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## **IGU Newsletter - April 2016**

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South Africa](#)

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### **IGU Executive and Coordination Committee Meetings**

The IGU Executive and Coordination Committees met 5-7 April in beautiful Durban, South Africa, for their first 2016 meetings. iGas, the South African host, and particularly Mike de Pontes, Chief Operating Officer of iGas, worked tirelessly to create an outstanding environment for a very productive set of meetings.

As reported in previous editions of the newsletter, the Executive Committee meetings have been restructured to allow for greater member engagement, networking, and knowledge transfer. Beyond the normal and necessary administrative matters, great discussions took place in the area of IGU policy. The second phase of Building for the Future was approved in order to raise the IGU event portfolio to a desired level of quality and profiling.

A very informative workshop was also held providing key insights on the opportunities and challenges for Africa's gas industry.

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## Executive Committee Workshop

Africa is a continent with tremendous opportunities when it comes to energy and natural gas. Many African countries, including South Africa and its neighbours, are rich in gas resources. Extraction of these will help meet energy needs and ambitions to reduce CO2 emissions. However, as the workshop also showed, the challenges are also many. Lacks of infrastructure and difficult economic and regulatory environments are demanding. There is no one size fits all and each country must find its method to extract the resources in ways that will be beneficial to the country and at the same time attractive to investors.

Follow the links below in order to see summaries and the presentations from the sessions.

### Key Issues and Opportunities in the Southern Africa Gas Industry

The first workshop session focussed at the Key Issues and Opportunities in the Southern Africa Gas Industry.

Speakers included

Mike de Pontes, Chief Operating officer, iGas, and Daryl Hunt, Consultant – iGas, Paul Eardley-Taylor, Head of Oil & Gas Southern Africa, Standard Bank.

[Click to read the summary of the presentations.](#)

**DID YOU KNOW** that natural gas only makes up 3 % of South Africa's primary energy mix, compared to 24 % globally? However, looking to the future this may be about to change.

**DID YOU KNOW** that 19 countries in Africa are exploring opportunities to import or export LNG?

**DID YOU KNOW that South Africa will need 43 000 MW of new electricity generation capacity by 2030?**

**DID YOU KNOW that the African Natural Resource Center (ANRC) assists its member countries to maximize development outcomes derived from Africa's natural resources?**

## **African Industry Issues and Opportunities**

The third session concentrated on the “African Industry Issues and Opportunities”.

Speaker included

Khaled AbuBakr, IGU Regional Coordinator – Middle East and Africa, of Egyptian Gas Association

James Rockall, Chief Executive Officer Managing Director, World LPG Association

**[Click to read the summary of the presentations.](#)**

## **Global Agenda and Regional Opportunities**

The “Global Agenda and Regional Opportunities” was the theme of the second session.

Speaker included,  
Thomas Viot, Senior Extractives Officer, African Natural Resources Center (ANRC)  
Muzy Shange, Chief Operating Officer, Department of Energy, South Africa  
Mariana Ortiz, Portfolio Director, Global Gas Division, Gas Natural Fenosa

**[Click to read the summary of the presentations.](#)**

**DID YOU KNOW that LPG can be a pre-stage to further natural gas development?**

**DID YOU KNOW that energy is vital for any development and that the need in Africa is urgent?**

**DID YOU KNOW** that coal bed methane reserves in Australia have increased although early reserve forecasts were over-optimistic?

**DID YOU KNOW** that natural gas consumption has raised from 1 % to 22 % of Beijing's energy mix over the last 30 years?

## Case Studies in Gas Industry Development

The fourth session looked to other countries and case studies of gas industry development in different countries.

Speakers included

Christopher Gunner, President & Country Chairman, Shell Japan  
Li Yalan, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Beijing Gas Group  
Graeme Bethune, CEO of EnergyQuest, Australia

[Click to read the summary of the presentations.](#)

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## Coordination Committee Corner

Durban also hosted the second meeting of the Task Force, Communications and Outreach. A significant part of the agenda was focused on the discussion about how the IGU can sustain and create greater focus on advocacy. In addition, the IGU's 2016 Strategic Calendar and the development of policy positions were discussed.

The Coordination committee focused on finalizing the triennium work plans and understanding work activities between committees that could be consolidated into thematic reports that would lead to thematic sessions at the World Gas Conference, 2018. The Committees have become much more dynamic and active in supporting outreach and communications.

The meeting also focused on the changes being made to the World Gas Conference to improve delegate experience and provided guidance to the Committees on the structure and expectations at the Industry Insight Sessions and the Technical and Innovation sessions.

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## IGRC 2017 Call for Papers is now open!



The poster features a teal header and footer with a white central area. At the top, the IGRC logo consists of three teal wavy lines to the left of the text 'IGRC' in a large, bold, dark blue font. Below this, the text 'International Gas Union Research Conference Rio 2017' is displayed in a smaller, dark blue font. The dates 'May 24-26, 2017 | Rio de Janeiro | Brazil' are centered below. The main theme 'Natural Gas: Catalysing the Future' is written in a teal font. A call to action 'Call for papers is now open' is on the left, and 'Submit your abstract until September 30 | 2016' is on the right. At the bottom, logos for IGU and IBP are shown under the headings 'Under the auspices of:' and 'Organized by:'.

**IGRC**  
International Gas Union  
Research Conference **Rio 2017**  
May 24-26, 2017 | Rio de Janeiro | Brazil

**Natural Gas:  
Catalysing the Future**

**Call for papers  
is now open** | Submit your  
abstract until  
**September 30 | 2016**

Under the auspices of: **IGU**  
INTERNATIONAL GAS UNION  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DU GAZ

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AND BIOMETHANE  
INSTITUTE

Check out the conference [topics](#) and submit [abstracts](#).



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