



ORGANIZACIÓN DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS  
PARA EL DESARROLLO INDUSTRIAL



**SICA**  
Sistema de la Integración  
Centroamericana

## JOINT DECLARATION

by

**Mr. Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arévalo, Secretary-General of the  
Central American Integration System (SICA)**

and

**Mr. Guillermo Castellá Lorenzo, Director and UNIDO Representative of the  
Regional Hub in Mexico of the  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

WHEREAS the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), as a specialized agency of the United Nations, has the official mandate to promote climate-resilient, inclusive and sustainable industrial development in developing countries and economies in transition;

WHEREAS the Central American Integration System (SICA), as a regional organization of Central American Integration, has as an objective the integration of Central America to transform the region into an area of peace, freedom and development and as one of its purposes to promote in a harmonious and balanced way the economic, social, cultural and political sustainable development of the Member States and of the region as a whole;

ACKNOWLEDGING that climate-resilient, inclusive and sustainable industrial development is an important vehicle to promote competitive economies, prosperity, decent work, and poverty alleviation in Central America;

ACKNOWLEDGING that supporting inclusive and sustainable industrial development that contributes to infrastructure development, innovation and the efficient and sustainable use of resources brings benefits at a global scale, namely employment creation, poverty alleviation, improved integration in global value chains, increased international commercial flows, reduced environmental impact of industrial activities, enhanced quality of goods and services exported, as well as international knowledge sharing and technology transfer;

ACKNOWLEDGING the trend towards circular economy in industry against the background of increasing scarcity and price volatility of raw materials as well as the need to internalize the costs of environmental externalities, such as air, soil and water pollution and climate change caused by global greenhouse gas emissions;

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the Central America region is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its geographical location and, in the last decades, it has had a high incidence of extreme events associated with climate variability and climate change, affecting people's lives and properties and the overall development of SICA Member States;



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CONSCIOUS of the fact that the success of strategies for sustainable development and climate resilience in SICA Member States will depend to a large extent on the energy sector, as the Central America region currently faces challenges related to energy shortage and affordability, energy security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, local pollution, etc;

NOW THEREFORE the Director and UNIDO Representative and the Secretary-General of SICA declare their intentions to:

1. Promote the development of inclusive and sustainable regional industrialization policies and their implementation at national levels;
2. Advocate for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 9 on infrastructure, industry and innovation, 7 on affordable and sustainable energy access and 13 on climate action, in SICA Member States;
3. Strengthen the regional knowledge base and skills on climate-resilient, inclusive and sustainable industrial development, particularly in the context of the emerging industry 4.0 paradigm and global value chains;
4. Develop and implement joint regional programmes and projects in key industrial sectors and thematic areas, including agro-industry, aquaculture and fisheries, cleaner production, resource efficiency and circular economy, eco-industrial parks and clusters, renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable cities, e-mobility and bio-pharmaceutics;
5. Cooperate on emerging digital solutions that enable the development of new business models in the industrial sector while contributing to increase resilience to the adverse effects of climate change;
6. Establish industry-relevant regional networks and institutions and initiate the necessary actions to start the formalization and operationalization processes for the establishment of the SICA Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE) in SG-SICA by end of 2019, for which the signatories will communicate each other on the availability to contribute to this joint effort and specific agreements will be timely signed, containing the participation conditions of each organization;
7. Establish close cooperation between SICREEE and the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) in Bridgetown, Barbados, within the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers (GN-SEC) and the cooperation framework between SICA and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM);
8. Establish close cooperation between SICREEE and the Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN) of UNIDO to mitigate the financial barriers for sustainable energy and climate technology projects and businesses in Central America;
9. Review the achieved progress after a period of five years following the signing of this Joint Declaration and to decide then on the validity of the Declaration and on any further measures that may be considered convenient.
10. Undertake mutual consultations with a view of concluding an appropriate relationship agreement to institutionalize the partnership, which would be subject to approval in accordance with their respective policies and procedures.



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The signatories acknowledge that the present Joint Declaration is not a binding document and does not give rise to any fiduciary, legal, or financial obligations or commitments. Any activities that may be conducted under this Joint Declaration are subject to and contingent upon the availability of sufficient staff, funds, and other resources and may require the prior execution of one or more legally binding instruments, which shall be separately negotiated and agreed to by the signatories.

El Salvador, 21 August 2019

Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo  
Secretary-General of the Central  
American Integration System

Guillermo Castellá Lorenzo  
Director and Representative of the  
Regional Hub in Mexico of the  
United Nations Industrial  
Development Organization

As a witness of honor:

Eduardo Antonio Cader Recinos  
President of the Salvadoran Association of Industrialists