



# General Assembly

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Agenda item 20

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/65/436 and Corr.1)]

### 65/151. International Year of Sustainable Energy for All

*The General Assembly,*

*Reiterating* the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development<sup>1</sup> and of Agenda 21,<sup>2</sup> and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”) concerning energy for sustainable development,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

*Recalling also* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

*Recalling further* the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,<sup>4</sup>

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000, as well as its resolutions 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007, 63/210 of 19 December 2008 and 64/206 of 21 December 2009,

*Concerned* that over three billion people in developing countries rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating, that one and a half billion people are

<sup>1</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>4</sup> See resolution 65/1.



without electricity and that, even when energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to pay for them,

*Recognizing* that access to modern affordable energy services in developing countries is essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable development, which would help to reduce poverty and to improve the conditions and standard of living for the majority of the world's population,

*Emphasizing* the importance of investing in access to cleaner energy technology options and a climate-resilient future for all and the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and taking into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of countries, in particular developing countries,

*Emphasizing also* the need to take further action to mobilize the provision of adequate financial resources of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner,

*Reaffirming* support for the implementation of national policies and strategies to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies, the more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, as well as the promotion of access to modern, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy services and the enhancement of national capacities to meet the growing energy demand, as appropriate, supported by international cooperation in this field and by the promotion of the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable energy technologies and the transfer of such technologies, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

1. *Decides* to declare 2012 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All;
2. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations system to work towards ensuring energy access for all and to protect the environment through the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, cleaner technologies and newer energy sources;<sup>5</sup>
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant agencies within the United Nations system and UN-Energy, and mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to organize and coordinate activities to be undertaken during the Year;
4. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of addressing energy issues, including modern energy services for all, access to affordable energy, energy efficiency and the sustainability of energy sources and use, for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development and the protection of the global climate, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels;

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<sup>5</sup> See the report of the Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change entitled "Energy for a sustainable future". Available from [www.unido.org](http://www.unido.org).

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account, inter alia, the initiatives taken by Member States and international organizations to create at all levels an enabling environment for the promotion of access to energy and energy services and the use of new and renewable energy technologies, including measures to improve access to such technologies.

*69th plenary meeting  
20 December 2010*