



INTERNATIONAL ENERGY FORUM
Secretariat

Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI)

Activity Report
From 10th IEF, Doha to 11th IEF, Rome

www.jodidata.org

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Preamble

The 10th IEF and 2nd IEBF underscored the importance of transparency and exchange of data for better market predictability that can contribute to a more stable investment climate needed to enhance global energy security. IEF Ministers reaffirmed their support to the **Joint Oil Data Initiative** (JODI) and its continued co-ordination by the IEF Secretariat as a flagship activity.

JODI partner organizations are greatly encouraged in their efforts by the regular references to JODI manifested by energy Ministers around the globe. The strong support to JODI expressed by G8 Heads of Government in the St. Petersburg Plan of Action on Global Energy Security adopted at their Summit in July 2006 has drawn increasing attention to the Initiative. APEC Ministers and the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors have also expressed their support for the initiative and the flow of information through JODI was strongly encouraged also by the Second Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable in May 2007.

However, additional efforts are needed from countries and these efforts will be discussed by Ministers meeting at the 11th IEF in Rome on 20-22 April 2008. Ministers are strong advocates of data transparency and their support of JODI has been a key element in the initiative's success to date. In response to the endorsement by and expectations of Ministers, the Secretariat will play an increasingly active role in co-ordinating JODI with the full support of partner organizations – APEC, EU (through Eurostat), IEA, OLADE, OPEC and UN (through the UN Statistics Division).

One of the objectives of the Joint Oil Data Initiative is to provide a complete, timely and comprehensive database and a freely accessible, reliable and accurate assessment of the global oil situation. The database, accessible at jodidata.org, is now being used by analysts all around the globe. The release of trade data should further increase their interest and further improve oil data transparency.

This report gives a brief overview of activities conducted by the JODI organizations over the period April 2006 (10th IEF, Doha, Qatar) to April 2008 (11th IEF, Rome, Italy). A lot has been achieved, but there is still ample room for progress and improvement at all levels.

1. Continuous Improvement

The coordination of the Initiative is one of the primary missions of the IEF Secretariat. Monthly data collected through the JODI questionnaire by partner organizations from their members are gathered by the IEF Secretariat and disseminated through the JODI Database website.

Since the 10th IEF Ministerial, the IEF Secretariat has assumed a more active role in data checking, although responsibility for JODI data remains with partner organizations.

The IEF Secretariat is now preparing and disseminating a periodical JODI Data Assessment Report which is shared with JODI organizations. The report provides information on Countries' participation in JODI, i.e. submission, timeliness and completeness of data provided to JODI; highlights of key development throughout the period; traffic on the JODI website and downloads of JODI data, etc.

Building on political impulse, support and guidance from Ministers, JODI organizations are also seeking feedback on development of the Initiative through regular consultation with all stakeholders. Gathering participants from the oil industry, administrations in charge of oil statistics collection and dissemination as well as oil analysts and experts, International JODI Conferences offer the opportunity to discuss progress and development.

Following Ministers' call in Doha for JODI organizations to expand the initiative further, a **6th International JODI Conference** was convened from 25 to 26 November 2006 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by the International Energy Forum Secretariat in cooperation with its JODI partners.

The conference was attended by more than 100 delegates, representing more than 30 countries, 10 international organizations and 10 oil companies and institutions. H.E. Eng. Ali Ibrahim Al Naimi, Minister of Petroleum & Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia, in his opening remarks, stressed on the importance of the Initiative, and cited the lack of accurate data as an aggravating factor to the volatility of oil prices. He urged everyone not to underestimate JODI, also indicating that its success depended on the cooperation of all stakeholders.

The 6th International JODI Conference recommendations included a list of prioritized actions:

- Improving the completeness of the set of data submitted to JODI, timeliness of submission and reliability of data;
- Developing closer collaboration with a wider range of oil data providers and users with a view to improving the JODI's usefulness as a database;
- Expanding the JODI questionnaire by disaggregating existing flows and products.

