

Interview with Gilberto Callera, Chair of WEC Italy



Mr. Gilberto Callera,
Chair of WEC Italy
(Italian National
Committee of WEC)

What keeps you awake at night?

Life is too short for sleeping too long, but the night offers the right moment for calmly and silently thinking about the main aspects of life - so then, even if I would not always wish them to, energy related issues come into my mind. During the last two decades, the green population has fervently started a campaign to save our planet against pollution and the savage assault of man on the Earth: its soils, oceans, seas and atmosphere. Many experts and institutions have been involved in closely observing climate changes, by collecting figures and data to deduce the relationship of, and apply parameters to, the influence of human factors, and calculate the consequences thereof.

These studies have divulged a catastrophic scenario and governments and institutions have been asked to take the responsibility for a global policy, aimed at saving the planet from these possible consequences. Many governments have promptly answered the call, with some adopting ambitious policy targets, and all conceding the need to take seriously the responsibility for lowering anthropogenic GHG emissions. At the same time, the voice of some prominent scientists and researchers warns of the possibility that observed climate changes are the outcomes of facts external to human behaviour, against which human beings

are powerless to fight. Both supporters and sceptics alike have warmed up the public energy debate and, today, it seems that much passion is invested into energy dialogue.

How do you see the role of the World Energy Council within this landscape?

WEC is a 'one of a kind' organisation. WEC is non-profit, non-partisan and multi-energy; WEC benefits from the vast knowledge of Member Committees in 90+ countries around the world; through these Member Committees, WEC gathers stakeholders from a varied spectrum, including government representatives, energy producers, consumers, researchers, universities and public opinion. Thus, WEC should - and is clearly able to - promote a proper public energy dialogue, free from emotion and based on accurate data, with the aim of helping to remove emotive obstacles from public opinion, which today affect almost every energy initiative, from fossil fuels projects to nuclear and renewables too.

How would you describe the international position of WEC Italy?

Since WEC Italy was appointed to organise the 20th World Energy Congress in Rome, we started a tight cooperation within the energy sector, with Italian public, private and institutional bodies. The outcomes were: Rome 2007 WEC Congress; Rome 11th International Energy Forum and 3rd International Energy Business Forum in 2008; Rome G8 Meeting of Energy Ministers in 2009; many conferences and workshops on the main international and national energy issues; yearly presentation of the IEA's World Energy Outlook in Italy. All of these international events were organised by WEC Italy and the notoriety and consideration that WEC has reached in Italy is remarkable. I therefore believe that WEC has the right position to effectively tackle great themes, such as Energy and Climate Policies or Energy Poverty issues, and to give an invaluable contribution towards choosing the right path for a better energy future.

WEC Debriefing – Read more about this issue's features online!

UKWEC hold workshop on Energy and Climate Policy

WEC's UK Member Committee held a workshop on 'The Changing Politics of Energy and Climate Policy' on March 18, at CMS Cameron McKenna in London. With a UK general election fast approaching, UKWEC invited a leading energy spokesperson from each of the major political parties to address members and guests with their manifesto for a more sustainable energy future. For more information, presentations and a list of speakers and attendees, please visit the UKWEC website: http://www.worldenergy.org/british_energy_association_wec_member_committee/1131.asp

Article on WEC 'Trade and Investment Rules for Energy' report published on WTO website

In September, 2009, WEC published a report on [Trade and Investment Rules for Energy](#), which was a result of work carried out by a WEC Task Force chaired by Timothy Richards (GE Corporate) and directed by Lawrence Herman (Cassels, Brock and Blackwell LLP). The goal of the report was to bring the importance of energy trade and investment rules to the attention of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for the post-Doha round. In the run-up to publication of its annual World Trade Report 2010, the WTO has published an article by Timothy and Lawrence, based on WEC's Rules of Trade study, on its website. http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/wtr10_e.htm



Christoph Frei attends 12th International Energy Forum

WEC Secretary General Christoph Frei (pictured left, with Georgina Kessel, Secretary of Energy for Mexico) delivered a speech at the 12th International Energy Forum, held in Cancun, Mexico, on 30-31 of March, in conjunction with the 4th International Energy Business Forum. Both events were hosted by the Mexican government. To read more, please visit http://www.worldenergy.org/news_events/latest_information/2771.asp

Congress Update

The Globe and Mail and La Presse Join Forces for WEC Montreal 2010

WEC Montréal 2010 recently announced a partnership with the [Globe and Mail](#), the largest English-language newspaper in Canada, and [La Presse](#), the largest French-language daily newspaper in America, which aims to promote the upcoming Congress to a wide audience.

