



SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group Meeting

11 May – 9:00 to 10:00 am EDT (NY Time)

Teleconference

Meeting Summary

Members of the SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group met via a conference call, 09:00 - 10:00am EDT, 11 May 2021. The list of participants and the agenda are in Annex 1 and Annex 2 respectively.

1. Opening remarks

- a. The SDG7-TAG Co-facilitators, Ms. Sheila Oparocha and Mr. Hans Olav Ibrenk welcomed participants and highlighted the good progress made on the 2021 SDG7 Policy Briefs.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- a. The draft agenda was adopted without amendments.

3. Review of the Summary for Policy Makers of the SDG 7 Policy Briefs

- a. The Secretariat introduced the draft key messages as presented to SDG7-TAG and thanked all who already submitted comments and suggestions. The deadline for submitting comments is May 13, after which the Secretariat will finalize the summary and the briefs.
- b. This year's key messages are structured similarly to previous years, highlighting overarching messages, key insights into each policy briefs around interlinkages, regional issues and promoting innovative instruments, and calling for collective action to accelerate the transformation towards a sustainable, inclusive and equitable energy future.
- c. The African Development Bank suggested to focus more on the key recommendations around the interlinkages, and called for the recognition of the different trajectories and commitments made in the contexts of the Paris Agreement and their relation to net zero, as well as the financial commitments already made and the shortfall in providing them, with special regard to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. A more explicit reference could also be made on green grids and the importance of interconnectivity, as well as on the need to scale up various financing vehicles and instruments to assist with SDG7 implementation for LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS.
- d. ECA highlighted the need for alignment between the SDG7 policy briefs and the output of the technical working groups in the context of the High-level Dialogue.
- e. The Co-facilitators suggested to sharpen the language further to ensure that the messages have a better reach and impact.

4. Update by the Custodians on the Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report

- a. UN Statistics as chair of the custodians thanked all TAG members who submitted comments, and noted that the custodians had made sure to get back to all with detailed feedback.

- b. The text has been finalized, and went through multiple edits already. Key messages are being finalized and approved by the custodians in the next few days. The report will be ready well before the actual launch.

5. Update by the Secretariat on the Joint launch of the Energy Progress Report and the SDG7 Policy Briefs

- a. A joint launch session for the the Energy Progress Report and the SDG7 Policy Briefs open to the public will take place on Monday, June 7, times still TBD (most likely morning New York time). The session will consist of introductory high-level remarks from Friends of Sustainable Energy and Principals of key stakeholders.
- b. The presentation of the two reports by the custodians and the co-facilitators respectively will be followed by an interactive discussion featuring interventions from member states.

6. Update by the Secretariat on the High-level Dialogue on Energy

- a. The Secretariat gave a brief progress update on the preparations for the High-level Dialogue on Energy, and thanked the many SDG7 TAG members who have been participating in the technical working groups.
- b. The technical working group reports have all been prepared, and the groups are in the process of commenting each other's drafts. All final meetings of the technical working groups will take place until the end of May.
- c. The next milestone is the virtual ministerial thematic forums in late June (21-25), save-the-date is going out this week. Participation will require registration. Sessions and side events will take place from early morning until late afternoon in New York to ensure participation from all over the world. SDG7 Policy briefs and the Progress Report could also be featured in sessions during the week. More information about the ministerial thematic forums, including on how to register interest for organizing and participating in side events is forthcoming soon.
- d. Kenya underlined the importance of harmonizing the SDG7 Policy briefs key messages to be aligned with the technical working group reports across the board. The Secretariat emphasized that consistency of messaging between the SDG7 Policy Briefs and the technical working group reports have been ensured throughout the process, and the fact that policy briefs have been prepared early also helped.

7. AOB

- a. Power for All suggested to set up a small group within TAG aided by the Secretariat focusing on communications and better dissemination of SDG7 TAG Policy Brief messages. The Co-facilitators also underlined the importance of improving communications. The Secretariat highlighted ongoing communication efforts and suggested that the next TAG meeting before the launch to focus on dissemination.

8. Conclusions and Next Steps

- a. The Secretariat conveyed a message of gratitude to Rohit Khanna at the World Bank who is retiring for his extremely valuable support for the work of the SDG7 TAG.
- b. The Co-facilitators recognized the progress on the Policy Briefs and urged to focus on ensuring clear summaries and strong recommendations.

Annex 1: Participants List

| Organisation | Name |
|------------------------|---|
| ENERGIA | Sheila Oparaocha (co-facilitator) |
| Norway | Hans Olav Ibrekk (co-facilitator) |
| European Commission | Sofia Martinez |
| Kenya | Paul Mbuti |
| Germany | Alexander Kauer |
| AfDB | Daniel Schroth |
| FAO | Olivier Dubois |
| IEA | Kieran McNamara |
| IISD | Leena Srivastava |
| IRENA | Sofja Giljova |
| Clean Cooking Alliance | Dymphna van der Lans |
| Power for all | William Brent |
| UNDP | Marcel Alers |
| UN ECA | Linus Mofor |
| UN ECE | Scott Foster |
| UN ECLAC | Ruben Contreras Lispergue |
| UN ESCAP | Hongpeng Liu |
| UN ESCWA | Radia Sedaoui; Maya Mansour |
| UNICEF | Rakshya Rajyashwori Thapa |
| UNITAR | Thomas Fohgrub |
| UNOHRLLS | Shifaana Thowfeequ |
| UNSD | Leonardo Souza; Agnieszka Koscielniak |
| WB | Elisa Portale, Stephen Halloway |
| WHO | Heather Adair-Rohani |
| UNDESA (ex officio) | Minoru Takada; Bahareh Seyedi; Martin Niemetz; David Koranyi; Nadine Salame |

Annex 2: Agenda



Convened by



SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group Meeting

15 March – 9:00 to 10:00 AM (NY Time)

Teleconference

Draft Agenda

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Facilitators
 - - Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk, Policy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway
 - - Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Coordinator, ENERGIA
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of the Summary for Policy Makers of the SDG 7 Policy Briefs
4. Update by the Custodians on the Tracking SDG7: Energy Progress Report
5. Update by the Secretariat on the Joint launch of the Energy Progress Report and the SDG7 Policy Briefs
6. Update by the Secretariat on the High-level Dialogue on Energy
7. AOB
8. Conclusions and Next Steps
 - - Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk, Policy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway
 - - Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Coordinator, ENERGIA