

**IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SEVENTH
PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF
GHANA**

**REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
MINES AND ENERGY**

ON THE

**RATIFICATION OF THE FRAMEWORK
AGREEMENT ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR
ALLIANCE (ISA)**

3RD OCTOBER, 2017

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THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE (ISA)**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Framework Agreement on the Establishment of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) was laid in Parliament on Tuesday, 3rd October, 2017 by the Hon. Minister for Energy, Mr. Boakye Agyarko.
- 1.2 The Rt. Speaker subsequently referred the Framework Agreement to the Committee on Mines and Energy for consideration and report pursuant to Article 75 of the 1992 Constitution and Order 188 of the Standing Orders of Parliament.

2.0 DELIBERATIONS

- 2.0 The Committee met on 3rd October, 2017 with officials of the Ministry of Energy and considered the Framework Agreement. In attendance at the meeting were the Minister for Energy, Hon. Boakye Agyarko and his Deputy, Hon. Joseph Cudjoe. The Committee is grateful to the Minister and his Deputy for their inputs and clarifications.

3.0 REFERENCE

- 3.1 The Committee was guided by the following documents:
- I. The 1992 Constitution of Ghana; and
 - II. The Standing Orders of Parliament.

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a treaty-based international intergovernmental organization of countries located between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn to address their special energy needs through efficient exploitation of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
- 4.2 The Alliance was launched on 30th November, 2015 and has so far been signed by thirty-one (31) countries. Ghana signed the Framework Agreement on 22nd May, 2017

- 4.3 The overarching objective of the establishment of the ISA is to create a collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies to enhance energy security and sustainable development, as well as improve access to energy.
- 4.4 Fifteen (15) countries are expected to ratify the Framework Agreement for it to come into force. The first fifteen (15) countries who ratify the Framework also become the founding members
- 4.5 The ISA is meant to reinforce efforts of other organizations such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), International Energy Agency (IEA) and Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) by establishing network and develop synergies with those organizations and supplement their efforts in a sustainable and coordinated manner.

5.0 Rationale for the Ratification of the ISA

The overall goal for accepting to join the Alliance is to enable the government leverage on the opportunities offered by the Alliance to accelerate Ghana's quest to increasing its renewable energy mix including solar from the current 1% to ten percent (10%) by 2030.

6.0 Financial Commitment

The Committee was informed that Ghana's membership to the Alliance will not bring any financial burden to the country.

7.0 OBSERVATIONS

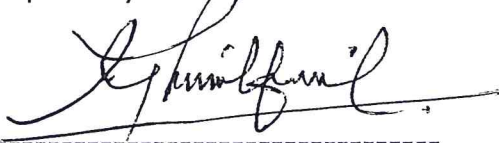
- 6.1 The Committee noted that fifteen Member countries who first ratified the Framework becomes the founding Members. So far six countries including, India, France, Fiji, Mauritius, Nauru and Comoros have ratified the Framework Agreement.
- 6.2 It was observed that among the benefits for becoming a founding Member are access to US\$10 billion Renewable Energy Credit Facility from India of which US\$2 billion is for Africa Countries, technology transfer, high quality training and research from the India Centre of Excellence in Renewable Energy, and access to equipment for demonstration projects at no cost.

- 6.3 Other benefits due Ghana include potential to attracting significant investments to the solar energy space in Ghana. This will improve access to the productive use of energy, leading to job creation, increase in the application of solar in other critical sectors of the economy such as water purification systems, solar powered irrigation for agriculture and health care.
- 6.4 Additional advantage to be derived would include increase in access to off-grid solar solutions to remote communities that can never have access to the national grid.

7.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Committee has thoroughly examined the Framework Agreement and is of the view that the ratification by Parliament would enable Ghana benefit from all the opportunities associated with it as outlined above.
- 7.2 The Committee accordingly recommends to the House to ratify the Framework Agreement on the Establishment of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in accordance with Article 75 of the 1992 Constitution

Respectfully submitted.



HON. EMMANUEL AKWASI GYAMFI
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE



JOANA ABENA SAKYI ADJEI (MRS.)
CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

October, 2017

