

Executive Assembly Issue, 1 October 2009

Executive Assembly keynote by Pierre Gadonneix, WEC Chair



Dear colleagues,

Let me first express my gratitude to the WEC for my re-election to the post of WEC Chair during the Reykjavik Executive Assembly.

The three central challenges we identified in Tallinn and Rome – **climate change, security of supply and inequality** – are as urgent as ever and even more daunting.

Although the crisis has caused a drop in CO₂ emissions, we have a limited CO₂ credit and are on the verge of insolvency; we must ensure that we do not intensify the climate crisis.

Security of supply is being further compounded by the downturn in investment. We have no choice but to invest in energy efficiency and new generation capacity, doing our best to diversify our resources.

The crisis is increasing inequality, widening the gap both within and between countries. Worse, climate change increases inequality since the poorest regions will be those hit the hardest.

It is my conviction that the economic crisis underscores how these three challenges are intertwined: we cannot resolve one without addressing all three. Public policy will be essential in putting our energy systems on the path to clean growth. Climate change is a global problem, as is security of supply. Our solutions must therefore be global, and show solidarity between nations. This will be our main challenge in Copenhagen.

The crisis we face is an opportunity to make a genuine change in our mindsets and behaviour which will be key if we are to change the way we supply and use energy.

I am convinced that investing in a sustainable energy future will serve to re-energise the present.

Pierre Gadonneix

WEC Debriefing



Dear colleagues,

It has been a very rewarding first Executive Assembly and I would like to thank all of you for the warm welcome and the great contributions to the various discussions that have taken place in Reykjavik.

The Secretaries Strategy day provided an opportunity for about 50 Member Committee Secretaries to exchange best practices. We saw lively debate on various aspects regarding the successful operation of a Member Committee. In particular, the examples provided on differentiated member categories (e.g. India, South Africa, USA) were much appreciated.

Another "first", about 60 Officers, Chairs and heads of delegations discussed during the Chairs Roundtable their expectation for COP 15 and beyond. The summary is attached in the last section of this WEC Inside. Our ambition is that WEC MC Chairs and Officers will use future Chairs Roundtables for a dialogue to advance energy issues which they jointly identify as priority through the Chairs' issues survey.

Further, in order to strengthen our member committees and regional work and to improve WEC's overall visibility and responsiveness the Assembly adopted new strategy elements: a two-year pilot for Global Partners; the introduction of a Rapid Response Committee; and, the development of "Global Energy Scenarios" and the "Energy and Climate Policy Assessment" into flagship projects, which shall involve all our Member Committees.

I am extremely pleased that we could further refine the Global Partners programme with the input received during the week. We will hold an annual review process with Officers and Member Committees to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with WEC's needs. As next steps, we will revise the strategy paper to reflect the changes and define the value proposition for Global Partners for distribution to all Committees. Meanwhile, we welcome your specific proposals regarding priorities of companies that we shall jointly develop as Global Partners.

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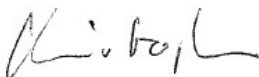
WEC Debriefing (Continued from page 1)

Last but not least, we have welcomed new officers: Jorge Ferioli as Chair Elect of the Programme Committee; Brian Statham as Chair Elect for the Studies Committee; Abbas Ali Naqi as Vice Chair, Special Responsibility for Gulf States/Middle East. Further re-elections included: Our Chairman, Pierre Gadonneix; Marie-José Nadeau, Chair, Communication Committee; Johannes Teysen, Vice Chair, Europe; Norberto de Franco Medeiros, Vice Chair, Latin America & Caribbean. We wish all new officers success and satisfaction in their new roles. A great thank you goes to Elías Velasco for his service to WEC as Vice Chair, Special Responsibility for Investment in Infrastructure.

Final thanks go to our hosts, the President of Iceland Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson who gave an inspiring speech during the Island Energy Day, as well as to Gudni Jóhannesson and Inga Dóra Guðmundsdóttir who have provided a great and smooth organisation of the Assembly.

I look forward to working with all of you on the important implementation of the adopted initiatives.

Sincerely,



(Christoph Frei)

ADOPTED PROPOSALS DURING WEC EXECUTIVE ASSEMBLY 2009

REVISED PROPOSAL FOR TWO-YEAR PILOT PROGRAMME FOR GLOBAL PARTNERS

The three overall objectives of the strategy are:

- to consolidate with the aim of strengthening the membership at the national committee level. To increase the membership with new members by the introduction of Global Partners
- to enhance the visibility of WEC with flagship projects with the objective to include all MCs in these and provide annual updates: "Global Energy Scenarios", "Energy and Climate Policy and Practices Assessment"
- to increase responsiveness and pro-activeness of WEC by the introduction of a rapid response committee

Following the numerous discussions and feedbacks which you have provided this week with respect to the Strategy, and in particular, the Global Partners programme, the Officers Council is unanimously recommending for approval to the Executive Assembly the following two-years Pilot Programme for Global Partners.

- That the Global Partners who are already members of WEC Member Committees will be expected to maintain their current memberships in the MCs for at least two years; those with existing memberships in more than 5 MCs will be invited to become Global Partners and will receive a significant fee reduction for Global Partnership;
- Any new Global Partner which is not currently a member of a WEC Member Committee must agree to join at least three Member Committees: one in a low income country, one in a middle income country and one in a high income country
- The goals for the numbers of Patrons and Global Partners to be recruited between now and the end of 2011 will be ten Global Partners who are not currently members of a WEC Member Committee, with an initial focus on companies which are not yet a member of a WEC MC, as well as 40 Patrons.
- The implementation of this Pilot Programme will be reviewed annually by Officers and Member Committees to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with WEC's needs.

It has also been decided that in addition to the flagship projects, the ongoing studies and programmes will be maintained.

Reykjavik 2009

Chairs Roundtable

Key outcomes of the discussion on expectations and implications of the COP15 in Copenhagen.

There was a general agreement that fossil fuels will remain an important part of the energy mix, but there was also an obvious concern about the impact of climate change. The global carbon market and global carbon price are issues that were also debated. Some countries said nuclear energy should be part of the solution, and others felt that due to public concerns over safety nuclear power is not necessarily a viable option. The development of new technologies is key in the effort to mitigate climate change as well as to meet increasing energy demand. The general view was that much effort must be directed towards further development of new technology and in the meantime realise that enterprises should be lifted from measures that limit their possibilities to invest in same technologies.

In some parts of the world very high targets have been set in order to reduce emissions, but there was a concern expressed that the targets are not feasible. The United States is under pressure to set targets, however this is not likely to happen before COP15, and other countries as well are faced with the challenge of addressing climate change. Each country has different points of views, specific issues and challenges to face, but there was a strong feeling that this has to be a global effort, and that our future is highly dependant on answers worked out at the international level.

It was agreed that the process of COP15 is important, but many doubted that concrete results will be produced in Copenhagen. Some believed that if we do not reach an agreement, then uncertainty will increase. This means the necessary investments to improve energy security and improve climate change will not happen. On the other hand, some believed taking a couple more months to reach an agreement would be fine, as long as it means clear commitments. They preferred a clear commitment in the longer term as opposed to a vaguer commitment in the short-term.



FT WEC Energy Leaders Summit

13-14 October 2009 – Millenium Mayfair - London

Registration:

WEC Members benefit from a 40% discount to the regular registration fee.

To learn more about registration please contact Theresa Hedberg at the WEC London Office:

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7734 5996

Email: hedberg@worldenergy.org

<http://www.ftconferences.com/energy>

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

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