Following the 6th International JODI Conference recommendations, the JODI partner organizations prepared an expanded JODI questionnaire with additional flows and products. The new questionnaire was submitted to the participating countries/economies

for a six month trial period to assess how many of them were in position to complete the expanded questionnaire. The initial trial revealed mixed results. Although participating countries/economies seemed to be in a position to report data on additional products, they encountered difficulties in reporting a full oil balance. In light of this, the partner organizations agreed to extend the exercise. Results of the exercise will be assessed at the next JODI conference which may take place in 2009.

2. Disseminating knowledge, sharing experience and best practices on oil data collection among data providers

a. JODI Manual

The JODI World Database is still a work in progress; JODI organizations are of the firm belief that there is always room for improvement.

The JODI partners have published a manual of guidelines and technical instructions. The manual offers a comprehensive overview of the relevant methodology and definitions used. It also includes chapters on data verification as well as a range of practices from across the participating countries. It also provides basic information on how oil is produced and refined.

JODI is a global initiative. The manual prepared by the partner organizations is now available in English, French and Spanish with a Russian version also under preparation.

While the publication of the JODI Manual has helped to clarify JODI definitions for flows and products collected through the JODI questionnaire, the Secretariat and its JODI partners will continue to work on increasing harmonization of JODI definitions presently used to collect monthly oil data.

b. JODI Website (jodidata.org)

The JODI website was recently redesigned with improvements in ease of use, accessibility and performance of the on-line database. JODI data can now be downloaded in several formats.

c. Regional Training

Partner organizations conduct regional training workshops on JODI to offer statisticians and experts from participating countries an opportunity to clarify and improve their knowledge of definitions, data quality assessment and oil data issues, and to share their experience on best practices of oil database management. The Secretariat will, in co-operation with host government and JODI partners run additional regional training sessions. This ongoing programme includes a workshop for Caspian and Central Asian countries already planned for 2008.

i. First JODI Training Workshop for Latin American Countries, in Caracas, Venezuela, 14-18 August 2006

With the participation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the IEF Secretariat and its partner organizations organized a training workshop for energy statisticians from OLADE countries. It was hosted by the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum of Venezuela and the Venezuelan national oil company, PDVSA. The workshop, attended by some 30 delegates, tasked with collecting data from 14 of the OLADE member countries.

The opening session emphasized the importance of oil in the energy market and the critical importance of data transparency. The following sessions of the workshop addressed the task of assessing data, notably with respect to quality and collection, as well as to legal frameworks and confidentiality issues.

Participants shared their respective approaches regarding data collection. OLADE introduced participants to a new version of its National Information System (SIEN), which provides the first electronic link to regional data.

ii. Second JODI Training Workshop for Sub-Saharan African Countries, Johannesburg, South Africa, 30 January-2 February 2007

The Workshop organized by the South African Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, the IEF Secretariat and partner organizations at the end of January 2007 was inaugurated by H.E. Buyelwa Patience Sonjica, Minister of Mineral Resources & Energy. She underlined South Africa's support to the International Energy Forum (IEF) and the Joint Oil Data Initiative and spoke highly of the workshop's goal of training statisticians from across Sub-Saharan Africa: 'Without accurate oil data, we cannot secure our future energy supply and we would not be able to attract much needed international investments...'.

Speakers from the IEF Secretariat, Eurostat, IEA, OPEC and IMF addressed 35 officials from South Africa, Angola, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Ghana and Nigeria.

iii. Third JODI Training Workshop for Middle East and African Countries, Algiers, Algeria, 23-26 October 2007

On behalf of H.E. Chekib Khalil, Minister of Energy and Mines of Algeria, Mr. Abdelkader El-Mekki, General Director for Energy, underlined Algeria's support to the Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI) when inaugurating the third regional training workshop for oil statisticians from Middle Eastern and North African countries organized by the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Algeria, the IEF Secretariat and partner organizations.

