

DISCURSO DO MINISTRO DE ESTADO DE MINAS E ENERGIA, BENTO ALBUQUERQUE, POR OCASIÃO DA XII ASSEMBLEIA DA AGÊNCIA INTERNACIONAL DE ENERGIAS RENOVÁVEIS (IRENA)

Abu Dhabi (formato virtual), 15-16 de janeiro de 2022

DEAR DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IRENA, MY DEAR FRIEND, FRANCESCO LA CAMARA

DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I EXPECTED TO BE IN ABU DHABI FOR THIS IRENA ASSEMBLY. ONCE AGAIN, THE PANDEMIC HAS PREVENTED US FROM MEETING IN PERSON, BUT I MUST COMMEND IRENA FOR RAPIDLY ADAPTING THE ASSEMBLY TO A VIRTUAL FORMAT.

LAST YEAR, WE HAD THE CHANCE TO SHARE PERSPECTIVES ON HOW TO ENSURE THAT THE ENERGY TRANSITION WOULD BE AT THE HEART OF OUR RECOVERY EFFORTS FROM THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19.

SINCE THEN, WE HAVE STRUCTURED BRAZIL'S FUEL OF THE FUTURE PROGRAM AND THE NATIONAL HYDROGEN PROGRAM, TWO NEW AMBITIOUS POLICIES WITH A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE, THAT WILL FOSTER ADDITIONAL DECARBONIZATION SOLUTIONS AND SYNERGIES WITH OTHER CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES IN PLACE.

THE DEPLOYMENT OF RENEWABLES IS STRONG AND ACCELERATING IN BRAZIL. WINDPOWER WAS ALMOST 50% OF TOTAL ADDITIONAL INSTALLED CAPACITY IN 2021, HAVING

REACHED OVER 20 GIGA WATTS IN TOTAL. WE ARE ALSO MOVING FORWARD WITH THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR OFFSHORE WIND.

DISTRIBUTED GENERATION IS ALSO PUSHING RENEWABLES FORWARD, MOSTLY SOLAR PV, BUT ALSO BIOGAS AND SMALL HYDRO. SOLAR GREW FROM 4.8 TO 8.7 GIGA WATTS IN 2021, AND WE HAVE JUST APPROVED A NEW LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR DISTRIBUTED GENERATION THAT WILL PROVIDE SECURITY AND PREDICTABILITY FOR THOSE INVESTING IN THE SECTOR.

TO CONNECT SOME OF THE MOST COMPETITIVE AND DIVERSE RENEWABLES IN THE WORLD, WE NEED GRIDS. THIS IS WHY WE CONTINUE TO EXPAND THE ENABLING TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE, IN A “PROACTIVE TRANSMISSION PLANNING” PROCESS. TRANSMISSION AUCTIONS HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL AND WE ALREADY HAVE STUDIES AND A PLAN TO DOUBLE INTERCONNECTION CAPACITY BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH OF BRAZIL, INCREASING THE FLEXIBILITY AND THE RESILIENCE OF OUR NATIONAL INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM.

DEAR DIRECTOR-GENERAL,

LET ME REPEAT ONE THING I SAID LAST YEAR AND I HAD THE OCCASION TO TELL IN PERSON LAST NOVEMBER WHEN I VISITED IRENA: FOR FIVE DECADES, RENEWABLES HAVE BEEN AT THE HEART OF BRAZIL’S ENERGY PLANNING AND POLICIES. HAVING ONE OF THE HIGHEST SHARES OF RENEWABLES IN THE WORLD IS NOT BY CHANCE.

IT IS MORE THAN NATURAL THAT WE VALUE THE WORK DONE BY IRENA, AND WITH IRENA. THE AGENCY HAS DEVELOPED A

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COMPREHENSIVE AND INCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVE THAT WE BELIEVE IS KEY FOR A SUCCESSFUL AND JUST ENERGY TRANSITION.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO COLLABORATING WITH THE AGENCY ON THE RE-MAP SOUTH AMERICA PROJECT. I BELIEVE IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMBINE GLOBAL AND REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR POLICIES AND PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COLLABORATION.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND WISHES OF A VERY PRODUCTIVE YEAR FOR THE AGENCY.