

## Summary of Proceedings

### How can renewables benefit Africa – Building a common agenda for Bonn 2004

HBF/AFREPREN Regional Policy Seminar  
8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2004  
Nairobi, Kenya

The Heinrich Boll Foundation (Regional Office for East and Horn of Africa) and the African Energy Policy Research Network (AFREPREN) launched a study to assess the potential of renewable energy technologies in eastern and horn of Africa in May 2003. The study's main objectives were to assess the benefits of renewables, and the contribution they can make to the energy sector in the region. The first phase of the study assessed the contribution of renewables to the electricity sector in the region. Two technologies were considered: biomass-based cogeneration and geothermal energy. In addition, a broad review of renewable energy technologies was undertaken, with a special emphasis on renewables that can contribute to poverty alleviation.

A series of national seminars have been held in the 4 countries, to disseminate the preliminary findings of the study, and begin building consensus on renewables at national level. In order to begin building a common regional position on renewables, a seminar was organised the 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2004 in Nairobi, Kenya. The seminar coincided with a meeting of African Ministers to prepare a statement for Africa, for presentation at the Bonn Conference 2004. This allowed for interaction between participants at the ministerial meeting and the regional seminar.

#### The objectives of the seminar were to:

- Disseminate the key findings from the study, based on regional and national studies conducted
- Consult with key stakeholders on the major issues facing renewables in the region
- Develop a common position on renewables at a regional level in preparation for the Bonn 2004 International Conference on Renewable Energy

Participants at the seminar constituted a multi-stakeholder group, drawn from various sectors including government, parliament, civil society, community based organisations, non-governmental organisations, regulatory agencies, petroleum institutions, industry, private sector, electricity utilities, donor, privatisation institutions, rural-based organisations, universities and research institutes.

#### Presentations:

An overview of the project was presented, followed by a presentation of the findings from the regional study on the benefits of renewables in Africa. Lead researchers from the country study teams presented the findings of their studies. The presentations were followed by plenary discussion, where participants gave inputs aimed at improving the studies. The detailed agenda is attached (Annex 2).

A fair amount of time was spent debating the draft statement prepared by the Africa Ministerial Meeting (mentioned above). In addition, participants also prepared their own statement reflecting the perspective of a multi-stakeholder group. The statement, dubbed 'Draft Statement from Multi-stakeholder Group in East and Horn of Africa' is attached in Annex 1.

### **Key Discussion Issues:**

Participants at the seminar expressed satisfaction with the content of the studies, and in particular lauded the attempts to obtain data to back arguments made in the study. The findings of the study were new and unique, and would secure the attention of policy makers. However, it was proposed that the following areas could be improved:

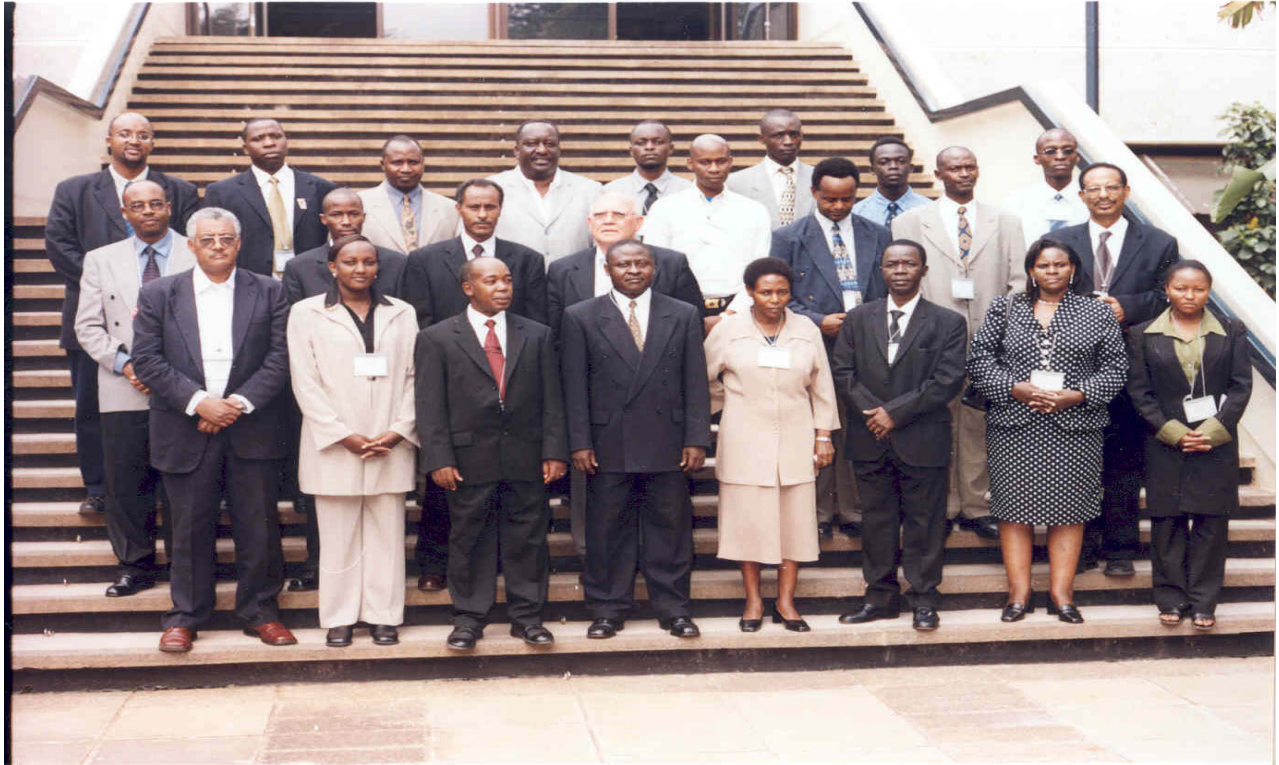
- Although attempts had been made to collect data and estimates to support the arguments for renewables presented in the studies, the data still need to be validated. In addition, additional data and information on costs to further strengthen the arguments was required. The difficulties with the data were due to the short time duration available for the study and difficulties in obtaining data in the region.
- The contribution of renewables to poverty alleviation and gender empowerment was indirect and needed further analysis.
- In making the case for renewables such as cogeneration and geothermal, it was important to mention that renewables were not seen as replacements for all conventional energy options, but rather would play a complimentary role and yield significant benefits.
- The comparison between renewables and conventional energy options should be undertaken in greater detail, taking into account all possible factors, in order to arrive at a balanced conclusions and recommendations.

