



Republic of Mauritius

**High Level Dialogue on Energy
United Nations General Assembly**

**Statement by
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Minister of Energy and Public Utilities**

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Mr. President

As the Global Champion for the AIS region for the Theme on Innovation, Technology and Data, Mauritius has relentlessly pursued work on its voluntary commitments, and will soon submit its pledges to UNEnergy. It has also been monitoring progress at the regional level.

Notable progress, though at different speeds, has been made in the AIS region towards achieving SDG 7 targets and progressively transitioning to renewable energy. While new technologies, innovation and larger scale productions are being used, certain technologies, such as the offshore wind energy and ocean wave energy remain untapped because of the exorbitant costs linked to their customization to resist extreme weather conditions.

Pledges for financial support made by rich nations have not been forthcoming, and SIDS are struggling to achieve the SDG 7 targets.

We require reliable data on the integration of new technologies in the RE energy sector ahead of their availability on the marketplace together with appropriate funding so that we can better model scenarios for their inclusion in our energy strategies.

Mauritius has this year revised its renewable energy target from 40% to 60% by 2030, from the current level of about 24%. We have decided to completely phase out coal by 2030, which represents 40% of our needs. We are currently accessing potential hybrid systems in that regard.

Mauritius is also revising its pledge of 30% reduction of its Carbon Dioxide emissions by 2030 and will make new announcements during COP26.

Mr. President

For more than a decade, Mauritius has been using solar energy to meet part of its demand. While technologies such as PV can support our transition towards greener energy, disposal of the panels present a serious environment challenge. I therefore make an appeal for consideration to be given to finding appropriate ways of recycling of all RE equipment.

Mr. President

A strategy based exclusively on green energy may not allow SIDS to meet the SDG goals by 2030. Energy efficiency is equally important. Mauritius has embarked on a comprehensive in energy efficiency programme for the last few years resulting in a 10% improvement in energy efficiency. We are planning to make a new pledge for another 10% improvement by 2030.

With necessary support, Mauritius is committed to taking further actions and making new pledges.

Thank you.