



**SDG7 Energy Compact for No New Coal Power**

**A next Decade Action Agenda to advance SDG7 on sustainable energy for all, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change**

**SECTION 1: AMBITION**

**1.1. Ambitions to achieve SDG7 by 2030. [ Please select all that apply, and make sure to state the baseline of each target]**

(Member States targets could be based on their NDCs, energy policies, national five-year plans etc. targets for companies/organizations could be based on their corporate strategy)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>7.1.</b> By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.  | Target(s):<br>Time frame:<br>Context for the ambition(s): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>7.2.</b> By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.   | Target(s):<br>Time frame:<br>Context for the ambition(s): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>7.3.</b> By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.  | Target(s):<br>Time frame:<br>Context for the ambition(s): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>7.a.</b> By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.                                | Target(s):<br>Time frame:<br>Context for the ambition(s): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>7.b.</b> By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programs of support. | Target(s):<br>Time frame:<br>Context for the ambition(s): |

**1.2. Other ambitions in support of SDG7 by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. [Please describe below e.g., coal phase out or reforming fossil fuel subsidies etc.]**

Target(s): Immediately cease issuance of new permits for unabated coal-fired power generation projects; and, cease new construction of unabated coal-fired power generation projects as of the end of year.

Time frame: *Ongoing - Countries commit to implementing the actions during the year in which they join the Energy Compact*

Context for the ambition(s): Energy is essential to human prosperity. It is an enabler of economic development, security, health, education, and empowerment.

All member states of the United Nations have recognised the importance of affordable and clean energy for all through the seventh goal of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to “ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.” As access to affordable and clean energy is realised by 2030, it must go hand in hand with other goals of the Agenda 2030 on climate action and public health besides others.

Coal power accounts for 35% of global electricity production and has a disproportionate impact on the climate and public health. In 2018, the International Energy Agency (IEA) confirmed that coal combustion was responsible for over 0.3 degrees Celsius of the 1-degree Celsius increase in average global annual surface temperatures above pre-industrial levels.<sup>1</sup> It remains responsible for almost 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, air pollution from coal power contributes to the millions of premature deaths<sup>2</sup> and millions more affected by illnesses resulting each year from the combustion of fossil fuels for energy.

Global energy and climate authorities, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the International Energy Agency, agree that additional thermal coal-fired power capacity is also incompatible with meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement, as recognized by the United Nations Secretary General’s call for countries to halt construction of new coal-fired power as the first step to reach a 1.5-degree Celsius goal.

In addition, new unabated<sup>3</sup> coal-fired power generation is not compatible with achieving SDG7 and interlinked SDGs of the Agenda 2030, as we must provide “affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” by 2030. When air pollution, human health and climate change externalities are factored in, the International Renewable Energy Agency’s (IRENA) estimates for every dollar spent on an energy transition away from new coal, the return is more than doubled.<sup>4</sup>

## SECTION 2: ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE AMBITION

2.1. Please add at least one key action for each of the elaborated ambition(s) from section 1. *[Please add rows as needed].*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <i>Description of action (please specify for which ambition from Section 1)</i>               | <i>Countries commit to implementing the actions during the year in which they join the Energy Compact</i> |
| Immediately cease issuance of new permits for unabated coal-fired power generation projects   |   |
| <i>Description of action (please specify for which ambition from Section 1)</i>               | <i>Countries commit to implementing the actions during the year in which they join the Energy Compact</i> |
| Cease new construction of unabated coal-fired power generation projects as of the end of year |   |

## SECTION 3: OUTCOMES

3.1. Please add at least one measurable and time-based outcome for **each** of the actions from section 2. *[Please add rows as needed].*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Issuance of new permits for unabated coal-fired power generation projects are immediately ceased.</i>     | <i>Countries commit to implementing the actions during the year in which they join the Energy Compact</i> |
| <i>New construction of unabated coal-fired power generation projects is ceased as of the end of the year</i> | <i>Countries commit to implementing the actions during the year in which they join the Energy Compact</i> |

<sup>1</sup> IEA (2018), Global Energy and CO2 Status Report 2018, p. 7-8.