"By holding this seminar in Algiers, the Ministry of Energy and Mines makes a contribution to the capacity-building of the concerned institutions in the field of data collection, processing and dissemination, as well as regarding data transparency in the vital sectors of the economies of Middle East and North Africa, that are

those of oil and energy”, Mr. El-Mekki said. “Regarding JODI, Algeria contributes in an effective and sustained way to the establishment of the monthly statistics that the Secretariat of the International Energy Forum publishes” he added.

Expert speakers from the IEF Secretariat, IEA, OPEC, UNSD and IMF addressed 37 officials from Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

d. IEF Secretariat Internships

The Secretariat will continue to offer JODI Internships, funded by a special grant from Norway, with made-to-measure training for government officials from developing countries dealing with oil statistics. The Secretariat will welcome short-term secondments also from other participating countries. The internships and secondments offer the Secretariat first-hand knowledge from participants about their national data collection systems and contribute to building an extended and interactive international JODI network.

3. Releasing more oil data to market players and oil statistics users

Since the opening of the JODI World Database to the public in November 2005, its expansion remains a key factor in improving oil data transparency. Oil market analysts regularly underline the need for more data and reliable statistics to help them better assess market fundamentals.

The IEF Secretariat and the JODI partner organizations are taking a series of actions to further improve the quality of data submissions to JODI, especially with respect to completeness, timeliness and reliability.

Following the public release of refinery intake and output data in November 2006, the JODI partners spared no effort to improve the quality of other data and released to the public, for the first time on 18 March 2008, JODI data on imports and exports. This step represents further JODI progress toward enabling broader access to accurate and timely information on the oil market.

Annex 1. Main JODI Milestones

- **November 2000** (7th IEF in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia).
Ministers declared that "Co-operation among relevant international organizations, as well as the participating countries, in improving and timely accessing to energy data is important for market assessment and transparency".
- **April 2001** (1st "JODI" Conference in Bangkok, Thailand).
Six organizations (APEC, Eurostat, IEA, OPEC, OLADE and UNSD) launched a 6-month exercise.
- **May 2002** (3rd JODI Conference in Mexico City, Mexico).
JODI exercise made a permanent reporting mechanism.
- **May 2004** (9th IEF in Amsterdam, Netherlands).
Presentation of the JODI World Database to participating countries.
- **October 2004** (5th JODI Conference in Bali, Indonesia).
Decision to make the JODI World Database freely accessible to all. Participants reiterated their support to the IEFS to play a more active role in JODI.
- **December 2004** (8th IEFS Executive Board meeting in Vienna, Austria).
Involvement of the IEFS in JODI officially confirmed.
- **January 2005** (Inter-organisations JODI meeting, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia).
IEF Secretariat took over the coordination of JODI.
- **November 2005** (Inauguration of IEFS Headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia).
Launch of the JODI World Database to the public by King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.
- **April 2006** (10th IEF and 2nd IEBF in Doha, Qatar).
Strong political support of Ministers from energy producing and consuming countries.
- **August 2006** (1st JODI Training Workshop in Caracas, Venezuela).
30 participants from 14 Latin-American countries.
- **November 2006** (6th JODI Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia).
First JODI users' survey.
Release of the JODI manual (English version).
Release to public of refinery intake and output data.
Decision to launch an exercise on an expanded JODI questionnaire including more flows/products.
- **January 2007** (2nd JODI Training Workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa).
Participants from 6 Sub Saharan African countries.
- **July 2007** (1st JODI Internship, IEFS Headquarters, Saudi Arabia).
Officials from India and Vietnam.

- **September 2007** (2nd JODI Internship, IEFS Headquarters, Saudi Arabia).
Officials from Myanmar and Azerbaijan.
- **October 2007** (3rd JODI Training Workshop in Algiers, Algeria).
34 participants from 10 Middle Eastern and North African countries.
- **March 2008**
Release to public of JODI imports and exports data.