



**STATEMENT OF GUATEMALA DELIVERED BY MR. ALBERTO PIMENTEL  
MATA, MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES  
UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

*(Delivered in Spanish)*

Mr. President, good morning,

It is my greatest honor to participate in this High-Level Dialogue about energy, with the purpose of discussing Guatemala's vision, which aims to achieve universal access to electricity and the reduction of emissions from the energy sector.

Departing from the notion that energy is development, I wanted to share the actions we are carrying out to promote the universality of the electricity coverage of the Republic of Guatemala. Today, around 400 thousand households lack this essential service in my country. In this sense, last year the National Plan for Rural Electrification was approved, for which we expect in less than 5 years to provide electricity to more than 100 thousand families.

The aforementioned plan requires crucial financial resources from the Government, however the commitment of this administration towards it, is absolute. In that regard, we find ourselves working hand in hand with multilateral Banks, international cooperation, the National Institute of Electrification, and of course, the private companies that distribute electricity.

In relation to the strategy for the reduction of emissions related to the use of energy resources, I want to point out my country has carried out in a great measure its homework. Today, around 60% of the energy is generated through renewable sources. Nevertheless, we continue to encourage the use of clean energy in Guatemala through the following actions:

1. The reformulation of long-term Energy Policy, keeping in mind that by 2050, 100% of our electricity will derive from renewable sources.
2. The previously mentioned policy, recognizes the necessity of including within our energy matrix, energy transitions such as Natural Gas, a resource that as a matter of fact, is already available in my country. Thereupon, at the Ministry of Energy and Mines, we are looking to encourage the greater national production of said gas, while at the same time enable the conditions to allow its importing in a sustainable way, in the immediate future.
3. As part of this strategy, in 2020 the new Indicative Electricity Generation Plan was approved, which will lead to the next open bidding processes, where we will also look for the stabilization of long-term energy prices.



However, sustainability requires, not only solving the problem of access to clean energy resources, but also the efficient use of them. This is why, we find ourselves elaborating the National Energy Efficiency Policy, in which we seek:

1. Encouraging the culture of efficiency within the country, through the actions of educating and campaigning for building the awareness of all users.
2. The promotion of new technology, with mild consumption. The strategy will play a fundamental role in the advancement of electric mobility in the country, recognizing that, through the transport sector, there will be a collaboration with the objectives of mitigation against climate change.
3. Likewise, with this policy we seek to create clear rules for the industry and commerce.
4. And, finally, the institutionalization of this process, by recognizing public institutions as an example of the efficient use of resources.

Mr. President, these are some of the activities my country is developing for the benefit of the population, preparing to guarantee the accomplishment of **SDG 7**, for which we pledge to achieve the access of electricity for all Guatemalans, in an affordable and sustainable manner.

Thank you very much.