### **Recommendations and way forward:**

The broad recommendations from the seminar are contained in the Draft statement by a Multi-Stakeholder Group from east and horn of Africa (Annex 1). The key recommendations with regard to the AFREPREN/HBF study project are outlined below:

- Ensure wider dissemination of the findings of the study to policy makers and energy planners in the region.
- Advocate for the inclusion of renewables (cogeneration and geothermal) in power sector development plans, with specific budget allocation.
- Promote cogeneration and geothermal plants as stand alone options for areas that are far away from the grid.
- Undertake more in-depth analysis of the contribution of renewables to poverty alleviation and gender equality.

The next phase of the AFREPREN/FWD study will address the aforementioned recommendations. In addition, the draft statement developed by the multi-stakeholder group from east and horn of Africa will be refined, prior to presentation at the Bonn Conference. The multi-stakeholder group would also submit a stakeholder commitment to the Bonn conference.



*Group photo of participants at the Regional Policy Seminar on Renewables in East and Horn of Africa*

For additional information on this event, please contact:

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## **Annex 1: Draft Statement**

### **Draft Statement on Renewables in Africa Proposed for Adoption by A Multi-Stakeholder Group from East and Horn of Africa**

Africa is endowed with substantial renewable energy resources, which can make a significant contribution to meeting the continents' energy needs for sustainable development.

We the participants of the multi-stakeholder group from east and horn of Africa agree to:

1. Support the principal objectives of the International Conference on Renewable Energy 2004 which are to:
  - a. Forge ahead the process launched in Johannesburg for the global development of renewables; and,
  - b. Engender worldwide consensus on the Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition.
2. Promote increased community, public and private sector participation in renewable energy development and dissemination for poverty alleviation, income generation and enterprise creation, with special attention to the needs of marginalized groups.
3. Give priority to renewable energy initiatives that involve and empower women.
4. Promote the development of renewables to enhance energy security
5. Use the international platform to advocate for regional renewable energy initiatives
6. Urge for increased promotion of participatory community-based renewable energy initiatives.
7. Promote sustainable production and efficient utilization of biomass in all sectors, given its current predominance in the overall energy supply of most African countries, while encouraging the transition to modernised use of biomass, and other renewable energy options.
8. Promote the use of geothermal energy and biomass-based cogeneration in areas where there is potential.
9. Build capacity of local communities for the development of renewable energy programmes.
10. Promote research to assess and analyse renewable energy resources, technologies and associated policies, as well as propose appropriate benchmarks to evaluate progress on renewable energy development.
11. Urge governments to set renewable energy development targets that reflect their respective country's resource endowment and energy needs.
12. Promote the incorporation of renewables in existing and planned energy master plans (inclusive of power/electricity master plans), and associated investment programmes.
13. Encourage the establishment and the strengthening of enabling institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks for the renewable energy sector, and especially in the area of public-private sector-community partnerships with special emphasis on small and medium scale local entrepreneurs.

