

## **Declaration**

Supporting Renewable Energy in Fragile Settings: Leveraging the energy transitions of humanitarian and peacekeeping missions to deliver a positive legacy

3 December 2023 Dubai, United Arab Emirates Recalling the Decade of Action Agenda to advance SDG7 on sustainable energy for all, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;

Recalling the UN Secretary-General's High Level Dialogue on Energy SDG7 in 2021 and the "Energy Compact of Renewable Energy for Peacekeeping" in support of the UN Secretariat's target of sourcing 80 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2030;

Referring to the launch of the Energy Compact at the 13th IRENA Assembly in January 2023 and the adopted <u>Joint Communiqué</u> on actions to realise the ambition of the Energy Compact;

Noting the importance of the humanitarian sector's transition to renewable energy to increase efficiency and reduce costs and carbon emissions under the <u>Global Platform for Action (GPA)</u> on <u>Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings</u>;

Welcoming the frameworks included in the Global Compact on Refugees, and the pledges made as part of the Global Refugee Forum, for enhancing international cooperation and supporting the self-reliance of refugees and host communities as an enabling factor for increasing the implementation of sustainable energy solutions in displacement settings;

Recognising the COP28 Presidency's Action Agenda aiming to fast track the energy transition, transform climate finance, focus on people, lives, and livelihoods, underpinned by inclusivity;

Welcoming the COP28 Relief, Recovery, and Peace Day focusing on accelerating adaptation, and preventing and addressing loss and damage, including in fragile and conflict-affected countries;

Noting the key messages of the COP28 Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace Declaration and the commitment made by the governments, international and regional organisations and financial institutions, who signed the declaration to enhance financial support for climate change and resilience and strengthen coordination, collaboration and partnership in situations of fragility, conflict, or severe humanitarian needs;

Noting with great concern that currently over 675 million people lack access to electricity and over 130 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance due to conflict, natural disasters, and other complex global challenges;

Acknowledging that fragility and conflict increase people's vulnerability to climate impacts, particularly the most vulnerable, and note that the lack of access to reliable and clean electricity can reinforce and exacerbate fragility and drivers of conflict;

Recognising that climate change has a direct and significant impact on displaced communities and that access to clean energy is critical for survival, affecting health, livelihoods, safety, and well-being;

Noting that impactful and decisive actions to support renewable energy in fragile settings can advance the energy transition of humanitarian and peacekeeping missions to deliver a positive legacy;

Recognising the opportunities for host countries to benefit from the transition of UN

peace operations to renewable energy; and

Recognising that work undertaken under the Energy Compact and the GPA could be significantly accelerated through financial support and strengthened collaborations among a wide range of stakeholders; and

## We, as the key country stakeholders and partners:

*Urge* sustained political and financial support for the Energy Compact on Renewable Energy for United Nations Peacekeeping;

Agree to mobilise support for the Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings;

*Encourage* financial support for the Decarbonising Humanitarian Energy Multi-Partner Trust Fund Programme;

Agree to collaborate on advancing the opportunities for host countries and their communities to benefit from the transition of UN peace operations to renewable energy;

Agree to collaborate on removing barriers to energy access in peacekeeping and displacement contexts;

Support the host countries of UN peacekeeping missions to collaborate with the partners and/or other entities to develop, as appropriate, enabling policies and conditions for UN peacekeeping missions and humanitarian operations to procure renewable energy from the local market while creating further benefits for the host community in terms of access to energy services;

Encourage partner countries and other partners to take tangible steps to scale up capacity building, financing, in-kind contributions, and other forms of support to enable peacekeeping missions to source renewable energy,

Welcome ongoing coordination by UNITAR to support the realisation of the Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings; and

Welcome and encourage announcements of actions, pledges and commitments by Governments, international organizations, private sector, development banks, financial institutions, and philanthropy to support the development and implementation of the projects under "Energy Compact of Renewable Energy for Peacekeeping" and activities under Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings.