

THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

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Mission & Objectives

WCRE – the global voice for Renewable Energy

The World Council, a globally operating independent organization, is the global voice for Renewable Energy in the concert of global energy discussion. A voice speaking for the benefits of Renewable Energy for the quality of people's life, for protecting the climate, renewing the industries, avoiding external costs, saving long-term costs and keeping peace. A voice challenging governments and international organizations to finally set their priorities on Renewable Energy and force the replacement of conventional energies. A voice to help transcend lip services often paid to comprehensive practice towards achieving a "grand strategy" for Renewable Energy.

WCRE – global leadership forum for Renewable Energy

The WCRE tries to bring Renewable Energy into the mainstream of world economy and lifestyle to transform it into a solar world economy. To accomplish this the WCRE serves as a *leadership forum* for all Renewable Energy sectors, building a greater sense of common purpose among the global Renewable Energy and related communities. Its mission to convince the global opinion of the potentials of Renewable Energy while showing the undesirable developments, the dangers, hidden costs and the damage to civilization, caused by conventional energy supply. The WCRE is dedicated to motivate and encourage governments and enterprises to develop strategies for Renewable Energy. It seeks to unify Renewable Energy interests and help forge the necessary alliances – integrating those parts of the conventional energy economy which accompany them on their way towards Renewable Energy without accepting conventional barriers. It is the world's forum for political and economic concepts that are most suitable to assist in rapidly accelerating the introduction of Renewable Energy.

Philosophy

Dedicated to the Renewable Energy Revolution

The conventional energy economy is based on the theory that we cannot do without fossil and nuclear energy - in spite of the fact that this theory proved to be wrong. It operates within the established structures of energy supply. Therefore, the established energy economy cannot be neutral towards all energy sources. It was developed and designed to provide today's dominant energy supply. All the main energy players – enterprises, non-governmental

organizations like the World Energy Council, and governmental organizations like the International Energy Agency – are set up upon the principles and structures of the highly centralized and heavily funded fossil and nuclear energy system. Thus, even the World Energy Council recognizes that “there is ... the barrier posed by the existing investments and interests in fossil fuel and nuclear energy provision and use” and it proposes “a single organization to give international focus and leadership to the increased use of renewable energy”.

The World Council for Renewable Energy is an independent, non-government organization, unique in being solely committed to Renewable Energy worldwide and who responds to the need of an adequate representation of decentralized and small Renewable Energy organizations, consumers and producers. The WCRE is free of vested interests of the present global energy system and has no commitments to governments and international organizations, which have abiding interests in the conventional energy economy.

Means

WCRE promotes greater public awareness of Renewable Energy and its benefits for sustainable energy supply, national and global security, economic growth, industry productivity, human health, a cleaner, healthier environment and a world-wide, credible prospect for global ecosystem survival. WCRE’s major areas of activity encompass information, agenda setting and networking.

Information

WCRE strives to improve worldwide understanding about Renewable Energy policy and strategy issues. WCRE works with its members to develop agendas, publish documents and organize conferences to globally promote Renewable Energy. Among the most important issues are information about the massive and immediate need for Renewable Energy and its availability for all power demands, analysis of the barriers to Renewable Energy promulgation and the preparation of proposals to overcome these. Furthermore, experiences of initiatives for Renewable Energy will be documented, best-practice examples globally communicated and advanced technological opportunities and applications of Renewable Energy Technologies evaluated. One of its main events to inform the international public and experts is the *World Renewable Energy Forum*, which will take place the next time in May 30/31 2004 in Bonn and will serve as a major driving force for the International Governmental Conference for Renewable Energies, June 1-4 2004.

Setting the Agenda

WCRE is committed to stimulate international organizations and governments to create policies and strategies to introduce Renewable Energy and to enlarge their share on the overall energy supply. The WCRE applies all its strength to elaborate and place onto the international agenda the such policies and strategies. These are enshrined in the WCRE’s *Global Action Plan for the Proliferation of Renewable Energy*, which was adopted at the First Renewable Energy Forum in Berlin in 2002. E.g. it calls for

- the establishment of an *International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)*;

- for a *Renewable Energy Proliferation Treaty* as a supplementary and complementary protocol to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT);
- Focusing development aid funds on the promotion of Renewable Energy;
- Conversion of conventional energy subsidies and public incentives into Renewable Energy promotion;
- *Global and national targets and strategies for the introduction of Renewable Energy, based on best-practice experience;*
- Global Industrial Norms and Standards;
- New Approach to Energy Statistics;
- Complete Emission Measurements for the Clean Development Mechanism and Emission Trading under the Kyoto Protocol;
- Elimination of trade barriers for Renewable Energy Generation, Conservation and Efficiency Technologies;
- Aggressive financing for Renewable Energy through zero and low interest rate investments;
- Conversion Strategies for Fossil-Energy-Producing countries.

During its *First World Renewable Energy Policy and Strategy Forum* in Berlin 2002 the WCRE appealed to the international community to form the “Group of Renewable and Efficient Energy Nations” (GREEN Nations) which recognizes *global Renewable Energy proliferation* as a key strategy for sustainable development worldwide. Inspired by this initiative more than 80 nations signed a Joint Declaration for Common Initiatives to Promote Renewable Energy globally at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002. At the Second World Forum for Renewable Energies in May 2004, the WCRE will present to the public an Earth Charter for Renewable Energy. In 2004 the WCRE will be a driving force behind the *International Governmental Conference on Renewable Energy* to which the German Government invited the international community.

Networking

The third pillar of WCRE’s activities is to network and to be the leadership forum of the global Renewable Energy community. As a network organization WCRE assists its members and participants in expanding their relationships with the international Renewable Energy community.

All WCRE bodies – the high profile Chairmen Committee and Advisory Board, associated organizations as the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), the European Association for Renewable Energy (EUROSOLAR), or WCRE Australia/Pacific, and WCRE members of all sectors of Renewable Energy – are highly committed to further establish better synergies within the Renewable Energy community and beyond and to strengthen the movement for a better sustainable planet.