disseminating knowledge and targeted information, and facilitating exchanges of experience and best practice can support parliamentarians' ability to make choices and take decisions that move forward the acceleration of the energy transition, and contribute to the achievement of our common socio-economic and environmental goals.

I hope to have the pleasure of welcoming you and a delegation from your parliament, to contribute to our discussions, in Abu Dhabi next January.

Sincerely,

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