

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

Abu Dhabi (formato virtual), 19 de janeiro de 2021

DEAR DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IRENA, FRANCESCO LA CAMARA

DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT IS FOR ME A SPECIAL HONOUR TO ADDRESS IRENA'S ASSEMBLY FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THE MAIN TOPIC OF THIS MEETING COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE: THE NEED TO COORDINATE POST PANDEMIC RECOVERY EFFORTS, SAFEGUARDING THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF RENEWABLES IN ENERGY TRANSITIONS.

AS WE ALL KNOW, ENERGY TRANSITION IS A COMPLEX PROCESS, ONE THAT VARIES IN RHYTHM AND STAGE ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND REGIONAL REALITIES.

THERE IS NO SINGLE TECHNOLOGICAL CHOICE, NO UNIVERSAL RECIPE. IT IS UP TO EACH INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY TO IDENTIFY ITS COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES AND MAKE THE MOST OF THEM, WHILE CONTRIBUTING TO THE COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT TOWARD A LOW-CARBON FUTURE.

ONE OF BRAZIL'S GOALS WHEN DESIGNING ITS LONG-TERM ENERGY PLANNING STRATEGY IS TO ENSURE TECHNOLOGY NEUTRALITY, IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MOST ADEQUATE OPTIONS, INSTEAD OF SIMPLY PICKING WINNERS.

IN OUR VIEW, THE SUCCESS OF ENERGY TRANSITION WILL LARGELY DEPEND ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF ALL VIABLE TECHNOLOGIES AND SOURCES, AS THERE IS AN URGENT NEED TO REDUCE CO2 EMISSIONS.

THIS IS GOING TO BE EVEN MORE TRUE IN THE POST-PANDEMIC RECOVERY EFFORTS.

DEAR DIRECTOR-GENERAL,

FOR FIVE DECADES, RENEWABLES HAVE BEEN AT THE CENTRE OF BRAZIL'S ENERGY PLANNING AND POLICIES.

WE THEREFORE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO IRENA'S WORK AND ESPECIALLY VALUE ITS HOLISTIC AND INCLUSIVE APPROACH.

THE CONCLUSION OF OUR ACCESSION PROCESS TO THE AGENCY IS STILL PENDING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL, A DELAY ESSENTIALLY DUE TO BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO BECOMING A FULL MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION IN A NOT-SO-DISTANT FUTURE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE BEEN INCREASING OUR COLLABORATION WITH IRENA'S TECHNICAL BODIES, SUCH AS THE LONG TERM ENERGY SCENARIOS CAMPAIGN, UNDER THE CLEAN ENERGY MINISTERIAL, AND THE SEMINAR HELD IN BRASÍLIA IN 2019, WHICH PROVED VERY HELPFUL FOR OUR 2050 ENERGY PLAN.

WE ALSO VALUE THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AGENCY AND THE LATIN AMERICAN TECHNICAL FORUM OF ENERGY PLANNERS, UNDER THE UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. AND WE HOPE THAT IRENA WILL KEEP STRENGTHENING ITS DIALOGUE WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY ORGANISATION.

IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION, DOCTOR LA CAMARA, FOR YOUR PERSONAL ENGAGEMENT WITH OUR REGION, AND WITH BRAZIL IN PARTICULAR. AND I THANK YOU, ONCE AGAIN, FOR YOUR FRUITFUL PARTICIPATION IN THE RECENT ROUNDTABLE ORGANISED BY THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ON OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF ENERGY TRANSITION IN BRAZIL.

AS DISCUSSED ON THAT OCCASION, THE POST-PANDEMIC RECOVERY WILL DEMAND FROM ALL ACTORS INVOLVED A STRONG DETERMINATION IN ORDER TO AVOID A SETBACK IN ENERGY TRANSITION.

THIS WILL REQUIRE ADJUSTING MID- AND LONG-TERM ENERGY PLANNING; CONCEIVING THE RIGHT PUBLIC POLICIES AND

INCENTIVES; IMPROVING REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS; AND PROMOTING A GROWING SINERGY BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DECISIONS IN TERMS OF ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION.

I AM CERTAIN THAT IRENA, THROUGH ITS TECHNICAL WORK AND EXPERTISE, IS WELL POSITIONED TO PROVIDE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO SUCH AN ENDEAVOUR.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH