

## **MONTEVIDEO DECLARATION**

### **LIII MEETING OF MINISTERS OF THE LATIN AMERICAN ENERGY ORGANIZATION**

#### **50 YEARS OF OLADE**

Uruguay, November 9, 2023

The Ministers of Energy of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that make up OLADE, meeting in the city of Montevideo, Oriental Republic of Uruguay, on November 9, 2023.

#### **CONSIDERING**

- 1- The importance of energy resources as a factor of great geopolitical, economic and social transcendence for the progress of humanity.
- 2- The fundamental role that OLADE plays as a Latin American and Caribbean intergovernmental institution dedicated since 1973 to providing advice and technical assistance for the coordination of actions among its Member States, aimed at promoting energy development and integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, safeguarding the right of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples to make use of their energy resources in the manner most convenient to their national interests and needs.
- 3- The important achievements obtained in the design and implementation of subregional integration initiatives and binational interconnections, and the need to advance towards higher levels of regional energy integration among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, valuing the importance of working on the coordination of energy policies and planning to reduce the access gaps that affect regional energy development.
- 4- The institutional role of OLADE, supported by the governmental will of its 27 Member States and based on the full validity of the postulates of the Lima Agreement, the constituent treaty of the organization, which recognizes the need to coordinate actions among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for the development of their energy resources as well as the joint attention to the problems related to their efficient and rational use for the benefit of the economic development of the region.
- 5- The need to establish synergies, strengthen common objectives, and deepen coordination with international organizations, regional initiatives and other global actors committed to energy integration and development, such as multilateral development banks and international cooperation agencies.
- 6- The positioning of energy transitions as the fundamental pillar of the productive transformation and energy development standard in Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to comply with Sustainable Development Goal 7 aimed at guaranteeing access to affordable, safe, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- 7- The transcendence of renewable energies, new fuels and critical minerals for energy transitions, and the need to support and promote, according to the realities of each Member State, the exploitation and industrialization of these strategic resources in which our region has competitive advantages in their production, valuing the importance of advancing in the creation and strengthening of the technological capacities and professional competencies required for the participation of OLADE Member States in the productive processes linked to the development of these new industries.

8- The opportunities provided by the energy transitions process to close gender gaps and overcome gender barriers in terms of inclusive and sustainable access to modern and clean energy sources, as well as the promotion of women's professional development in the energy sector, including their active participation in energy policy decision-making.

9- The consolidation of OLADE as a regional voice in energy matters, and the positioning of the Meeting of Energy Ministers as the main regional forum for dialogue and discussion regarding energy integration and development, and its work in promoting the direct coordination of joint positions at the regional bloc level in international forums and negotiations in the sector, and in deepening the Latin American and Caribbean integration process through relations with other extra-regional schemes.

10- The efforts undertaken by OLADE Member Countries to mitigate and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change by complying with the commitments assumed in the Paris Agreement, with the objective of keeping global warming below 2 degrees Celsius.

11- The benefits related to the strengthening of dialogue, interaction and cooperation between OLADE and the energy-related business sector and the corresponding positive impact on the implementation and sustainability of programs, projects and initiatives aimed at supporting energy development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

12- The transcendental progress achieved by the region in the design and implementation of policies, plans, projects, regulatory frameworks, initiatives and actions aimed at promoting the development of electric mobility, the hydrogen industry, the use of natural gas as a transition fuel, the production of biodiesel, bioethanol and biogas, among other alternative sources and technological options for transportation, heating and electricity generation.

## DECLARE:

**FIRST.** RENDER a well-deserved tribute to OLADE on the 50th anniversary of its creation, recognizing the institutional effort undertaken during its trajectory in the design and implementation of national, subregional and regional programs and projects aimed at strengthening the energy sector of its 27 Member States; the management and administration of cooperation resources for technical assistance, advisory services, training and the creation of meeting spaces among its Member States; the coordination and exchange of information at the regional bloc level for interaction and collaboration in the treatment of global issues; and the consolidation of an important document collection made up of studies, research and publications that today position the organization as the official regional source of energy statistical information for Latin America and the Caribbean.

**SECOND.** RATIFY support for OLADE as the main regional platform for dialogue and discussion on energy integration and development, which promotes the direct coordination of joint positions at the regional bloc level in international forums and negotiations in the energy sector.

**THIRD.** RECOGNIZE cooperation, integration and complementarity as regional priorities in the context of energy transitions and support OLADE's actions aimed at developing projects focused on the harmonization of energy development policies and plans with a view to achieving higher levels of integration, in full recognition of the diversity of resources, geographical characteristics, interests and national needs.

**FOURTH.** SUPPORT the institutional strengthening of OLADE and the expansion of its areas of coordination, cooperation and means of implementation, in order to ensure the financial sustainability and strategic autonomy of the organization and enhance its actions as an instrument for the sustainable, harmonious and inclusive development of the energy sector and the improvement of the national capacities of the Member States.

**FIFTH.** URGE OLADE, in a way that is absolutely committed to the interests of the Member States, to continue strengthening its ties with international organizations, regional initiatives and other global actors committed to energy integration and development, such as multilateral development banks and international cooperation agencies, in order to increase support to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the provision of resources, advice and technical assistance related to the energy sector.

**SIXTH.** AFFIRM the importance of enhancing the process of fair, sustainable and inclusive energy transitions by increasing the incorporation of renewable energies into the regional energy matrix, universalizing access to energy, promoting energy efficiency, introducing technological innovation in the energy sector, intensifying measures aimed at ensuring the security and resilience of energy systems and strengthening cooperation, complementarity, interconnection and energy integration; recognizing the structural differences, agendas and strategies defined at the national level of each of the OLADE Member States, in correspondence with their levels of development, availability of energy, technological and financial resources, among other elements established in their policies and state plans.

**SEVENTH.** SUPPORT, in accordance with the specific realities of each Member State, the design and implementation of a cooperation and complementation agenda for the productive development of the region linked to the industrialization of critical minerals considered fundamental strategic resources for energy transitions and sustainable mobility, as well as the development of a new low-emission fuel industry.

**EIGHTH.** GRANT priority to the implementation of a gender strategy in the energy sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, to overcome the current barriers that women face in terms of access to modern and clean energy sources, and to close the gaps that persist in the incorporation of women in energy policy decision-making and their active participation in activities related to the energy sector.

**NINTH.** PROMOTE the development of cleaner and more resilient energy infrastructures and technologies that facilitate compliance with the commitments assumed by OLADE Member States in the framework of the Paris Agreement, with emphasis on the implementation and update of the NDCs.

**TENTH.** SUPPORT the actions undertaken by OLADE to promote dialogue between the business sector and decision-makers on national energy policies within the framework of the creation of OLADE's Business Council and the development of the first Public-Private Dialogue "Opportunities in the energy transitions of Latin America and the Caribbean. Towards OLADE's Business Council".

**ELEVENTH.** FACILITATE the promotion of actions aimed at strengthening gas commercialization and integration among the Member States of OLADE.

**TWELFTH.** - VALUE the need to make progress on the design and implementation of actions and projects aimed at deepening research and technological development for the production of low carbon footprint fuels in Latin America and the Caribbean, with

emphasis on the exchange of best practices, technology transfer and South-South cooperation aimed at contributing to the strengthening of regional capacities in this area.