

Rome, 9 December 2009

THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE 2009

JOINT STATEMENT

On December 9, 2009 the Heads of Delegation of the Energy Charter constituency present at the 20th Energy Charter Conference Meeting in Rome, Italy, and the Heads of Delegations of countries wishing to associate themselves to this Statement:

- *Whereas affirming* a shared commitment to multilateral cooperation as the foundation of mutually beneficial energy relations and development;
- *Whereas supporting* the principles of the Energy Charter of December 1991;
- *Whereas reconfirming* the support of the Parties to the Energy Charter Treaty for this unique legal framework and for the Energy Charter Process as a policy forum, and their appeal to the interested States;
- *Whereas acknowledging* the important role of the Energy Charter Treaty for the promotion of energy trade, transit and investment, the resolution of energy disputes, and the development of energy efficiency;
- *Whereas recognising* the highly dynamic energy context and the changing patterns of energy supply and demand throughout the world;
- *Whereas recalling* the Principles on Global Energy Security and the Plan of Action as adopted by the G8 St.-Petersburg Summit in July 2006;
- *Whereas recalling* the Conceptual Approach to the New Legal Framework for Energy Cooperation as presented by the President of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev in April 2009;
- *Whereas recalling* the mutual responsibility of energy consuming and supplying countries as well as of transit countries for global energy security and investment;
- *Whereas noting* the need to consider possible modernisation of the Energy Charter Process, including, inter alia, the targeted expansion of its geographic scope;

1. *Call* to a common responsibility and endeavour energy producers, transit and consumer countries to promote the global energy security and investment;
2. *Recognise* that the principles and rules of the Energy Charter Treaty remain valid and should continue to apply as a tool to address the major challenges we face today in the energy sector;
3. *Recognise* important principles, including non-discrimination and transparency, contained in the Conceptual Approach to the New Legal Framework for Energy Cooperation and the need to improve legally binding rules governing international energy relations, investment and trade;
4. *Recognise* that the Energy Charter Process must reflect new developments and challenges in international energy markets and respond to broader changes across its constituency. This could entail consultations, possibly leading to negotiations on the preparation of practical proposals on how the Energy Charter Process could be modernised, whilst remaining universal, comprehensive and equal in character, and to strengthen common implementation mechanisms as appropriate to be effective and efficient;
5. *Aim* at the expeditious conclusion of the negotiations on the Transit Protocol and resolution of controversies in case of emergency, as one of the common implementation mechanisms of the Energy Charter Treaty;
6. *Aim* at consultations and negotiations on other Energy Charter instruments required to deal with aspects of the Energy Charter Process, which may attract further expansion of its geographical scope;
7. *Welcome* the mandate of the standing Strategy Group to examine the possible options with regard to the modernisation of the Energy Charter Process with competence to participate in the process of consultations over possible enhanced legal frameworks for energy cooperation, taking also into account other proposals on future cooperation in the energy field;
8. *Invite* this Strategy Group to report before the next Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference.