

Remarks by Secretary General, International Energy Forum, Joseph McMonigle  
Third Virtual IEF | GARP Global Energy Risk Forum on  
Socially Responsible Business Practices and ESG Implementation  
Tuesday 24 November 2020

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to Part Three of the Digital Dialogues that the IEF hosts in close collaboration with the Global Association of Risk Professionals.

We are very pleased with this opportunity to explore the rapidly developing dialogue on Environmental and Social Governance standards and socially responsible business practices in the energy sector. A newly emerging and highly complex dimension in the governance of stable, affordable, and clean energy markets that calls out for enhanced producer-consumer dialogue. To safeguard robust and predictable trade and investment conditions across densely interconnected energy sector jurisdictions, there is an urgent need to:

- Deepen understanding of ESG criteria, regulations, and market signals,
- Improve data transparency and comparability to benchmark performance,
- Ensure technology choices are made on open and competitive markets,

and that

- Environmental (Climate, pollution, and health) criteria and social governance (access, affordability, and jobs) standards obtain equal emphasis.

The IEF producer consumer dialogue takes a global view on these matters. We welcome the outcomes of the G20 Leaders' Summit meeting virtually in Riyadh over the weekend that reflect the latest consensus on environment, energy, and climate. G20 leaders point in well balanced language at holistic market-based approaches to achieve the emission reductions, energy access and affordability goals we all want.

At the regional level we see widening policy divergence and growing regulatory uncertainty. This is likely to increase investment cost and delay cost effective energy sector transformations at the scale that global climate and development goals require.

A clear example centers on the role of natural gas in reducing emissions and expediting affordable energy access in different regions. While natural gas continues to contribute to emission reductions, affordable access, and jobs in OECD economies, and remains the transition fuel of choice in non-OECD growth economies where accelerated biomass and coal to gas switching is essential, we see new guidelines and policy proposals in OECD economies question its role as a transition fuel. This is notwithstanding the opportunities readily available gas technologies continue to offer as the fastest growing fossil fuel in main energy outlooks.

Together with GARP we will also launch a survey of energy market stakeholders on Carbon Management, Options, Data and Metrics. Findings will help to clarify:

- Which stakeholders invest what options ranging from Carbon Capture Use and Storage (CCUS) to Hydrogen or other non-technology driven Carbon dioxide emissions solutions?

- What market and non-market incentives/hurdles influence investment in CCUS and other Carbon Management Options?
- What data, metrics and methodologies are most relevant for policy makers and investors?
- How can transparency and comparability across data sets and methodologies be improved?

The outcomes of today's discussion will help to inform dialogue among Ministers and industry leaders at the 7<sup>th</sup> IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum hosted by Malaysia on 3 December 2020.

Without further ado it is a pleasure for me to introduce our Moderator **David Port** Partner at TDI Capital Advisers who has a well-established track record as an industry practitioner, also in his former role as Chief Risk Officer at E.ON Global Commodities, and our two panelists **Carine de Boissezon**, Chief Sustainability Officer at Electricite de France, and **Ken Geren**, representing the investor community as Managing Director & Chief Investment Officer at UBS.

Dear David thank you for your support and agreeing to moderate this important panel discussion. The floor is yours.