

Remarks on Focal Themes

Minister Susana Jiménez

Bariloche, Argentina – June 15th, 2018

Thank you, Chair.

It has been an honor for Chile to participate in the G20's energy-related work this year, and I would like to thank our Argentine hosts for the excellent preparation of today's meeting, their immense commitment to dialogue and their warm hospitality, not to mention the magnificent view.

Upon taking office last March, the Chilean President, His Excellency Sebastián Piñera, entrusted me with carrying out a participative process to develop our national Energy Roadmap for the next four years. This Roadmap's overall objective is modernizing Chile's energy sector, with a focus on ensuring that the positive effects of energy transitions reach our citizens' daily lives.

Chile has had a notable energy development. Nonetheless, we recognize that the modernization of our energy sector will not occur by itself without adequate, enabling policy design and regulatory frameworks. And in this line, there are numerous synergies with the energy-related discussions within the G20 and the documents

prepared by the Argentine Presidency with distinguished international entities.

Firstly, I would like to commend the attention that the G20 has given to the issues associated with the integration variable renewable energies. Solar and wind energy are now cost-competitive in Chile without government subsidies and we have an enormous potential for further development of new renewable energies. However, to take advantage of this opportunity we must address the associated challenges by developing and implementing innovative and enabling policy and regulatory frameworks.

The Presidency's documents focus on the role of energy integration is also highly relevant, given that it allows for improved system flexibility, greater use of renewable energies and improved emergency response. We are working closely with Argentina in this area, with regards to both electricity and natural gas, convinced of the benefits that the complementarity of our energy systems can bring to our citizens.

Energy access in isolated areas and among vulnerable populations is crucial, including the quality, security and continuity of the energy supply in rural areas. We cannot speak of having modern energy systems if we are in debt to our citizens in this area. This goes back

to the foundations of our Energy Roadmap: that the energy transition must improve the daily lives of our citizens.

We are also working to use today's opportunities to move forward with the energy transition in other areas, such as the electrification of transport and efficient heating. Although the documents that we are discussing today mention the use of coal in Chile's power generation, today I am proud to say that our Government has reached an agreement with power generators to build a timeline in which they will voluntarily retire or reconvert coal-fired power generation plants.

I would like to conclude by highlighting the leadership role that the G20 is capable of playing in the world. We believe that it is important for the G20 to open spaces for cooperation and to share expertise and diverse experiences. We are proud to collaborate with your efforts and support the willingness to seek consensus around a common vision.

Thank you.