Ministry of Economic Development

G8 ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING 2009

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE G8 ENERGY MINISTERS AND THE EUROPEAN ENERGY COMMISSIONER

The Energy Ministers of the G8 Countries and the European Energy Commissioner met in Rome on May 24 during the G8 Energy Ministers Meeting of May 24-25, 2009 which also saw the participation of the Energy Ministers of Brazil, People's Republic of China, Egypt, India, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and South Africa as well as the Energy Ministers of Algeria, Australia, Indonesia, Libya, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Turkey.

We, the G8 Energy Ministers and the European Energy Commissioner welcome the joint statement that was approved by the Ministers of Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa and the joint statement that was approved by Algeria, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Korea, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Turkey.

We note the success of the Energy Business Forum and of the Round Table of Energy Regulators held on May 24 2009 in the broad framework of the G8 Meeting of Energy Ministers.

We address the following additional messages to contribute to a fruitful discussion on the G8 Summit to be held in the town of L'Aquila in July 2009.

1. We are committed to promoting the economic recovery, accelerating the transition towards low-carbon, energy efficient development while minimising and reversing technological lock-in and addressing energy poverty.

2. We intend to contribute to the success of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process and to the Copenhagen Conference at the end of 2009.
   We welcome the contribution of the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate.

3. Together with climate change, we must address the fundamental issues of energy security, availability and use. We will therefore take action to improve access to energy and aim at uninterrupted transit of energy. We reaffirm our strong commitment to implement the St. Petersburg Principles on Global Energy Security in our countries and call on others countries to join in this effort to the extent possible

4. We recognise that the interlinked challenges of climate change, energy security and efficient use of energy resources are amongst the most important issues to be tackled in the strategic perspective of ensuring sustainable development granting access to energy.

5. We are aware that despite diversification strategies, fossil fuels will continue to be a key component of the energy mix in most countries, developed and developing for many decades to come. We are committed to the launch of 20 large-scale CCS demonstration projects globally by 2010 taking into account varying national circumstances with a view to supporting technology development and cost reduction for the beginning of a broad deployment of CCS by 2020 and call for the active involvement of the private sector in this endeavour.

6. We note that, in the opinion of a growing number of countries, the use of nuclear power can diversify the energy mix, contribute to energy security while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We reaffirm that the fundamental prerequisite for the peaceful use of nuclear energy is the international commitment to safety, security and safeguards for non-proliferation (3S), while supporting the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We will continue to promote the development and implementation of robust international treaties, standards, recommendations and monitoring procedures both at international and national levels.

7. We encourage all countries interested in the civil use of nuclear energy to engage in constructive international collaboration. To this end we support international co-operation to ensure the highest possible available technical standards including safety, cost-benefit analysis, research programmes and frameworks, plant construction, operation, decommissioning and waste treatment.

8. We must seize the opportunity to build on synergies between economic recovery initiatives and actions to combat climate change while encouraging green growth and sustainable development worldwide. We recognise the need to foster investments in energy efficiency, infrastructures, mix diversification and technological innovation as a means towards affordable, safe and sustainable energy to meet long term world needs and combat energy poverty.

9. We reaffirm the significance of energy saving and efficiency programmes, which are the most abundant and inexpensive means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions while improving energy security. To this end:
   a) We commit to design and implement effective policies in our countries to improve energy efficiency in all the main sectors of the economy, such as industry, power, transport, agriculture and in the building sector. We are determined to co-operate amongst us and with other countries to remove barriers that limit the global diffusion of energy efficient technologies;
   b) We re-confirm the potential and usefulness of the sectoral approach for emissions reduction, including use of indicators and support for standardisation of measurement methodologies regarding energy efficiency in energy intensive sectors, with the aim of promoting the use of low-carbon and energy-efficient technologies in countries around the world;
   c) We note the ongoing work of the IEA on collection and sharing of

data and indicators, identification and dissemination of best practices, standards and recommendations for increasing energy efficiency. We also appreciate the valuable contribution to the success of the Joint Oil Data Initiative.

10. We are committed to:

a) enhancing the innovation and diffusion of cleaner low-carbon energy technologies through the successful outcome of the WTO negotiations by Trade Ministers on liberalisation of trade as a stimulus for innovation and diffusion of cleaner low-carbon energy technologies, since the reduction or elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and services will accelerate the dissemination of energy efficiency and renewable energies;
b) supporting and adopting market-based mechanisms for the development and deployment of low-carbon energy technologies;
c) strengthening partnership between public institutions and the private sector and advisory functions to developing countries by public and private experts at national and sectoral level to allow low-carbon technologies to be scaled up efficiently and in a timely fashion at a global level;
d) promoting flexible co-operation mechanisms on a global scale, to increase investments, contribute to the efficient allocation of resources; enabling effective sharing of knowledge based upon collaborative development of key low-carbon technologies;
e) reinforcing the range of policy instruments such as public funds,

fiscal incentive and transparent regulatory frameworks to help to leverage private resources.

11. We consider it timely and useful to start a process that could lead to the establishment of a low carbon energy technology global platform where international forums and initiatives may converge. . IPEEC is a major step forward along this direction.

12. Building upon existing work the proposed energy technology platform could enable all countries to

a) extend and expand energy technology roadmaps and other analytical exercises to assess and identify low-carbon technology needs and priorities at the international and national level;
b) assess the individual contribution of such technologies to each nation's energy security, to its economic development and to reductions in its greenhouse gas emissions;
c) estimate the development and deployment costs of such technologies, particularly in developing countries while protecting intellectual property rights;
d) identify existing barriers to the adoption of these technologies in important emitting countries and the cost-effective policies to overcome them;
e) devise concrete steps for implementing such policies, including through appropriate international collaboration while monitoring progress in implementation;

f) create a forum where national and international organisations can exchange information and co-ordinate;
g) promote private-public partnership at national and sectoral level for research, development and deployment of energy technologies by fostering new international collaboration.

13. We believe that three guiding principles should be followed while designing the proposed energy technology platform, as follows.

a) Focus on a limited group of key technologies during the starting phase of the platform such as solar and wind energy, smart electrical grids, low-carbon vehicles, modernisation of coal-fired power stations and CCS and considering the interest of a growing number of countries, nuclear power;

b) Maintain the initiative open to all the countries and entities who can contribute on an equal partnership basis and

c) Maximise the efficient use of available resources by creating synergies among existing activities, while avoiding the creation of new international entities.

14. We note that the IEA has the experience to prepare a proposal on how to design and implement this low-carbon energy technology platform during 2009. The forthcoming IEA Ministers' Meeting in October 2009 might provide a further opportunity to define a work agenda with priorities and timelines. Action could be reported back to the G8 Meetings at an appropriate time.