

## Ashgabat energy efficiency

Opening the roundtable discussion, Natalya Drozd, the Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, referred to the 2013 Ministerial Council decision on improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities, which called on the OSCE participating States to pursue energy diversification "with a focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency, when developing their respective national energy policies".

"By adopting the National Programme for Energy Saving 2018-2024 and joining the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Turkmenistan reaffirmed its commitment to promoting the development of renewable energy and increasing energy efficiency", said Drozd. "The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat is ready to provide expert advice to further support the development of the National Strategy on Renewables."

The roundtable discussion was facilitated by international experts from Kazakhstan. They shared efficient strategies and policies in the area of renewable energy and elaborated on the legal, institutional and financial aspects of renewable energy development. They highlighted the role of high technologies for the efficient production and distribution of renewable energy.

The roundtable participants reviewed draft scenarios of renewable energy development from the perspective of the Government's priorities. They also discussed their subsequent integration into the National Strategy on Renewables.

On 26 April, the Centre also organized a lecture on best practices of efficient energy production and consumption at the International University of Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan (IUOG). The lecture was attended by instructors and students of the IUOG and was broadcast at the Mary Turkmen State Energy Institute and the Turkmen State Institute of Transport and Communication by means of a video teleconference.

The International Expert Meeting on Enhancing Energy Connectivity - Promoting Cooperation and Achieving Sustainable Development is taking place in Ashgabat on the 16th to 17th of October 2024 under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Ocean.

The meeting will address the critical need for stable and efficient energy connectivity to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of providing affordable, reliable, resilient and modern energy for all.

The meeting builds on the momentum created by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 78/149, which recognized the key role of energy connectivity in achieving sustainable development. The meeting is being held in a hybrid format, with experts participating in discussions both in person in Ashgabat and virtually through an online platform.



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