# International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

***Prelims:*** *Current events of national and international importance | International Organizations*

## Why in News?

*India reaffirmed its commitment to a just and inclusive global energy transition at the 16th annual IRENA Assembly (2026).*

- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is ***an intergovernmental organization*** that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future.
- It serves as the principal platform for international cooperation, a centre of excellence, and a repository of policy, technology, resource and financial knowledge on renewable energy.
- **Established in** – 2009.
- **Headquarters** - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- **Membership –** Presently, IRENA has 171 Members (170 Countries and the European Union).
- ***India is also one of the founder members*** of IRENA.
- **Mandate & Objectives -** Promote the widespread adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy worldwide
- Support countries in achieving energy security, climate mitigation, and sustainable development
- Act as a global hub for renewable energy cooperation, data, and policy advice
- **Key Functions -** Provides policy guidance and technical assistance to governments.
- Publishes global reports like the World Energy Transitions Outlook.
- Supports investment mobilisation and capacity building.
- Facilitates knowledge-sharing on renewable energy technologies (solar, wind, bioenergy, hydropower, etc.)
- **Global Role -** Contributes to achieving SDG-7 (Affordable and Clean Energy).

- Works closely with UN bodies, having observer status at the UN General Assembly.
- Complements global initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- **Key highlights (2026) –** The 16th International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Assembly was held in January 2026.
- **Held in –** Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- **Theme –** "Powering Humanity: Renewable Energy for Shared Prosperity."
- **Presidency –** The Dominican Republic.
- **India's commitment -** India reaffirmed its strong commitment to a just, equitable, affordable and sustainable global energy transition.
- It also includes ambitions of ***500 GW of non-fossil fuel*** capacity by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2070 and reaching **50 %** installed capacity from non-fossil sources ahead of schedule.

**Reference**

PIB | India's Energy Transition

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