

MINISTERIAL DECISION

LIV/D/574

ENERGY TRANSITIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN

ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY

31/10/2024

THE LIV MEETING OF MINISTERS CONSIDERING:

THAT the Lima Agreement in its preamble determines the need to coordinate the action of its Member States to develop their energy resources and jointly address the various problems related to their efficient and rational use in order to ensure an independent economic and social development.

THAT in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs a), b), e) and f) of Article 3 of the Lima Agreement, the objectives and functions of the Organization include promoting solidarity among the Member Countries for the use of national and regional natural resources, joining efforts to foster an independent development of the energy resources and capacities of the Member States, and promoting and coordinating direct negotiations among the Member States to ensure a stable and sufficient supply of the energy necessary for their integral development.

THAT Sustainable Development Goal SDG 7 aimed at ensuring access to affordable, secure, sustainable and modern energy for all, considers that access to modern and sustainable energy sources is essential not only for addressing climate change, but also for countries' economic growth.

THAT OLADE Member States have assumed commitments under the Paris Agreement as parties to a joint global action aimed at addressing the adverse effects of climate change through both mitigation and adaptation actions to the negative impacts of climate change, the latter understood as a challenge that involves national efforts to increase the strengthening of resilience and the reduction of vulnerability to climate change in the energy sector, through the design, implementation, presentation and updating of national adaptation plans and measures.

THAT in accordance with the principles, embodied in the Paris Agreement, in relation to different national circumstances, the specific needs and special characteristics of developing countries should be recognized, especially those particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, with regard to the impacts of the intensification of extreme natural phenomena on their energy sectors and the financing needs for their adaptation.

THAT the Permanent Secretariat, on the basis of what is defined in paragraph l) of Article 2 of the General Regulations of OLADE, designs, executes and manages studies and projects of

subregional scope, understanding the Subregion as a territorial subdivision of Latin America and the Caribbean, composed of a group of OLADE Member States and determined on the basis of criteria of geographical location, characteristics of the energy sector or linkage to already established integration processes.

THAT the geographic characteristics of the Caribbean subregion imply natural barriers to electrical interconnections, in addition to the fact that a significant number of the countries that make up this subregion depend to a large extent on imports of fossil fuels for power generation, which affects the cost of energy services and products.

THAT the Caribbean islands are more vulnerable to extreme weather events such as storms, hurricanes, sea level rise, torrential rains, and floods, which cause the destruction and collapse of energy systems and infrastructure.

THAT in the Declaration of Montevideo issued within the framework of the LIII Meeting of Ministers of OLADE held on November 9, 2023, the Ministers of Energy of the Latin American and Caribbean States considering the positioning of energy transitions as the fundamental core of the productive transformation and the standard of energy development in Latin America and the Caribbean, affirmed the importance of enhancing the process of fair, sustainable and inclusive energy transitions by increasing the incorporation of renewable energies to the regional energy matrix, the universalization of access to energy, the promotion of energy efficiency, the introduction of technological innovation in the energy sector, the intensification of measures aimed at guaranteeing the security and resilience of energy systems and the strengthening of 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.

In exercise of its powers:

DECIDES:

ARTICLE ONE: TO RECOGNIZE that the countries of the Caribbean islands, within the framework of the process of energy transitions, face particular challenges in their energy sector that are different from those of the continental territories, in terms of vulnerability to climate change, barriers to integration, interconnection and energy complementation, and availability of energy resources.

ARTICLE TWO: TO INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat of OLADE to design and implement an action plan aimed at supporting the progress of energy transitions in the Caribbean islands, through the provision of technical assistance specialized in the characteristics of this subregion, the identification and management of lines of cooperation for the execution of projects related to the adaptation and resilience of its energy systems to the adverse effects of climate change, and the execution of studies that identify and analyze the possibilities of this subregion in terms of energy integration and complementarity.

ARTICLE THREE: TO REQUEST the OLADE National Coordinations in the countries of the Caribbean islands to provide the Permanent Secretariat of OLADE with all the information that may be useful to facilitate the implementation of the mandate contained in this Ministerial Decision.

ARTICLE FOUR: TO AUTHORIZE the Permanent Secretariat of OLADE to identify mechanisms and financing options for the collection of information, technical analysis of options, advisory services and dissemination of best practices regarding the particularities of energy transitions in the Caribbean.



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