

Summary
Ministerial Roundtable on Corporate Sourcing of Renewable Energy
Ninth Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM9)
Copenhagen, Denmark, 24 May 2018

Building on the Corporate Sourcing of Renewables Campaign launched at CEM7 and prolonged at CEM8, the CEM9 public-private roundtable discussed the role of corporate sourcing in further accelerating renewable energy deployment and meeting renewable energy and climate targets. Gathering high-level representatives from both public and private sectors as well as civil society, the roundtable focused on existing and emerging enabling frameworks and their potential to further support the implementation of ambitious corporate targets. The dialogue also formally concluded the Corporate Sourcing of Renewables Campaign showcasing main outcomes and the rapidly progressing landscape for corporate procurement in the last two years.

Moderator

- **Adnan Z. Amin**, Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Government Representatives

- **Lars Christian Lilleholt**, Minister of Energy, Utilities and Climate, Denmark
- **Li Fanrong**, Vice-Administrator, National Energy Agency, China
- **Ajit Gupte**, Ambassador of India to Denmark
- **Thorsten Herdan**, Director General for Energy Policy, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, Germany
- **Inho Lee**, Vice-Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea
- **John Loughhead**, Chief Scientific Advisor, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, United Kingdom
- **Thembisile Majola**, Deputy Minister of Energy, South Africa
- **Manuel Martínez**, Director General, Center for Solar Energy Innovation, Mexico
- **Rida Mulyana**, Director General of New Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation, Indonesia

Private Sector and Civil Society Representatives

- **Rob Bernard**, Chief Environmental & Cities Strategist, Microsoft
- **Flemming Besenbacher**, Chair, Carlsberg Group
- **Helene Egebøl**, CEO, Schneider Electric Denmark
- **Pia Heidenmark Cook**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Ikea Group
- **Magnus Hall**, CEO, Vattenfall
- **Joachim Kolling**, Head of Energy Services, BMW Group
- **Jennifer Morgan**, Executive Director, Greenpeace International
- **Mika Ohbayashi**, Director, Renewable Energy Institute
- **Anders Runevad**, President and CEO, Vestas Wind Systems
- **Miao Qing**, Vice Chair of Yingli Group, and Senior Vice President of Yingli Solar

Overview

The roundtable discussion highlighted the remarkable developments in corporate renewable energy demand that have been witnessed over the last years and that are further analysed in the IRENA report *Corporate Sourcing of Renewables: Market and Industry Trends*. Key findings of the report were summarized and included: 465 TWh of renewable electricity was sourced by companies in 2017 - close to the entire electricity demand of France; corporate sourcing of renewables takes place in 75 countries around the world; and more than 50 companies source 100% of their electricity from renewable energy sources. There has been a positive shift in corporate procurement towards more direct options when sourcing renewables, such as through self-generation and power purchase agreements. The Corporate Sourcing of Renewables Campaign has been successful in putting the spotlight on the growing trend of companies supplying their operations with renewables, and has brought together key partners in the field to exchange experiences.

Key highlights

Roundtable participants identified several actions that could accelerate even further corporate sourcing of renewables and enable a higher degree of additional installed capacity as a result.

- **Revision of policies and regulatory frameworks based on market developments towards more direct purchasing:** The corporate sourcing market is experiencing a shift towards a demand for more direct purchasing options. There is untapped potential of corporate PPAs outside of the US market which saw that 40% of renewable energy deployment came from corporate PPAs happening outside the traditional utilities. Policy and regulatory frameworks need to be revised/put in place to harness this potential. Opening up the markets for direct trade between corporations and developers is one way to stimulate more direct purchasing options leading to a higher level of additionality. Policies also need to create opportunities for small and medium size enterprises to power their operations with renewables.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digitalization act as an enabler for higher levels of corporate sourcing of renewables.** Several participants raised the importance of AI and digitalization in reducing barriers to distributed energy, increasing transparency for energy customers, and as an important component in software models to smoothening supply and demand from variable renewable energy sources. Participants highlighted the urgency of introducing storage options and optimizing energy systems in support for alternative and timely models for corporates to source renewables. It was further noted that the higher level of electrification needs to be added to the equation.
- **Urgency to strengthen corporate renewable energy commitments.** Participants praised the development seen over the past years but emphasised that the results achieved by corporates so far are not sufficient. More ambitious renewable energy targets and strategies are needed and some government participants raised the option of introducing corporate compliance schemes as witnessed in some countries.
- **Need for corporations and governments to strengthen policy dialogue to scale up corporate renewable energy participation.** Both public and private sector participants remarked the important role of corporations engaging in the policy debate to ensure that suitable market conditions for increased levels of corporate sourcing are created. In some markets, competitors within the same sector are now successfully collaborating to push for more ambitious policies in support of the renewable energy transition.