



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

## **UNDP Remarks**

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**Coordinator**

**At the occasion**

**Development Dialogue Forum Series: Sustainable Energy for All  
(SE4A)**

**14 May 2012**

Director of Ceremonies, Ms. Selma-Penna Utonih, Director of Energy;  
Honourable Isak Katali, Minister of Mines and Energy;  
Mr. Joseph Iita, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Mines and Energy;  
Mr, Holger Haibach, Resident Representative of Konrad Adenauer Foundation;  
Mr. Tjama Tjivikua, Rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia;  
Presenters and Discussants;  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Allow me to share with you remarks on the Development Dialogue Forum Series, an initiative of UNDP Namibia Country Office, the Polytechnic of Namibia and Ministry of Mines and Energy. The Development Dialogues Forum is an important platform aimed at promoting and reinforcing national efforts in an inclusive and participatory development process. Development Forums serve as medium of exchange of ideas and sharing best practices in all areas of development endeavours. These kinds of information sharing platforms can make important contribution to strengthening partnership and cooperation between government, private sector, civil society, institutions of high learning and the international development partners including the UN system.

For the UN system in Namibia, the Development Dialogue Forum is a contribution to the current efforts being deployed in Namibia during the development of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF: 2013 – 2017). I strongly believe that, the Development Dialogue Forum will also contribute to the

ongoing national development planning process of the National Development Plan (NDP 4).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The United Nations Development Programme uses the Development Dialogue Forum as platforms to facilitate follow-ups on recommendations made at various UN global conferences, summits and to bring to the attention of people we serve on new global initiatives for possible uptake and implementation at national level. In this case, the theme for this particular Development Dialogue Forum is timely, as it responds to the declaration by the United Nations General Assembly of December 2010, which declared the year 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4A), recognizing that *“access to modern affordable energy services in developing countries is essential for the achievement of...the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development, which would help reduce poverty and improve the conditions and standard living for the majority of the world’s population”*. The International Year of Sustainable Energy for All presents a valuable opportunity to raise awareness on the importance of increasing sustainable access to energy, energy efficiency, and promotion of the use of renewable energies. We can all attest to the fact that, clean energy services have a profound effect on productivity, health, education, food security and climate change. Therefore, the UN General Assembly declaration is timely.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In response to the UN General Assembly declaration, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, with support from UN Energy and the United Nations Foundation, is leading a new global initiative – Sustainable Energy for All (SE4A). This initiative will engage governments, the private sectors, and civil society partners globally to achieve three major goals by 2030: (i) Ensure universal access to modern energy services; (ii)

reduce global energy intensity by 40%; and (iii) increase renewable energy use globally to 30%.

With these goals, we are looking at energy that is:

- Accessible, cleaner, efficient;
- Lights up homes, schools and hospitals;
- Empowers women and local communities
- Presents opportunities for economic growth and paves way for poverty reduction and prosperity for all.

Ladies and gentlemen

I was very encouraged to hear from Mr. Joseph Iita the commitment of Namibia's Ministry of Mines and Energy that *"there will be no government school without electricity in the next five years"*. I am further encouraged to see the ministry with its partners deliberate on sustainable energy for all, as we are witnessing today. This is a clear evidence that Namibia is a model as always in leading and implementing issues and initiatives which not only of national importance, but also of global significance. I congratulate you Honourable Isak Katali, for that leadership.

In conclusion, I would like to re-affirm the UNDP Namibia and the entire UN system in Namibia of our continued commitment to support the Government of Namibia to attain its development objectives and goals.

I thank you!

