

**Country Statement of Nepal**  
**Third Session of the Committee on Energy**  
**(24-26 February 2021)**

**Item 3: Follow up on the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum:**

**(a) Review of progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 7 in Asia and the Pacific:**

I. Access of Energy;

- ✚ The 90% population has access the electricity (74.4 % in 2016), out of which 86% has been connected to the national grid and remaining are off-grid.
- ✚ The generation of electricity is still very low. The installed capacity of the nation is 1430 MW including thermal and other renewables, though we have the potential of hydropower is about 83000 MW. Various projects are being constructed and studied with aim to produce 15000 MW power by 2030.
- ✚ The supply of electricity is vulnerable due to the old transmission and distribution system. The domestic power demand is being managed with the import of electricity from India.
- ✚ The consumption of electricity is very low. The annual per-capita consumption is 260 kWh now. It was 120 kWh in 2016.
- ✚ We are still using traditional energy sources. The 64% of people are still using firewood for cooking (74.7 % in 2016). Most of them are not using efficient and clean cook stoves.

II. Measures taken by the country in addressing the challenges (e.g., innovative policies, technologies, initiatives and programs);

- ✚ Electricity Regulatory Commission Act 2018 has been approved by the parliament and Electricity Regulatory Commission is in function now.
- ✚ National Energy Efficiency Strategy 2018 has been approved by the Government of Nepal.
- ✚ The new National Water Resources Policy has been approved by the cabinet. Water Resources Act is being revisited. Electricity Bill has been submitted to parliament for approval with mandatory provisions like competition in awarding power project of size >20 MW. It will increase energy security and minimizing inefficiencies in the development and operation of hydropower projects.
- ✚ Renewable Energy Promotion Bill and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Bill are being prepared.

III. Mainstreaming the global targets related to energy into national policies, plans and strategies;

- ✚ Nepal's plan, policies and programs are aligned with the SDGs. The current 15th five year plan has clearly defined vision, goals, objectives, strategies and working policies. We are currently preparing a result matrix with SDGs for five years. We are also discussing about SDGs local indicators. The plan consists of 5 hydropower related strategies and 22 working policies. In the alternative energy sector: we have set 5 strategies and 15 working policies. Those strategies and working policies will help in achieving SDG7.
- ✚ The 15<sup>th</sup> five year plan clearly mentions strategies to increase investment in hydropower, expand access to energy, encourage in the development and use of renewable energy, strengthen and extend power transmission line/distribution lines, enhance energy security and improve institutional reform. There are also clear policies for renewable energy sector such as extension of renewable energy, use of modern and sustainable technologies, financial benefits from bank, information flow, grant /viability gap funding for constructing power projects in rural and remote areas.

IV. Measures to effectively follow up on and review progress towards targets of Sustainable Development Goal7 at the regional level.

- ✚ A high level Steering Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Rt. Honorable Prime Minister. Under this committee a co-ordination committee and eight thematic committees have been constituted.
- ✚ Annual Action Plans are formulated formulate for the evaluation and monitoring of the programs so that it will help to meet the targets of SDG7.