



**United Nations**



HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON  
**ENERGY**  
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## Ministerial Thematic Forums

21 – 25 June 2021

**Event name:** Regulation and Private Sector Investment in the Energy Sector of Africa

**Event date and time:** Friday 25th of June, 6.00 - 7.00 EST

**Organizers:** UN Economic Commission for Africa and RES4Africa Foundation

**Number of participants:** about 40

**Main speakers and brief summary [max 300 words]:**

Mr. William Lugemwa, Director of the Private Sector Development and Finance Division, UNECA and Mr. Roberto Vigotti, Secretary-General at RES4Africa Foundation opened the session presenting their respective workstream and focusing on the importance of the joint work that UNECA and RES4Africa have done so far. They have highlighted the importance of addressing regulatory barriers to address the missing links towards achieving SDG7 in Africa.

Mr. Yohannes Hailu, Economic Affairs Officer at the UNECA presented the outcomes of the TWG 5 report highlights focusing on the regulatory challenges affecting private investment participation in the electricity market, emphasizing Recommendation #8 on the importance of addressing regulatory barriers related to openness, attractiveness and readiness of the electricity market to investment. Mr. Andrea Renzulli, Senior Officer at RES4Africa introduced the methodological approach of UNECA and RES4Africa aimed at enhancing the crowding in of private investors along the sector's value chain.

The panel discussants addressed the following issues: both Mr. Pierre Kiala, Director of International Cooperation the Ministry of Energy and Water of Angola and Mr. Moges Getahaun, Director General at the Ethiopia Energy Authority presented the achievements on the SDGs fulfilment in their respective countries, focusing on the importance of implementing a supportive and non-discriminatory regulatory framework that could also enhance electricity access and, in more general terms, the opening of the electricity sector value chain to private investment.

Ms. Silvia Piana, Head of Regulatory Affairs at Enel Green Power, deep-dived on the regulatory barriers that inhibit the speed up of electricity private investments and on the importance of an open dialogue between the public and the private sector. Similarly, Mr. Gary Lawrence, Segment President, Power and Grid at Schneider Electric, focused on the drivers that could accelerate the off-grid renewable energy deployment.

**Key outcomes [max 100 words]:**

- Deep-diving on the methodological approach developed on how to evaluate the regulatory Openness, Attractiveness and Readiness of electricity markets to private investment participation;
- Disseminating experiences and lessons learned between countries' governments and decision-makers to ensure political buy-in for potential roadmaps for reforms;
- Building consensus and political buy-in around possible roadmaps for policy and regulatory reforms to support electricity sector development through effective private sector participation.

**Links to livestream recording/website/social media:** Not Available

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