

REPUBLIC OF BENIN



MINISTRY OF ENERGY, WATER AND MINES

AFRICAN PETROLEUM PRODUCERS'
ORGANIZATION (APPO)



No. **0022**/APPO/PR/EBM-Benin/2023

Cotonou, **13th December 2023**

THE PRESIDENT

To

The President of COP28,

Excellency,

I am greatly honored to write you this open letter following the conclusion of COP28. While commending you for the successful hosting of the most inclusive COP in history, the African Petroleum Producers' Organization (APPO) wishes to state the following:

1. The level of underdevelopment in African countries marked by extreme poverty inhibits the region from accepting the call for a cease in investments in their hydrocarbon and gas resources. The attempt to prevent them from harnessing their well-endowed oil and gas resources could have disastrous consequences as they will not be able to access the little energy that will be available. Supporters of the energy transition plan being pushed would also continue to make the world pay for damages caused to the climate, because the African continent is not the source of pollutions causing the climate change.
2. The energy transition as recommended by industrialized countries is therefore being questioned by African countries with oil and gas potentials where energy poverty is rampant and whose population do not have access to any form of energy. Can we therefore not ask ourselves if we are not courting an energy crisis that we will not be able to manage?
3. In view of the above, APPO opposes any attempt to discourage investments in the oil and gas sector, to gradually reduce oil and gas production or to reduce the consumption of oil and gas while the world is still uncertain about the success of renewable energy, especially at a time when global demand for primary energy is expected to increase by almost 25% by 2050.

While craving your indulgence to understand our position on the Global Energy Transition, please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

The Minister of Energy, Water and Mines &
President of APPO Council of Ministers

(Signed)

Samou SEIDOU ADAMBI