



## PRESS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

# Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) Countries Forging Ahead with Implementing the Marrakech Vision on 100% Renewable Energy

**New York, 17 July 2018:** Today, two years after the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) shook the world by announcing a bold vision to achieve ‘100% domestic renewable energy production as rapidly as possible while working to end energy poverty and protect water and food security,’ the Forum under the Presidency of Ethiopia and in collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) and Climate Action Network (CAN) is bringing that vision to life by convening the first CVF Energy Dialogue focussed on implementation of the 100% renewable energy vision.

Attended by more than 30 members of the Forum and various partners who are in support to the CVF long-term vision, the Dialogue is being held alongside the United Nations High-Level Political Forum (UNHLPF) currently underway in New York. It aims to mobilize the necessary technical capacity, resources and partnerships to complete the energy transition. The discussions are focussing on taking stock of the current situation and considering how CVF members may progress the renewable energy agenda together.

In 2018 the UNHLPF is considering progress on Sustainable Development Goal 7, notably to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.” This is of particular relevance to CVF countries where access to modern energy services is an enormous challenge despite it being the backbone of development and prosperity (UNDP 2009). As renewables become cheaper, there is a unique opportunity for CVF countries to transform their energy systems and reap the fruits of the various co-benefits that renewables provide in terms of economic growth, jobs and health. In transitioning to renewables, CVF countries would immediately benefit from modern energy access, socio-economic gains, combating climate change and building resilient societies.

According to UNDP, the International Energy Agency and other international organizations, 1.1 billion people are still without electricity and 2.8 billion currently suffer from lack of access to clean cooking facilities.

Quotes .../2

## QUOTES





**Ethiopia Environment, Forest and Climate Dalle**

“We are extremely excited about this adamant to concretize what we promised countries will be at least faithful to what are doing this to save ourselves but also to renewable energy is feasible and beneficial. partners so we are sure to win on all levels. Ethiopia has prioritized the 100% RE vision during its chairmanship of the CVF, and we commit to continue prioritizing this vision through our engagement in the Forum.”

**Change Minister the Hon. Dr Gemedo**

decisive moment. It proves that we are two years ago and we hope that other they committed to in Paris in 2015. We prove that transitioning to 100% We are also moving forward with the right

**Ethiopia Water Irrigation and Electricity the Hon. Minister Sileshi-Bekele**

“This is an important historical milestone for us as we move into materializing the Marrakech vision on 100% renewables. We strongly believe that 100% renewables are our only hope to build resilient societies and fight climate change while at the same time develop soundly and steadily. We believe also that with the right partnerships this leap of faith will be successful and provide an unbeatable paradigm that will build the necessary confidence in renewables that will allow others to rapidly follow suit.”

**HE Ms. Amatlain Elizabeth Kabua, Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the UN**

"We support the goal of this meeting - to take stock of the current situation and discuss, with partners here today, how to proceed. At the UNFCCC in Marrakech nearly two years ago, the CVF committed to strive to meet a goal of 100 percent domestic renewable energy production as soon as possible, while also working on other policy goals, such as ending poverty. Also, as very vulnerable countries, we also have a dual challenge - to boost renewable energy and also work towards climate resilience.

A major political driver behind this energy commitment is also to try to encourage the efforts of larger nations who are not in the CVF - to not just say it but do it - and to send a message that “if we can do it, so can you”. But to be successful, our discussion must go beyond words. Today we want to focus on action, to “walk the walk” and not just “talk the talk”.

**Adnan Amin, Director General, IRENA:**

“CVF Vision 2050 provides a compass for a prosperous and resilient future for its members, powered by indigenous renewable energy sources which provide an immense opportunity to leapfrog to a sustainable energy future, while unlocking substantial socioeconomic benefits and meeting long term climate objectives. We applaud Ethiopia for making renewables a high priority in its leadership of CVF and look forward to working with the incoming chair, the Marshall Islands and the CVF members, as well as other like-minded partners, to support this remarkable initiative.”

Quotes (continued) .../3

**Rachel Kyte, CEO and Special Representative to the United Nations Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All:**



“CVF member countries face the dual energy transition that is also climate of the devastating effects of climate their leadership and providing an example community to achieve sustainable energy



challenge of undergoing a renewable resilient in light of increasing occurrence change. We commend these countries for all countries must follow as a global for all.”

**Wael Hmaidan, Executive Director,**

“There is a consensus among all key businesses, cities and other non-state actors that 100% renewable energy is a must to tackle climate change. We are all ready to support CVF countries in their pursuit of this vision in these crucial times where climate change impacts are deeply felt yet renewable energy is a sure bet to lead us to growth, more jobs and a modern world. We are eager to accompany and see these countries move forward in all areas towards clean, advanced and reliable energy systems and societies as well as prosperous economies and secured access to energy, food and water.”

**Climate Action Network:**

**END**

## Notes for editors

Founded in 2009, the Climate Vulnerable Forum is an international cooperation group comprised of 48 developing nations from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific working to tackle global climate change through collaboration on common goals, communications and the sharing of expertise and experience. In August 2018, the Marshall Islands will assume the Chair of the CVF following the tenure of the Ethiopia.

## Links

[www.thecvf.org](http://www.thecvf.org)  
[www.1o5C.org](http://www.1o5C.org)  
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