A series of special sections will be launched by both publications, beginning this month. The Globe and Mail launched the first in a series of four sections with the title 'World Energy Congress Montreal 2010' at the Toronto Exchange on April 13. La Presse Affaires, meanwhile, will publish the first issue of its 'Portfolio Congrès mondial de l'énergie' on April 28.



Speakers list keeps growing!

Don't forget to keep an eye on the growing number of high-level speakers confirming their participation in the Congress – an A-Z list is available on the official Congress website: <http://www.wecmontreal2010.ca/en/program/speakers.html>

WEC Agenda

We invite our members to attend the following events:

April 19-20; Buenos Aires, Argentina

-WEC PGP Committee Meeting & Workshop
-Organised by the WEC Argentine Member Committee
-Contact: cacme@cacme.org.ar

April 25-26; Monaco

-Euro-Mediterranean ENERGY EFFICIENCY Forum
-Organised by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Johnson Controls Inc. with the collaboration of the WEC Monaco MC
-Contact: ahure@fpa2.mc

April 25-28; Toronto, Canada

-Biennial Conference of the SEERIL: 'Challenges for Resources in a Changing World'
-Visit: <http://www.int-bar.org/conferences/conf304/>

April 29; Bucharest, Romania

-European Climate Change Policy beyond 2012
-Organised by WEC Romanian National Committee
-Contact: gghalan@cnr-cme.ro

May 17-19; Istanbul, Turkey

-International 'Energy and Youth' Workshop
-Organised by Turkish Member Committee
-Contact: wectnc@tr.net

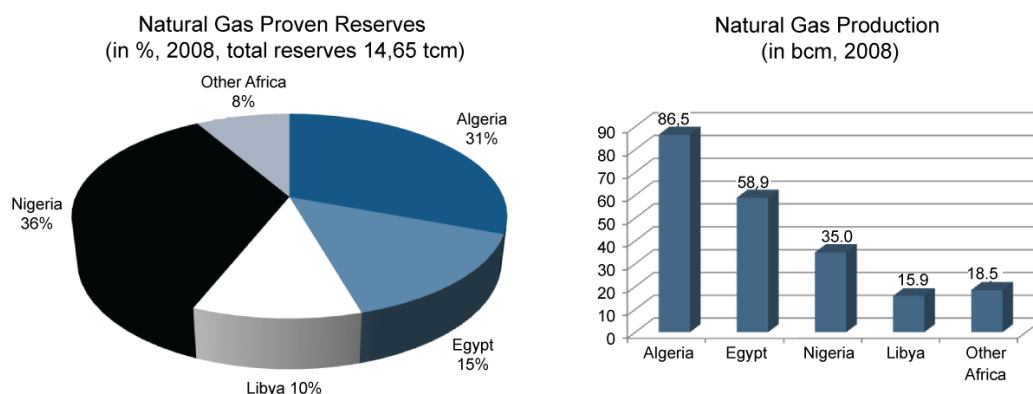
For further events and more details, please check the Events page on the WEC website...

Inside Insight

Energy and Natural Gas in Africa

Africa is endowed with significant energy resources and has the potential to be the region with the greatest energy self-sufficiency. Africa holds 10.0%, 7.9% and 3.9% of the world's total proven reserves of crude oil, natural gas and hard coal, respectively. In addition, it contains 12 % of the world's economically exploitable hydropower. Other important energy resources include geothermal, solar, wind, uranium and traditional biomass.

The bulk of African natural gas reserves are concentrated in four countries, which contain 91.6% of Africa's total. In 2008, natural gas production in Africa was 214.8 bcm, 7% of world production - yet only 3.1% of world's total consumption was within Africa (94.9 bcm).



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, June 2009 and WEC SER 2007

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