

Speech at the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy 2021

Mr. ZHANG Jianhua

Administrator of the National Energy Administration of
the People's Republic of China

Secretary-General Guterres,

Dear colleagues,

Good day to you all! I am very delighted to be here at the UN High-level Dialogue on Energy 2021, representing China as a global energy Champion. I'd like to thank the United Nations for your longstanding support for China's Energy development.

The world is now in extraordinary times marked by grand development, major transformation and fundamental shifts. The climate crisis has provoked deep thinking on the relationship between man and nature. COVID-19 resurges have further exposed the problem of energy shortage. Globally, there are still 760 million people without full access to electricity. Many risks and uncertainties await us in our path toward a sustainable energy future.

As the largest developing country, China has always been adhering to "People Supremacy" development concept. In 2015,

we achieved 100% power access across the entire country, the first in all developing countries. In 2020, full access to electricity was provided to all rural areas in China, powering households and industrial needs. Our signature PV poverty alleviation projects have benefited 4.15 million poor households in 100,000 villages, creating 1.25 million jobs.

Indeed, these poverty alleviation projects are truly remarkable. Building a community with a shared future for the mankind so that people from across the world can all benefit from energy cooperation has always been our sincerest hope and ultimate pursuit.

As a champion for global energy access, China not only can have remarkable achievements at home, but also is willing to contribute to improving global energy access by sharing “Chinese solutions” and “Chinese wisdom”, and doing everything we can to help other developing countries with capacity building. We call upon the world to make “Energy Access” a top priority together with “Addressing Climate Change” and “Energy Transition”, and move quickly to develop workable implementation roadmap.

As a practitioner for global energy transition, China will uphold the principle of common but differentiated

responsibilities, stay focused on the carbon peak and carbon neutralities goals, and build a new electric power system based on new energy. We call upon the world to effectively implement the *Paris Agreement* in full and provide developing countries with technological and capital support so as to achieve a just, inclusive and sustainable green transition.

As a driver for global energy technological advancement, China will accelerate the R&D and deployment of key technologies including new types of energy storage and hydrogen. We also call upon the world to double down on energy technological and innovation collaboration. Let's break down geological barriers, close technological gaps and steer energy technologies onto a path of more open, inclusive and balanced development and help all countries to benefit from the newest energy technological advancement.

Dear colleagues! Just like a Roc soaring on the rising wind in the sky, the new energy reform has begun. China will stay committed to multilateralism and implement *the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. Let's champion the spirit of partnership and engage ourselves in equal footed consultations to seek for common ground while setting aside differences. Together, let's join hands to write this new chapter of energy

cooperation and build momentum for a global development community.

Thank you all.