<sup>2</sup> Lelieveld, J., Klingmüller, K., Pozzer, A., Burnett, R. T., Haines, A., & Ramanathan, V. (2019). [Effects of fossil fuel and total anthropogenic emission removal on public health and climate](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 116(15), 7192-7197.

<sup>3</sup> Unabated coal power generation refers to the use of coal that isn’t mitigated with technologies to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, i.e. without Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) or equivalent.

<sup>4</sup> IRENA (2021), World Energy Transitions Outlook: 1.5°C Pathway, International Renewable Energy Agency, Abu Dhabi, p 30.

## SECTION 4: REQUIRED RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

4.1. Please specify required finance and investments for **each** of the actions in section 2.

We recognize that countries, workers, and communities in the developing world require support in realizing a sustainable and economically inclusive energy future without coal power generation and that international co-operation will be needed to provide such support.

Among the needed forms of support, the Energy Transition Council and Powering Past Coal Alliance affirm that they are there to assist, as appropriate, those who wish to explore clean power alternatives and begin a process toward a more ambitious phase out of coal-fired power generation.

4.2. [For countries only] In case support is required for the actions in section 2, please select from below and describe the required support and specify for which action.

*[Examples of support for Member States could include: Access to low-cost affordable debt through strategic de-risking instruments, capacity building in data collection; development of integrated energy plans and energy transition pathways; technical assistance, etc.]*

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financing            | Description |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind contribution | Description |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Support    | Description |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Please specify | Description |

## SECTION 5: IMPACT

5.1. Countries planned for implementation including number of people potentially impacted.

Countries that have joined the Energy Compact with signature at Minister-level or higher:

2021: Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; Republic of Chile; Kingdom of Denmark; Federal Republic of Germany; French Republic; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Montenegro;

5.2. Alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Please describe how **each** of the actions from section 2 impact advancing the SDGs by 2030.

*[up to 500 words, please upload supporting strategy documents as needed]*

New unabated<sup>5</sup> coal-fired power generation is not compatible with achieving SDG7 and interlinked SDGs of the Agenda 2030, as we must provide “affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” by 2030. When air pollution, human health and climate change externalities are factored in, the International Renewable Energy Agency’s (IRENA) estimates for every dollar spent on an energy transition away from new coal, the return is more than doubled.<sup>6</sup>

5.3. Alignment with Paris Agreement and net-zero by 2050 - Please describe how **each** of the actions from section 2 align with the Paris Agreement and national NDCs (if applicable) and support the net-zero emissions by 2050.

*[up to 500 words, please upload supporting strategy documents as needed]*

<sup>5</sup> Unabated coal power generation refers to the use of coal that isn’t mitigated with technologies to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, i.e. without Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) or equivalent.

<sup>6</sup> IRENA (2021), World Energy Transitions Outlook: 1.5°C Pathway, International Renewable Energy Agency, Abu Dhabi, p 30.

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## SECTION 6: MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1. Please describe how you intend to track the progress of the proposed outcomes in section 3. Please also describe if you intend to use other existing reporting frameworks to track progress on the proposed outcomes.

Progress on the proposed outcomes will initially be monitored through a partnership between the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) and UN-Energy with ongoing, formal arrangements to be determined by the PPCA and UN-Energy subsequently.

## SECTION 7: GUIDING PRINCIPLES CHECKLIST

Please use the checklist below to validate that the proposed Energy Compact is aligned with the guiding principles.

