

# 2<sup>ND</sup> Gas Data Transparency Conference

22-23 May 2012, Doha, Qatar

## Concluding statement

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Gas Data Transparency Conference was held in Doha, Qatar on 22-23 May 2012. The Conference built upon the experience from the 1<sup>st</sup> Gas Data Transparency Conference (Moscow, 2010) to advance energy data transparency, highlighted at IEF Ministerials as an important factor in promoting market stability and energy security.

The conference was hosted by the government of Qatar and organised by the International Energy Forum Secretariat in cooperation with JODI partner organisations: the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Latin American Energy Organisation (OLADE), the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). The conference benefitted from the active participation of more than 80 delegates from countries/economies, gas companies, and international organisations, as well as consultants and representatives from the financial sector.

At the Doha conference a broad cross-section of data-users expressed their interest in the establishment of a permanent global gas data transparency initiative, echoing the calls of energy Ministers. JODI partner organisations have been conducting a gas data collection exercise to assess member countries' abilities to report the natural gas data (production, imports and exports both liquefied and gaseous, stocks and demand) on a monthly basis. Ongoing for two years, the exercise today covers 52 countries accounting for around two thirds of global natural gas supply and demand. Conference participants recommended that JODI partner organisations and their member countries establish this as a permanent initiative to be called JODI-Gas in symmetry with JODI-Oil.

Recognizing both the need for further developmental work and for more countries to submit the JODI Gas questionnaire, the conference called for participating countries to have access to data for internal testing purposes as a pre-cursor to the public launch of a JODI-Gas database in the shortest feasible timeframe. The Gas Exporting Country Forum was also encouraged to seek ways to cooperate in the JODI-Gas process.

JODI partner organisations and conference participants welcomed a UNSD initiative to take the lead-in developing a "JODI-Gas" Manual as a reference document for data submission. Clear and comprehensive definitions and guidelines underpin the ongoing effort to build a natural gas data collection and dissemination mechanism and provide a good foundation for further gas data transparency.

Participants agreed that sustained commitment to transparency is of paramount importance for the ongoing development of the JODI platform. They called for the partner organisations to leverage the experience gained in developing JODI-Oil to ensure the efficient development of a global natural gas information resource of similar standing. Countries acknowledged the importance of JODI-Oil training and expressed the need for similar training for JODI-Gas.

The IEF thanked the government of Qatar for hosting this landmark event and committed to report on the progress of the ongoing gas data collection at upcoming, relevant high level gatherings including the G20 Summit in Los Cabos Mexico, 18-19 June 2012 and the 3rd IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum in Paris, France, 16 November 2012.

