

Monsieur Le Président,
Madame Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Energy is the engine of economic growth and social development. We saw this reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals. It also accounts for 2/3 of global emissions, so is at the heart of the climate change challenge. The International Energy Agency embraces a low-carbon, resilient, energy future.

The INDCs are a historic leap forward, but more is needed to keep the below two-degrees goal within reach. Five measures, led by energy efficiency and renewable energy, should be taken to peak global energy-related emissions around 2020 with no harm to economic growth. Our Ministers endorsed this in their statement on energy and climate change, released at the recent IEA Ministerial meeting.

The Paris agreement must send a crystal-clear message to energy investors that the future lies in low-carbon energy systems. It needs three things to do this: a long-term greenhouse gas mitigation goal, a five-year cycle to increase ambition, and a strong framework to track emissions and energy sector transformation.

Innovation, such as through the IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes, is also critical for bringing down the cost and improving the performance of clean-energy technologies. We recognise the great step taken by the 20 countries who announced their participation in Mission Innovation, and we stand ready to support existing and new energy technology collaborations.

After Paris, the IEA stands ready to support the global transformation of energy systems, bringing together data, modelling, policies and technology innovation.

It is now in your hands to shift the future of the energy sector. You can do this. You must do this.

Thank you.