

Joint Statement on Energy

The European Union, represented by the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Mr Miguel Arias Cañete, and the Islamic Republic of Iran represented by the Minister of Petroleum, Mr Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, and the Minister of Energy, Mr Hamid Chitchian, expressed their intention to launch a High Level Energy Dialogue on non-nuclear energy.

This dialogue on energy should be based on the confirmed mutual commitment of the two sides aiming at:

- building trust between key stakeholders in the EU and the Islamic Republic of Iran;
- promoting and improving the business and investment climate in energy;
- promoting and enhancing mutually energy security of Iran and Europe;
- promoting the increased use of clean energy, energy efficiency and efficient demand management;
- promoting transparent, rule-based and well-functioning energy markets in the region and globally;
- cooperating on technologies knowledge transfer, research and innovation;
- Encouraging and promoting energy trading activities in different aspects.

The dialogue should build on the technical assessment meetings of EU experts with their Iranian counterparts held on February 16 and 17, 2016 in Teheran, which identified priority areas for cooperation in non-nuclear energy, namely oil and gas, electricity, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Key themes of the dialogue should be,

in 'oil and gas'

- Exchange of information on policies, strategies and supply/demand forecasts;
- Conditions for investment in the Iranian energy sector, including legal and regulatory framework;
- Development prospects of oil and gas export infrastructure in the Islamic Republic of Iran to contribute to the EU's energy security;
- Cooperation in multilateral settings, with regard to the Islamic Republic of Iran and Europe's contribution to energy security globally and in the region;
- Joint cooperation on Iran's oil and gas industry, upstream, midstream and downstream activities with the view of increasing efficiency.

in 'electricity, renewable energy and energy efficiency'

- Exchange of information on relevant policies and strategies, including on infrastructure development;

- Dialogue on a transparent and stable legal, regulatory framework, and appropriate institutional capacity, conducive for attracting investments in power generation, transmission, and distribution;
- Joint cooperation activities in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Dialogue on data collection and standards in energy efficiency;
- Opportunities under the Covenant of Mayors co-operation programmes;
- Follow-up to the COP21 Paris Agreement.

The two sides have also expressed their intention to establish an Energy Business Forum that would bring together public institutions, regulators, manufacturers, operators and financial experts to analyse the prospects and facilitate investment in the hydrocarbons sector, as well as in the renewable and energy efficiency sectors and to create a favourable environment for companies wishing to invest in the energy sector of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the EU.

The Ministers and the Commissioner will designate their respective representatives to lead the dialogue. The Ministers and the Commissioner intend to meet annually to take stock of the progress and steer further cooperation.

In the framework of this Dialogue, the two Sides intend to take their cooperation forward on a Strategic Energy Partnership in due time.

Done at Teheran April 17, 2016