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CONCEPT NOTE

REGIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONFERENCE Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) Tower, Arusha, Tanzania 4-5 December 2024

1. Background

The Regional Energy Efficiency Conference will convene Ministers from EAC and SADC, energy experts, and senior leaders to drive progress toward universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy. Hosted by Tanzania's Ministry of Energy in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union, and the Embassy of Ireland, the conference will be held from **December 4–5, 2024**, at the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) Tower in Arusha, Tanzania.

Detailed logistical information on accommodation, travel, and visa requirements will be available upon registration on the event platform.

2. Introduction

At COP28, governments committed to doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. The International Energy Agency's (IEA) net zero pathway indicates that annual progress needs to increase from the current 2% per year to more than 4% per year to meet this goal. However, according to the latest IEA data, global energy efficiency improved by only 1.1% in 2023, well below the target.

In response, Tanzania, alongside other East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states, has implemented various energy efficiency measures. The upcoming regional energy efficiency conference will serve as a platform for fostering networking and collaborative initiatives among stakeholders, policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and the public to advance energy efficiency practices across the regions.

The conference will also emphasize South-South cooperation in energy efficiency, including roundtable discussions to facilitate knowledge sharing among nations. Additionally, it will provide valuable learning opportunities for young people involved in innovation, entrepreneurship, and start-ups within the energy efficiency sector through exhibitions and panel discussions. The event presents a unique opportunity for exhibitors to showcase practical and innovative energy efficiency solutions.

3. Objectives of the Conference

The Regional Energy Efficiency Conference (REEC) aims to engage national and international energy efficiency stakeholders/partners in strengthening legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks and administration for implementing energy efficiency practices within the SADC and EAC regions. The



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conference is intended to promote regional cooperation and collaboration in the area of energy efficiency. Through the sharing of best practices, experiences, and knowledge among the EAC and SADC member states, the REEC will help to identify common challenges and opportunities for improving energy efficiency across the region. This can lead to the development and alignment of more effective policies, regulations, and standards that promote energy efficiency, as well as increased investment in energy-efficient technologies and practices.

4. Conference Theme

‘Advancing Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Development’

5. Venue and Participants

The conference will be held at the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) Tower in Arusha from December 4–5, 2024. The ceremony will be officiated by **Tanzania’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, Hon. Dr. Doto Mashaka Biteko (MP)**, alongside energy ministers from EAC and SADC member countries.

The event aims to gather a diverse audience of approximately 300 participants from the EAC and SADC regions, fostering dialogue, collaboration, and strategic engagement. Expected attendees include government officials, experienced energy experts, professionals from leading think tanks, representatives from international organizations such as UN agencies, members of financial institutions, youth and women representatives, students, and media members. The event will be conducted both in Kiswahili and English, with simultaneous interpretation services available in French, English and Kiswahili.

6. Expected Outcomes

Expected conference outputs include:

- Strengthened commitment to policy development and implementation to improve energy efficiency standards within the region.
- Enhanced and stimulated regional cooperation and collaboration among different stakeholders and actors in the area of energy efficiency.
- Increased awareness and understanding of salient features and energy efficient tools, common challenges and opportunities for improving energy efficiency initiatives and interventions across the region.
- Enhanced experience on the practical evidence regarding benefits of energy efficiency in different sectors of the regional development and economies.
- Increased awareness on the needed capacity building and skills to support the growth and sustainability of the energy efficiency sector, with a potential positive impact on job creation and overall development in the region.
- Improved participation of women and youth in energy efficiency value chain of different sectors.



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7. Exhibitions

Given the focus of the event, exhibitors will have a strategic opportunity to showcase best practices in energy efficiency. The exhibition will feature demonstrations of different technologies like electric mobility, CNG transport, efficient cooking practices, industrial and commercial energy efficient solutions throughout the conference.