

PRESS RELEASE

US SECRETARY OF ENERGY, STEVEN CHU

“SOLVING ENERGY AND CLIMATE ISSUES TOGETHER”

On 22 February 2010, Dr. Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy for the United States of America, visited the IEF headquarters in Riyadh and delivered a speech on the importance of “solving energy and climate issues together”.

IEF Secretary General, Noé van Hulst expressed his pleasure at the deepening of the United States’ engagement in the global producer-consumer dialogue through the IEF and noted the historic nature of Dr. Chu’s first visit to IEF Headquarters.

Dr. Chu, a distinguished scientist and co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics (1997) has devoted his recent scientific work to the search for new solutions to our energy challenges and the mitigation of climate change, a mission he continues with even greater urgency as Secretary of Energy.

Dr. Chu presented the consequences of anthropogenic climate change, and argued for a realistic, cooperative and global response. Mitigating climate change will require higher energy efficiency, more renewable and nuclear, as well as cleaner production and use of fossil fuels. **“Fossil fuels will remain an important part of the energy mix, due to their high energy density”** said Dr. Chu. The US Secretary of Energy stressed the importance of science and technology in securing a cleaner, more sustainable energy future.

The US Secretary of Energy noted the adverse effect excessive energy market volatility can have on investment in all forms of energy, both conventional and alternative, and applauded the contribution that the Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI – www.jodidata.org) has made to global energy market transparency.

In thanking him for his excellent presentation, IEF Secretary General, Noé van Hulst welcomed Dr. Chu’s support and acknowledgement of the importance of the ongoing dialogue in the IEF between producers and consumers.

For further information on this or other IEF events please contact Simon Stoddart, IEF Public Affairs, simon.stoddart@iefs.org or visit www.ief.org

International Energy Forum (IEF)

The IEF is the world's largest gathering of Energy Ministers. Unique in that participants include not only IEA and OPEC countries, but also key players like Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Russia and South Africa. The IEF countries account for more than 90% of global oil and gas supply and demand. Through the Forum and its associated events, Ministers and Energy Industry Executives participate in a dialogue which is of increasing importance to global energy security. The IEF and the global energy dialogue are promoted by a permanent Secretariat based in the Diplomatic Quarter of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The next IEF Ministerial will be hosted by **Mexico in Cancun 29-31 March 2010**, co-hosted by Germany and Kuwait.

The IEF also co-ordinates the Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI) in co-operation with APEC, Eurostat, IEA, OLADE, OPEC and the UNSD. For more information visit the JODI web site www.jodidata.org

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