

MONGOLIA

Statement at the Founding Conference of IRENA

**By Mr. Tudev Enkhtaivan, Vice-Minister of
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**Honorable Foreign Minister Dr.Frank-Walter Steinmeier,
Honourable Ministers, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests,**

I am very honoured to be here today to represent my country at the founding conference of International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). First of all, on behalf of the Government of Mongolia, I would like to thank the organizers of the conference for the invitation to this important international event.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It becomes clear more and more that we have to move from traditional unsustainable way of energy supply to more sustainable way of energy supply within the next few decades.

Therefore the Government of Mongolia fully supports the initiative of establishing a new international agency-IRENA solely dedicated to support the widespread use of renewable energy sources and I would like to commend especially the Governments of Germany, Denmark and Spain for their outstanding efforts in this regard.

We strongly believe that IRENA will serve towards making international cooperation to foster renewable energy development worldwide to one of the main and powerful areas of cooperation and development. Therefore it is my pleasure to announce today that the Government of Mongolia decided to sign the statutes of IRENA thus becoming one of the founding members of IRENA.

Renewable energy is an inexhaustible natural source, and its use does not involve any of the resource exhaustion problems associated with conventional fossil power generation methods. Therefore specialists expect that the coming decades will be very fruitful for renewable energy development worldwide and, especially, for large scale solar, wind and biomass developments. Among the renewable technologies that appear to offer the most development potential for Mongolia, solar and wind power are the ones of the most practical choices.

To satisfy growing energy demand in a sustainable way, on June 9, 2005 the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia approved the National Renewable Energy Program for a period between 2005 and 2020, which aims to create the conditions ensuring ecological balance, unemployment and poverty reduction, and sustainable social and economic development by increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy mix. The Program maintains following ambitious targets for renewable energy development in the country:

- An increase of the share of renewable energy in the total energy supply to 3-5% by 2010 and to 20-25% by 2020 (up from 0.9% in 2005).
- A decrease in overall energy losses by 5 percentage points by 2010 and by 10 percentage points by 2020 through the introduction of advanced energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies;

In order to satisfy the increasing demand in a cost efficient and environmentally sustainable way of energy supply, the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia adopted in January 11, 2007 the Law on Renewable Energy, which promotes and encourages foreign investment and supports the production of energy from renewable sources by regulating generation, transmission, and pricing of green energy.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Taking this opportunity I would like to thank Organizers of this important conference, especially the Government of Germany for their hard efforts, and wish success for future activity of IRENA.

Thank you for your attention.