14. Urge donors and financial institutions of all types to provide flexible financing and support to community-based, national and regional renewable energy initiatives.
15. Urge donors, financial institutions, governments, civil societies and the private sector to support technology development, transfer, adaptation and capacity building for renewables aimed at lowering the cost, encouraging local manufacture and wider use of renewables.
16. Document for wider dissemination, renewable energy initiatives and best practices that demonstrate options for overcoming barriers to renewable energy development in Africa.
17. Encourage the promotion and wider dissemination of technically and economically proven renewable energy options, and investigate promising technologies.
18. Incorporate renewable energy education and awareness in educational curricula at primary, secondary and tertiary levels that is tailor made to the specific needs of sub-Saharan Africa.
19. Encourage international renewable energy initiatives (such as European Union Energy Initiative (EUEI), Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development (GNESD), and the Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP), Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition (JREC), UNEP Rural Energy Enterprises Development Programme) to strengthen their Africa-based programmes.
20. Urge regional institutions and energy initiatives to give higher priority to renewable energy.
21. Increase cooperation and networking among countries in the Africa region and also with other developing countries, for renewable energy development.
22. Urge the United Nations agencies, governments and other international organizations to support the aforementioned recommendations of this multi-stakeholder group from the East and Horn of Africa.

**Signed by a Multi-Stakeholder Group from East and Horn of Africa, comprising:**

Mr. David Röschli (Community-based renewable energy NGO)  
 Mr. Gossaye Mengste (Government Ministry)  
 Mr. Wakwaya Fufa (Sugar Industry)  
 Prof. Woldemariam Wolde-Ghiorgis (Academia)  
 Mr. Bernard Osawa (Renewables NGO)  
 Mr. Stephen Karekezi (Regional Energy Policy Organization)  
 Eng. David Yuko (Engineering consultancy)  
 Dr. Frederick O. Nyang (Electricity regulatory agency)  
 Mr. Paul Mbuthi (Government Ministry)  
 Mr. Stanley M. Mbagathi (Community Based Development organization)  
 Mr. Estomih. N. Sawe (Renewable/Rural Energy National NGO)  
 Eng. Florence R. D. Gwang'ombe (National Electricity Utility)  
 Mr. George Kibakaya (National Petroleum Company)  
 Dr. Theophilillo Bwakea (Government ministry)  
 Mr. Geoffrey Nansove Kamese (Environment NGO)  
 Ms. Helen Gakwaya (Rural-based NGO)  
 Eng. Ndawula Kaweesi (Parliamentarian)  
 Mr. Simon Peter Engorait (National Privatization Organization)  
 Mr. Hezron Gikang'a (Donor organization)  
 Ms. Waeni Kithyoma (Regional Energy Policy Organization)  
 Mr. Ezekiel Manyara ((Regional Energy Policy Organization)

## Annex 2: Seminar Agenda

### AFREPREN/HBF Regional Seminar How can renewables benefit Africa – Building a common agenda for Bonn 2004 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2004, Nairobi, Kenya

#### Seminar Agenda

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#### Day 1: 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2004

9:00am – 9:15am	Introduction: Opening Remarks and Objectives of Meeting (Ms. Aseghedech Ghirmazion and Mr. Stephen Karekezi)
9:15am – 9:30am	Project Overview: Renewable Energy Technologies in Africa: Status and Prospects (Ms. Waeni Kithyoma, AFREPREN/FWD)
9:30am – 10:00am	Regional Overview paper: Benefits of Renewables in Africa (Cogeneration, Geothermal)
10:00am – 10:30am	Plenary Discussion
<b>10:30am – 11:00am</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
11:00am – 11:30am	Geothermal Energy in Kenya: A National Report (Mr. P. Mbuti, Ministry of Energy)
11:30am – 12:00pm	Cogeneration in Kenya: A National Report (Eng. D. N. Yuko, M&E Consulting Engineers)
12:00pm – 12:30pm	Plenary Discussion
<b>12:30pm – 2:00pm</b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>
2:00pm – 2:30pm	Geothermal Energy in Ethiopia: A National Report (Prof. Wolde Ghiorgis, University of Addis Ababa)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	Cogeneration in Ethiopia (Mr. M. S. Worku)
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Plenary Discussion
<b>3:30pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
4:00pm – 5:00pm	Brainstorming on Common Position – Draft Statement for Eastern and Horn of Africa

## Day 2: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2004

9:00 am – 9:15am	Opening Remarks
9:15 am – 9:45am	Geothermal Energy in Tanzania: A National Report (Eng. N. Mwiwaha Ministry of energy)
9:45 am – 10:15am	Cogeneration in Tanzania: A National Report (Eng. Florence Gwang'ombe, TANESCO)
10:15 am – 10:45am	Plenary Discussion
<b>10:45 am – 11:15am</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
11:15am – 11:45am	Geothermal Energy in Uganda: A National Report (Mr. G. N. Kamese, National Association of Professional Environmentalists)
11:45am – 12:15pm	Cogeneration in Uganda: A National Report (Mr. S. P. Engorait, Ministry of Finance)
12:15pm – 12:45pm	Plenary Discussion
<b>12:45pm – 2:00pm</b>	<b><i>Lunch Break</i></b>
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Brainstorming and Common Position – Draft Statement for Eastern and Horn of Africa
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Final Statement on Renewables for Eastern and Horn of Africa
<b>3:30pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b><i>Coffee Break</i></b>
4:00pm – 4:30pm	Way Forward: Phase 2 of the Study Background Paper - The impact of Renewables on Poverty Alleviation
4:30pm – 5:00pm	Plenary Discussion
5:00pm – 5:30pm	Closing Remarks