

**Third JODI Training Workshop for Middle Eastern and North African countries  
Algiers, 24-26 October 2007**

*by Dr Said Nacet,  
Energy Director,  
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Dear Mr. Abdelkader El-Mekki, General Director for Energy, Algerian Ministry of Energy and Mines  
Honourable guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning

It is a pleasure for me, on behalf of the International Energy Forum and our partner organizations,+ to welcome you to this Third Regional JODI Training Workshop for Middle Eastern and North African Countries, graciously hosted by the Government of Algeria.

I would like to thank the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Algeria for the great help provided to us in preparing this workshop.

Algeria is a Member of the Executive Board of the IEF Secretariat and as such is making an important contribution to the preparation of the next IEF Ministerial, which Italy will host in April 2008.

I would like also to thank the Government of Norway for providing financial assistance to our efforts to promote JODI among developing countries

**POLITICAL SUPPORT TO JODI**

Energy Security is high in the global political agenda and oil market stability is crucial for achieving such goal. Governments of both energy-importing and energy-exporting countries as well as industry share a fundamental interest in having the best possible data and information at hand, when policy and investment decisions are made.

International Energy Forum Ministers have on repeated occasions underlined their support of JODI and the importance of transparency and exchange of data for market predictability and for the investments required to enhance energy security.

The importance of JODI was also underscored by the G8 Heads of Government in their St. Petersburg Plan of Action on Global Energy Security last year. They invited the IEF to work on the expansion of JODI membership and to continue to improve the quality and timeliness of data. High level political support to JODI is being echoed also in other regional contexts such as the Second Asian Energy Ministerial Roundtable held in Riyadh in May this year and by the G20 Finance Ministers in November last year.

The IEF Secretariat hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> International JODI Conference in Riyadh last November against this backdrop of high political expectation. Inaugurated by the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia, the Conference gathered 120 participants, representing thirty governments, including Algeria, as well as international energy organizations, energy companies, research institutes and consultants. It marked the first anniversary of the release to the public of the JODI World Database which is now gathering oil data from more than 90 countries, representing 90% of global supply and demand.

### **JODI REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

With the objective of improving national data submissions, the IEF Secretariat is organizing series of regional JODI training workshops in co-operation with its JODI partners and governments concerned. The first was held in Caracas in August last year for Latin American countries. The second regional training session for Sub-Saharan African countries was hosted by South Africa early this year. And we envisage additional regional workshops next year, including one for Caspian and Central Asian countries.

### **JODI INTRNSHIPS**

I would like also to inform you that the IEF Secretariat can now offer scholarships to officials from developing countries to come to Secretariat headquarters in Riyadh for a week or two to familiarize themselves further with JODI. Interns from India, Vietnam, Myanmar and Azerbaidjan visited the IEF Secretariat in July and September this year.

### **ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS**

JODI is international ambition translated into action. It is a co-ordinated, inter-organizational response to the political call for the better data and increased transparency that are important for market predictability, investment decisions and energy security. For its success, we rely on the active support of all stakeholders and their submission of timely and accurate data.

- **Industry** is conducting operational activities such as crude oil production, refining, storage of both crude oil and refined products and distribution of oil products. Industry is as primary provider of oil data covering such activities to national administration;
- **National administrations** and staff in charge of data collection are the second link in the JODI chain. Their role, your role, is essential in collecting complete and accurate data that are provided to JODI organisations;
- **JODI partner organisations and IEF Secretariat** are then conducting some checks and releasing on monthly basis JODI data to final users;

- Among oil data users, **oil market analysts** base their assessment of oil market situation on data that are available. Providing such users with accurate data on timely basis is very important if we want to achieve better stability of the oil market.

Training workshops like this one offer participants a unique opportunity to share experiences and best practices on oil data collection. Some of the participants are coming from countries that are not yet participating in JODI and I hope to see these countries joining the Initiative as soon as possible.

I wish you a very successful workshop.

Thank you