

15 October 2009

Interview with Financial Times Energy Editor, Ed Crooks



Ed Crooks
Financial Times, Energy Editor

1) What keeps you awake at night?

The first thing that keeps me up at night is the threat of catastrophic climate change, in my own lifetime or that of my children and grandchildren. The second issue is that of constrained supplies leading to soaring prices for energy, especially oil. The third is the danger created by the spread of nuclear materials and capabilities, which is inevitable because nuclear power is an inescapable part of the solution to the other two problems.

2) What would you appreciate feedback from WEC members on?

Regarding the Energy Policy Assessment, I would be interested to see more focus on what members think of energy policies. The assessment is a very good start, but more analysis of which practices are good and bad is urgently needed.

3) What should the WEC think about?

WEC should think about giving more importance and visibility in its work to the developing economies within its organisation. WEC has the opportunity to represent those economies properly, and it should make sure it realises that potential.

4) Any other comments you would like to share...

I believe that to address all three challenges we need political leadership and courage. Unfortunately some governments are not able to act decisively. Since we need leadership and action now to confront the general public's lack of understanding, I believe that organisations such as WEC as well as the media can help in this process.

WEC Debriefing

FT – WEC ENERGY LEADERS SUMMIT 2009

On 13-14 October, WEC and the Financial Times presented the second annual FT-WEC Energy Leaders Summit. A total of 200 delegates came to the Millennium Mayfair Hotel in London to discuss the possibilities and challenges of "The Road to Copenhagen – Energy and finance solutions for a Post 2012 World". The Summit featured 32 speakers, including WEC Chair Pierre Gadonneix; Yvo de Boer of UNFCCC; Andris Piebalgs, EU Commissioner for Energy; Professor Lord Giddens, Professor Emeritus LSE; Dr. Johannes Teyssen of E.ON; Hyun Cho, Ambassador for Energy and Resources of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade South Korea.

The one and a half days of roundtable discussions and keynote addresses focused on topics such as "Transforming the Energy Paradigm - A New Global Green Deal?"; "What Does a Plausible Alternative Energy Plan Look Like?"; "Clean Energy in Times of Financial Turmoil"; "Carbon Trading and Finance"; and "New Partnerships for a New Era". Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, gave one of many memorable speeches, emphasising that the time for speech was over, that the world needs to act now and with COP-15 only one week away we have to stop getting lost in details. He also stressed COP-15 to be resounding, clear and ambitious. The outcome of Copenhagen should be a list of ambitious numbers, a clear indication of what the developing countries are willing to do, significant financing for the mitigation and adaptation to the developing world as well as revised government structures. "COP-15 needs to wake up the world, not put it to sleep".

The panel sessions were moderated by Ed Crooks, Energy Editor of the Financial Times and Pat Concessi, Global Climate Change & Sustainable Resources Leader, Deloitte.

Speeches, presentations and pictures will be available from the 21st October on the conference website at: <http://www.ftconferences.com/energy/Page/Speaker-Presentations-for-Download/>. Designed to promote the WEC Congress by maintaining WEC visibility in non-Congress years, the FT-WEC Energy Leaders Summit is held on an annual basis, the next being in Montreal in 2010.

At the Summit, the World Energy and Climate Policy: 2009 Assessment was launched and introduced by Pierre Gadonneix. The report presents the first results from this multi-year global study by WEC which aims to identify energy and climate policies that offer the best solutions for different countries. The 2009 Assessment is available to download via: <http://www.worldenergy.org/publications/>

Congress Update

SEVERAL EVENTS TO BE HELD IN PARALLEL WITH THE CONGRESS

To mark the historic milestone represented by the 21st Congress, several energy industry events will be held in parallel with WEC Montréal 2010. Montréal will play host to the Financial Times Energy Leaders Summit, which will be held outside London for the first time, and concurrently with the Congress.

Several other events of interest will also be on the calendar: a special meeting of energy ministers from the 70 state and government members of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (French-speaking countries); a special meeting of energy ministers of the 53 Commonwealth countries (TBC); the 2010 Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference; American North East and Eastern Canadian Provinces Technical Meeting; a special meeting of the Aluminium Association of Canada; and a special assembly of the Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals. All these events being held in conjunction with the Congress will serve to enrich the discussions and debates.

WEC Agenda

We invite our members to attend the following upcoming WEC events:

November 5; London, UK

Energy Institute's Information for Energy Group (IFEG) Autumn Seminar

Contact: [ehealth@energyinst.org](mailto:heath@energyinst.org)

November 6; Paris, France

Workshop: 'From the decentralised electricity market to the vertical 'oligopole'

Contact: Frederic.Marty@gredeg.cnrs.fr

November 12-14; London, UK

WEC-Romanian National Committee Conference: Energy & Environment, European Climate Change Policy Beyond 2012

Contact: ghbalan@cnr-cme.ro

November 20; Zagreb, Croatia

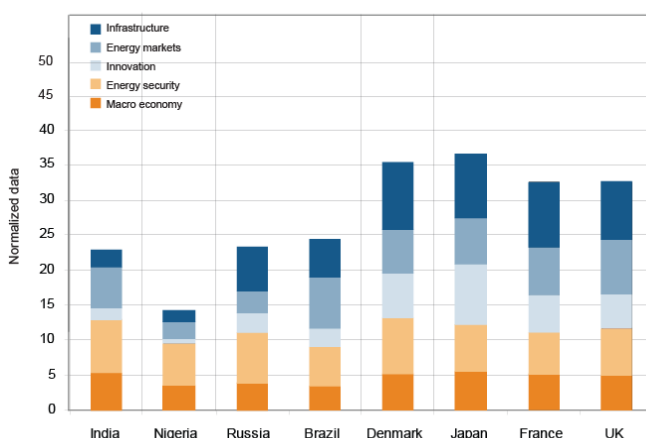
Energy Day In Croatia: Quo Vadis Energy In Times Of Climate Change?

Contact: bjelavic@eihp.hr

For further events, including Member Committee and third-party events, please check the Events page on our WEC website.

Dr. Emad El-Sharkawi, long-time WEC member and Chair of the Egyptian National Committee/WEC, passed away on October 6. Dr. El-Sharkawi served as Chair of WEC's Programme Committee (1995-1998) and on the Officers Council as Vice Chair, Africa (1998-2002), during which time he was involved in WEC's incorporation and made significant contributions to WEC's work, including the World Energy Assessment and *Energy For Tomorrow's World – Acting Now!*. Dr. El-Sharkawi had a long and distinguished career both as an academic and in the Egyptian energy sector, primarily with the Egyptian Electricity Authority, and he also assisted with the preparation of Egypt's first Renewable Energy Strategy in 1980. Our deepest sympathy to Dr. El-Sharkawi's family and to the Egyptian National Committee/WEC on this sad loss.

Inside Insight



A presentation of the overall strength of the economy in eight countries, based on indicators which represent the state of various contributors to the economy. Data are part of the forthcoming WEC World Energy and Climate Policy Assessment and are based on 20 individual indicators, from publicly available data, grouped into five major categories which measures the strength and structure of the macro economy, the level of energy security, the ability to innovate and invest, the strength of energy markets, and the general quality of the infrastructure.

For each category the highest possible value is 10 and the maximum value for all five categories is 50.

World Energy Council

CHRISTOPH FREI, Secretary General
Regency House, 1-4 Warwick Street, London W1B 5LT, UK
Tel: (+44)2077345996, Fax: (+44)2077345926, Skype: christoph-frei

Copyright 2009. World Energy Council. All rights reserved