

## Summary of Keynote Speeches

### Jochen Homann, State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, Germany

- State Secretary acknowledged in his keynote *Germany's Energy Policy and Prospects for Cooperation with Northern Africa* the major transformation of the energy sector in the MENA region and praised the Desert energy conference as an opportunity to exchange about new approaches and possibilities for co-operation for a sustainable future of energy supply (not least) in the context of Germany's major energy policy reform this summer.
- He said that it is no surprise that, in the medium term, Germany will be interested in importing energy generated from renewable sources. In North Africa, with its abundance of sun and wind, there are outstanding preconditions for low-cost electricity generation.
- For this reason, the German government plans to set up comprehensive energy partnerships with Morocco and Tunisia, based on joint declarations of intent, before the end of this year. These partnerships will lay a new foundation for co-operation in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, grid development, and energy research. In particular, the partnerships will provide a framework for joint projects.
- The State Secretary reiterated the support of the German Government for Dii's activities and especially for the first reference project in Morocco.

### H.E. Dr. Hassan Younes, Minister of Electricity and Energy, Egypt

- The Minister underlined that Dii could coordinate with other regional initiatives particularly the Mediterranean Solar Plan to develop and support renewable projects in the MENA region. Co-operation with governments and development partners are also important to rely on more technology transfer, financing schemes and capacity building activities.
- Dedicated efforts within EU-MENA countries on the technical, economical and legal levels are required. International and regional policies are needed to provide broad and attractive prospects for local and foreign direct investments.
- The Arabian Electricity Ministers Council has adopted a decision to prepare a Renewable Energy strategy up to 2020 for Arabian countries.
- Also the League of Arab States introduced a complete vision for all Arab countries towards the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP) including the maximization of solar energy consumption in the Arab region, identifying Arabian projects, forecasting the energy needs until 2030, developing the Arabian manufacturing capabilities and setting up a suitable environment in order to attract investments.

- Egypt's electricity sector calculates with 20% of renewable energy by the year 2020 with private investment share in wind energy of 67% and enhancement of the relevant local industrial capabilities. The New Electricity law intends to cover many aspects from transparency, transmission system operator, third party access, to the power generation from renewable sources through competitive bids and feed-in tariff schemes. A governmental support is offered to the investors particularly at the introductory stage to minimize financial risks on renewable energy projects through a number of actions.

**H.E. Dr. Eissa, Minister of Industry and Foreign Trade on behalf of the Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Sharaf**

- The Minister underlined the socioeconomic challenges and opportunities of an enhanced EU-MENA energy partnership of which a comprehensive social development and social justice should be key aspects.
- A secure environment for local and foreign investment and the fostering of efficient public-private-partnerships are important factors for creating a sustainable renewable market.
- Three political measures were reassured: Maintain the political commitment for an open economic policy, create a healthy business environment and job opportunities, foster the vertical integration and support small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

**Caio Koch-Weser, Vice Chairman, Deutsche Bank Group**

- Whereas 3bn. consumers are about to entering the middle class worldwide with an enormous need for energy, the "green growth paradigm" together with clean energy for all should be leading any new energy considerations.
- Dii can be a key player in providing energy solutions and should be supported in order to take action now as it is addressing today's economic and energy challenges, supports national aspirations for development in a sustainable manner, accelerates renewable energy commercial technology development and represents an unique bottom-up industry coalition with key governments for a successful energy change.
- The private sector is committed and willing to take over its share and to invest, building on a clear commitment of the public sector to provide a stable regulatory and political framework. Together it is possible to close the financial gap and encourage key EU governments to foster necessary infrastructural upgrades.
- The private sector is committed to help MENA to become a clean energy superpower region.
- No more time shall be wasted.

**Marc Strauss, Senior Advisor, on behalf of Mr. Youssef Amrani, Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean:**

- Within the energy sector, the main objective of the UfM is the implementation of the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP) aimed at the large scale development of renewable energy (20 GW) under market conditions and the promotion of energy efficiency in the Mediterranean region
- The implementation of the MSP will require: (i) The attainment of a common political vision and a roadmap covering all key aspects; (ii) the support of pilot projects; (iii) the development of innovative financial and risk management tools; and (iv) the implications of all the stakeholders in the process.
- MSP activities are coherent and complementary to those developed by Dii, with whom the MSP shares the same objectives within a different institutional context. The MSP and Dii activities are interdependent:
  - o The private sector needs a regional framework anchored in a common vision and a roadmap stemming from clear common principles as well as political will; and
  - o The MSP requires a strong commitment, the competences and the investments of the private sector.
- The UfM Secretariat promoted a common approach to bring about a new sustainable energy model for the Mediterranean and fight against climate change in this region.

**Mr. Obaid Amrane, on behalf of Mr. Mustapha Bakkoury, President, MASEN:**

- Morocco has in place a favorable regulatory framework for the promotion of renewable energy. Currently, applicable regulation offers a comprehensive regime for the production of electricity from renewable energy sources by independent power producers. An independent Agency for Development of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ADEREE) is also in place.
- Morocco has established an ambitious solar plan for the development of 2000MW by 2020; being MASEN the entity in charge of its development.
- MASEN is currently working on the first solar project of this solar plan that will be located in Ouarzazate.
- Having the right framework already in place, Morocco invites the European industry to invest in the next series of projects.
- Morocco is interested in exporting a share of the renewable energy produced in its territory, thereby helping to cover the EU demand as well as triggering a learning curve.
- MASEN highly appreciates the co-operation with EU partners like Dii and is optimistic that a first pilot project will be realized soon.