



IGU Strategic Statement 2008

Gas Market Integration: A Cornerstone for Sustainable Development

The dynamics of the world energy scenario have driven the natural gas industry into two correlated trends: growth and globalisation.

As a result, upstream, infrastructure and LNG investments have been triggered, but several predictions agree that the pace might not be enough to avoid considerable disruptions in the foreseeable future.

From a systemic point of view, this symptom is an indication that somewhere along the line, the comprising parts are not sharing the same expectations.

Natural gas is the cleanest and most efficient fossil fuel, with a high potential of interacting with renewable fuels, providing a solid bridge to the coming generation of sustainable energy sources. However, without a shared understanding of what is needed to enable the gas industry to develop trans-national and regional markets, the full economic and environmental benefits of this amazing fuel are seriously challenged.

There is however, a general consensus that individual economies have a lot to gain from a viable integration of their gas markets to dampen the uncertainties and settle the needs of both security of supply and security of demand, while adequately balancing commitments for the long term and the flexibility desirable for the short and medium ones.

The role of governments is the cornerstone in any energy integration process, as they are laying the grounds for both clear rules and clear roles.

In line with its Vision and Mission, the International Gas Union will actively continue to foster the dialogue between all parties: Governments, National Oil Companies and International Oil Companies, so that these grounds bear the results and solutions the international community is expecting from us.



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About IGU:

Since 1 November 2007, StatoilHydro ASA, is hosting the IGU Secretariat. The Secretariat is headed by Mr. Torstein Indrebø, Secretary General, with offices in Oslo, Norway, until autumn 2013.

The International Gas Union is a worldwide non-profit organisation aiming at promoting the technical and economic progress of the gas industry, The Union has more than 100 members worldwide in 71 countries on all continents. The members of IGU are national associations and corporations of the gas industry. IGU's working organisation covers all aspects of the gas value chain from exploration and production, transmission, storage, LNG and distribution. IGU promotes continuous improvement of corporate performance towards a sustainable development. For more information, please visit our web site www.igu.org



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