**I. Stepping up ambition and accelerating action** - Increase contribution of and accelerate the implementation of the SDG7 targets in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Paris Agreement

*I.1. Does the Energy Compact strengthen and/or add a target, commitment, policy, action related to SDG7 and its linkages to the other SDGs that results in a higher cumulative impact compared to existing frameworks?*

Yes No

*I.2. Does the Energy Compact increase the geographical and/or sectoral coverage of SDG7 related efforts?* Yes No

*I.3. Does the Energy Compact consider inclusion of key priority issues towards achieving SDG7 by 2030 and the net-zero emission goal of the Paris Agreement by 2050 - as defied by latest global analysis and data including the outcome of the Technical Working Groups?* Yes No

**II. Alignment with the 2030 agenda on Sustainable Development Goals** – Ensure coherence and alignment with SDG implementation plans and strategies by 2030 as well as national development plans and priorities.

*II.1. Has the Energy Compact considered enabling actions of SDG7 to reach the other sustainable development goals by 2030?* Yes No

*II.2. Does the Energy Compact align with national, sectoral, and/or sub-national sustainable development strategies/plans, including SDG implementation plans/roadmaps?* Yes No

*II.3. Has the Energy Compact considered a timeframe in line with the Decade of Action?* Yes No

**III. Alignment with Paris Agreement and net-zero by 2050** - Ensure coherence and alignment with the Nationally Determined Contributions, long term net zero emission strategies.

*III.1. Has the Energy Compact considered a timeframe in line with the net-zero goal of the Paris Agreement by 2050?* Yes No

*III.2. Has the Energy Compact considered energy-related targets and information in the updated/enhanced NDCs?* Yes No

*III.3. Has the Energy Compact considered alignment with reaching the net-zero emissions goal set by many countries by 2050?* Yes No

**IV. Leaving no one behind, strengthening inclusion, interlinkages, and synergies** - Enabling the achievement of SDGs and just transition by reflecting interlinkages with other SDGs.

IV.1. Does the Energy Compact include socio-economic impacts of measures being considered? Yes No

IV.2. Does the Energy Compact identify steps towards an inclusive, just energy transition? Yes No

IV.3. Does the Energy Compact consider measures that address the needs of the most vulnerable groups (e.g. those impacted the most by energy transitions, lack of energy access)? Yes No

**V. Feasibility and Robustness** - Commitments and measures are technically sound, feasible, and verifiable based a set of objectives with specific performance indicators, baselines, targets and data sources as needed.

V.1. Is the information included in the Energy Compact based on updated quality data and sectoral assessments, with clear and transparent methodologies related to the proposed measures? Yes No

V.2. Has the Energy Compact considered inclusion of a set of SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, resource-based and time based) objectives? Yes No

V.3. Has the Energy Compact considered issues related to means of implementation to ensure feasibility of measures proposed (e.g. cost and financing strategy, technical assistant needs and partnerships, policy and regulatory gaps, data and technology)? Yes No

## SECTION 8: ENERGY COMPACT GENERAL INFORMATION

8.1. Title/name of the Energy Compact

An Energy Compact for No New Coal Power

8.2. Lead entity name (for joint Energy Compacts please list all parties and include, in parenthesis, its entity type, using entity type from below)

The Powering Past Coal Alliance and UN-Energy, on behalf of partner governments who have made the commitment to join the Energy Compact at the level of Minister or above.

8.3. Lead entity type

Government

Local/Regional Government

Multilateral body /Intergovernmental Organization

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)

Civil Society organization/Youth

Academic Institution /Scientific Community

Private Sector

Philanthropic Organization

Other relevant actor

8.4. Contact Information

8.5. Please select the geographical coverage of the Energy Compact

Africa Asia and Pacific Europe Latin America and Caribbean North America West Asia Global

8.6. Please select the Energy Compact thematic focus area(s)

Energy Access  Energy Transition  Enabling SDGs through inclusive just Energy Transitions  Innovation, Technology and Data  Finance and Investment.

## SECTION 9: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (IF REQUIRED)

Please provide additional website link(s) on your Energy Compact, which may contain relevant key documents, photos, short video clips etc.