

**DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

It is my particular honour to address you on the occasion of the Conference inaugurating the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

First of all, allow me to thank the initiators of this Agency, especially the German Government, for their involvement in the completion of this project with their well-known professionalism and diligence.

The objective of IRENA, in agreement with the New EU Policy adopted in the spring of 2007 and with the Energy Strategy of Romania, is that of promoting the adoption and the sustainable use of renewable energy, taking into account related benefits from a combined approach of renewable energy and energy efficiency measure, the contribution of renewable energies to environment and climate protection, to economic growth and social cohesion, including poverty alleviation, to security of energy supply, to regional development and to inter-generational equity.

I deemed Romania's participation as a founding member of this agency as opportune for IRENA is an international organization that will promote the use of renewable energy sources, the fight against climate change, economical development, knowledge exchange, technology transfer and will facilitate funding of projects related to renewable energy.

Finally, I wish all the best to all the newly founded leading ^{organisms} of IRENA, towards reaching all the objectives this agency was built for.

Thank you very much.