Statement of the Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA) on the COP31 '35-by-35' global electrification pledge

We, APRA Countries and Partners[1],

Recall the African Leaders' Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action adopted at the first Africa Climate Summit in September 2023 and its commitment to increase Africa's renewable generation capacity to at least 300 GW by 2030;

Recall the African Leaders' Addis Ababa Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action adopted in September 2025, which reaffirms this ambition, and calls for strengthened and sustained support to scale up the implementation of African-led climate initiatives, including APRA and Africa Green Industrialisation Initiative;

Recall also the APRA Joint Statement adopted at COP28

Reaffirm our commitment to the COP28 UAE Consensus, in particular paragraph 28 of decision 1/CMA.5 on the outcome of the first Global Stocktake, which calls on Parties to contribute to global efforts to transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner and ***underline*** our support for tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030, recognising Africa's 300 GW objective as a contribution to the global renewables goal;

Note that Africa's renewable power capacity stood at 82 GW in 2025, and ***underscore*** the necessity to accelerate deployment of the continent's abundant renewable resources;

Welcome the growing global momentum towards decarbonisation and accelerated clean electrification, including the COP31 '35-by-35' Global Electrification Pledge objective to raise electricity's share of total final energy consumption to 35% globally by 2035, in line with pathways consistent with keeping 1.5°C alive, and complementary to efforts to expand renewable energy and improve energy efficiency;

Note that this is a global objective, with nationally determined pathways reflecting different starting points, development priorities and circumstances, and that each country retains authority over its electrification policies, plans and strategies;

[1] Ethiopia, Kenya, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Denmark and Germany,

Affirm that renewables-based electrification, together with energy efficiency, is essential to strengthening energy security, expanding access, improving affordability and building resilient energy systems, while reducing dependence on fossil fuels;

Recognise that renewable-based electrification can drive green industrialisation, local value creation and decent work, including through the development of local renewable energy industries, and that realising these benefits require investment in productive uses, skills and local enterprises;

Recognise also the complementary roles of APRA and AGII in connecting renewable energy development with industrial investment and regional value chains;

Note with concern the scale of Africa's electricity access gap, with over 560 million people in sub-Saharan Africa without access in 2024;

Stress that universal access is the foundation of electrification in Africa, and that renewable energy offers a modern, reliable and affordable means to expand access for households, businesses, public services and industry;

Emphasise the potential of renewable-powered electric cooking to expand access to affordable clean cooking, raise electricity's share of total final energy consumption, and increase the utilisation and support the financial viability of grids and mini-grids, as appropriate to national circumstances;

Underscore the need for accessible and affordable finance for renewable generation, transmission and distribution networks, storage, off-grid systems and end-use electrification, and **reiterate** the African Leaders' call to raise Africa's share of global renewable energy investment to at least 20% by 2030;

To this end

We commit to cooperate under the Partnership on:

- Advancing nationally determined electrification priorities through APRA Country Action Plans and national energy, climate and development planning;
- Strengthening policies and investment conditions for renewable energy deployment, energy efficiency and end-use electrification in industry, agriculture, transport, buildings and public services;

- Developing project pipelines that connect renewable generation and electricity infrastructure with productive and industrial demand, including storage and other measures to strengthen system flexibility and reliability;
- Advancing regional interconnection and cross-border power trade to improve reliability, affordability and opportunities for green industrial development;
- Aligning partner support with priorities identified in APRA Country Action Plans and coordinating with existing country programmes and financing mechanisms;
- Working with Multilateral Development Banks, International Financial Institutions and other financing partners to lower the cost of capital, and mobilise grants, concessional finance, guarantees and project preparation support that reduce financing barriers and attract investment; and
- Providing targeted technical assistance, supporting institutional and workforce skills, and facilitating technology cooperation and peer-to-peer exchange.

Together, we will strengthen engagement with African and international businesses, financial institutions and other non-governmental actors to support renewable-powered electrification, productive uses and local value creation. We will promote approaches that support just transitions and take account of workers and communities affected by changes in energy systems, while expanding opportunities for women and youth.

We invite IRENA as the APRA Secretariat and the APRA Implementation Office hosted by UNOPS, within their respective roles and in consultation with countries and partners, to support these actions.

We invite countries and partners to join the COP31 '35-by-35' Global Electrification Pledge and to support renewable-powered electrification through APRA.