

HE Dr Sun Xiansheng

Opening Address: 14th JODI

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My good friend **HE Tarek El-Molla**, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Arab Republic of Egypt; Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates from Governments, Industry, and International Organisations.

Let me **welcome you all** to this Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI) International Conference, being **held here in the beautiful city of CAIRO that is rich in history and culture.**

First, let me thank my good friend **HE Mr. Tarek El-Molla** and the Government of Egypt / Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources **for hosting this important conference and for the outstanding hospitality. It was also a pleasure to see HE Mr Tareq at the 8th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable in Abu Dhabi last month.**

Holding this Conference here in **is a clear demonstration of Egypt's commitment** to Energy Dialogue and Transparency under the IEF platform.

Some of you may recall that a **JODI Conference was held in Cairo in 2003**. So, it is great that JODI comes back to Cairo after 15 years.

Also, it is worthy to recognise that Egypt is also leading regional cooperation for **East Mediterranean natural gas development**. And I am confident that the sprit cooperation of JODI and its quest for data transparency has a key role to play in this context.

As some of you know that the **IEF is an open, and neutral platform** for dialogue and engagement among energy producers and consumers. The IEF has a broad membership which consists of **over seventy-member countries** accounting for 90% of global oil and gas demand and supply.

As such the **IEF prides itself on its neutrality**, providing an inclusive and unbiased forum for all actors of the energy industry, to foster greater mutual understanding and awareness of common energy interests with the goal of mitigating market volatility and providing global energy security.

In early 2000 – In an IEF Ministerial held in Saudi Arabia IEF Ministers collectively **recognised the need to exchange timely and accurate energy market data** from official sources to improve market transparency -- and thereby to help lessen uncertainty which affects producing and consuming countries alike.

To deliver upon the Ministers' aspirations for global data-sharing, **JODI was born**. JODI Partnership is now a well-established collective of 8 International Organisations that cooperate on an unprecedented level.

Each month the **JODI Partners collect and disseminate almost 10,000** key oil and gas supply and demand data points from over 100 countries. JODI is **a unique source for national data**.

As Secretary General of the IEF, I **am proud to be the coordinator of this great Initiative and its world database**, that is becoming a reference for market analysis and forecasts and for decisions making. We are truly achieving our saying “**Better Data, Better Decisions**”.

But, **JODI success has not been achieved by the IEF alone**. It is about tireless efforts and remarkable cooperation among all of us. Our JODI Partner Organisations: **APEC, Eurostat, GECF, IEA, OLADE, OPEC, and UNSD**—regardless of differences in their institutional mandates – all work tirelessly under the JODI banner to achieve greater energy data transparency in the common interest. Also, **OAPEC** and **AFREC** who became a JODI Associates recently. We also need feedback from Data Users and people in the Industry, Academia and Data Outlets. This is why we are here today.

During this JODI Conference, experts from the JODI Partners, governments, academia, industry will highlight the challenges faced in data collection and will share solutions how to improve the JODI Database to be more reliable, timely, and complete, to achieve energy transition and sustainable development goals, and the need for reliable data to support market research and forecasts.

The **findings and suggestions from the Conference** will be taken forward as part of the next 5-Year JODI Plan which will be developed by the JODI Partners covering years 2020-2025 and will be presented to the Heads of JODI Partners during their meeting in Riyadh on April 2020.

Your Excellency, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen!

With this note, **let me wish you all good luck in deliberating the way forward**
- on the challenge to improve Global Energy Data Transparency.