

Inaugural High-Level Decision Makers Forum on Energy Gathers Momentum in Lome



Lome, Togo, October 15-16, 2024 – The African Energy Commission (AFREC) successfully hosts the first **High-Level Decision Makers Forum on Energy** in Lome, Togolese Republic, drawing participation from over 25 African Union (AU) Member States at the level of Permanent Secretaries of the Ministries in charge of Energy and representatives from the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Ministry of Mines and Energy Resources of Togo, the meeting marked a significant step toward fostering energy collaboration and sustainable development across the continent.

H.E. Mr. Mawussi Kakatsi, Deputy Minister for Mines and Energy Resources of Togolese Republic, opened the event underscoring the importance of collaboration among African countries in shaping Africa's energy roadmap. "Togo is proud to host this inaugural forum, and we stand committed to supporting initiatives that drive sustainable energy development across the continent," he stated.

In his address, Mr. Rashid Abdallah, Executive Director of AFREC, underscored the vital role of collective efforts and engagement of the Member States in AFREC's programmes to achieve Africa's ambition to provide secure, affordable and sustainable energy to African people. He stated, "The future of Africa's energy sector hinges on our

capacity to unite, exchange knowledge, and develop resilient, sustainable solutions that benefit the entire continent." Mr. Abdallah emphasized that "this forum represents a pivotal milestone in reinforcing strategic partnerships and enhancing cooperation among Member States. It is only through shared knowledge, collaborative efforts, and a unified approach that we can secure a prosperous energy future for Africa."

The two-day event featured high-level discussions on AFREC's strategic programmes, including energy statistics, energy transition, capacity building, energy efficiency, clean cooking, and oil and gas development. The Forum also provided a platform for dialogue on improving Member States' collaboration and gathering feedback on how AFREC's programmes can be enhanced to better meet regional energy needs. The discussions also touched on mechanisms to mobilize resources for energy development and improving cross-border coordination on energy policies.

Central to this forum was the unveiling of the establishment of the **High-Level Decision Makers Platform**, designed to facilitate continuous dialogue and coordination among Africa's energy leaders, ensuring stronger regional integration and alignment on key energy strategies.

This landmark event reaffirms AFREC's commitment to advancing Africa's energy agenda by promoting sustainable solutions, harnessing collective expertise, and mobilizing resources for the effective implementation of energy programs across the continent. The forum's proceedings concluded with a commitment from participants to strengthen cooperation and support AFREC's strategic objectives in shaping Africa's energy future.

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