



IEF

The International Energy Forum (IEF) is the world's largest gathering of Energy Ministers. IEF Countries account for more than 90% of global oil and gas supply and demand. In addition to IEA and OPEC countries, transit states and key energy players, including Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Russia and South Africa, participate in the Forum. The magnitude and diversity of this engagement is a testament to the IEF's position as a neutral facilitator. Through the Forum and its associated events, IEF Ministers, their officials, energy industry executives, and other experts engage in a dialogue of increasing importance to global energy security. The IEF and the global energy dialogue are promoted by a permanent Secretariat of international staff based in the Diplomatic Quarter of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

For more information on the producer – consumer dialogue visit www.ief.org

IGU

The International Gas Union is a worldwide non-profit organization aiming at promoting the technical and economical progress of the gas industry. The union has around 100 members worldwide in 73 countries on all continents. The members of IGU are national corporations of the gas industry. IGU's working organization covers all aspects of the gas value chain from exploration and production, transmission, storage, LNG, and distribution to customers. IGU promotes continuous improvement of corporate performance towards a sustainable development.

For more information visit www.igu.org



SECOND IEF - IGU MINISTERIAL GAS FORUM - 30 NOV 2010, DOHA, QATAR



ANNOUNCEMENT: SECOND IEF - IGU MINISTERIAL GAS FORUM THE ROLE OF NATURAL GAS IN A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

DOHA, 30 NOVEMBER 2010

AN IEF EVENT IN COOPERATION WITH THE IGU

“Natural gas has strengthened its position in the world energy mix.”

The first IEF - IGU Forum was held in Vienna, Austria, 24 November 2008 with the participation of Ministerial delegations and industry leaders from 14 countries, 20 companies and 7 international organizations. The theme of the first IEF- IGU Forum was “World Gas Markets Going from Regional to Global.”

Ministers and industry leaders applauded the first IEF - IGU Ministerial Gas Forum as an important step forward in the promotion of healthy dialogue between natural gas producers and consumers. To advance this dialogue, the IEF and IGU will organise further forums as part of a regular platform for debate, discussion and education among consumers, producers, governments and industry.



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The second IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum will gather Ministers and gas industry leaders from gas producing, consuming and transit countries to discuss “The Role of Natural Gas in a Sustainable Energy Future.” There is an urgent need to develop a sustainable response to climate change, a response that balances both environmental concerns and global energy demand.



Natural gas consumption and trade have been growing steadily over the past two decades and natural gas has strengthened its position in the world energy mix. Although natural gas demand declined in 2009, as a result of the economic slowdown, it is expected to resume growth in both emerging and traditional markets in the coming decades. The “availability” of natural gas, which has comparatively lower emissions than alternative fossil fuels, and advances in technology, have driven the recent development of natural gas resources.

The structure of global gas demand has changed as developing countries have begun to use more natural gas and the more mature markets have seen their demand level off or decline. The projected increase in natural gas demand is expected to come primarily from non-OECD countries, with those in Asia and the Middle East playing an ever more important role.

The recent growth of unconventional gas resources in the US, particularly in the last three years, has also altered the gas market outlook not only in America but also in other parts of the world. New, indigenous supply in the US, traditionally one of the largest single natural gas consumers, threatens to displace LNG imports for years to come.

The sustainability of our energy future has the full attention of the world’s policymakers. The COP15 UN climate summit in Copenhagen in December 2009, and the preparations for COP16 in Mexico later this year, are likely to impact the future energy mix.

Natural gas, given its environmental qualities, could be the cleaner fossil fuel needed to move towards a low-emission economy.

Participants will review key challenges to address sustainable supply and demand of natural gas in the context of the current economic crisis.

- How will natural gas markets evolve? What effect could new energy policies (renewable, efficiency, regulation) have on gas demand?
- How will the global economic crisis and the subsequent recovery impact gas demand, investment and medium term gas supply?
- How could gas pricing develop? And how will the link to oil prices evolve?
- What are the consequences of the structural change in the US natural gas market caused by the rise of unconventional gas? How will US LNG imports evolve and what impact will there be on inter-regional trade?
- How will the growing gas demand and supply challenges in the Middle East affect the global natural gas trade? Will domestic gas prices be affected?
- How is the Gas Data Transparency Initiative progressing and how can the implementation of monthly gas data collection be accelerated?
- What can be expected from COP16 in Mexico and how could the conference impact the natural gas industry? What role will natural gas play in a low-emission economy?

These questions and many others related to challenges the natural gas industry faces will be addressed by the participants.

The second IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum will be structured around panel discussions and interactive debate, under Chatham House rules, and is limited to 100 participants, by invitation only.

Invitations will be sent out in April 2010.



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