

The Renewable Energy Transition Will Not Stop: REN21 Responds to U.S. Withdrawal from International Climate and Energy Bodies

REN21 regrets the decision by the Trump Administration to withdraw from a number of international organisations and multilateral frameworks, including REN21, the International Renewable Energy Agency, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

This is an unfortunate decision. At a time when countries face interconnected economic, environmental, and climate crises, effective responses depend on multilateralism and international cooperation. Stepping away from shared platforms for dialogue, data, knowledge exchange, and policy coordination risks isolating the United States from global efforts that are building resilient economies and societies, stable energy systems, and long-term prosperity.

However, this move does not alter the global trajectory towards renewables. The energy transition is already underway and continues to accelerate, driven not by ideology, but by economics. Renewable energy delivers greater energy security, shields economies from volatile fuel prices, creates jobs, reduces environmental damage, and supports more peaceful and equitable development pathways.

Rana Adib, Executive Director of REN21, said:

“Renewable energy is the strongest economic choice countries, subnational governments, cities, and citizens can make today. It is the best option for energy security, the smartest investment for long-term prosperity, and a critical foundation for protecting nature. The shift to renewables is happening globally; it is no longer optional or reversible. It is happening because it makes economic sense and because societies need reliable, affordable energy in a changing world.”

REN21 will continue to work with its global membership to advance a renewables-based economy that delivers prosperity and resilience. The transition to renewable energy is unstoppable, and international cooperation remains its greatest accelerator.

REN21 remains committed to convening governments, industry, civil society, and experts to advance solutions that deliver energy security, economic resilience, and long-term prosperity.

REN21 also remains open to re-engaging in dialogue with the United States and will continue engaging with our many US based members and partners. The United States has historically played an instrumental role in shaping global energy and climate cooperation, and collective progress toward a renewables-based economy is strongest when all major economies are engaged.

About REN21

REN21 is the global multi-stakeholder network of governments, industry, NGOs, science and academia that enables the necessary changes to build the renewable-based economy for prosperous lives and societies.

Founded in 2004, we've built a powerful and diverse network of 121 institutions and a community of more than 4,000 players, from the energy ecosystem and other key sectors. Our inclusive governance structure and collaborative culture enable us to build on the insights and intelligence of our global community to drive the solutions needed for economic prosperity and societal well-being.

Since 2005, REN21's Renewables Global Status Report has been co-created with hundreds of experts and contributors, highlighting key developments and trends in renewables.

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