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The World Petroleum Congress

Every three years, the Council organises the World Petroleum Congress as the principal meeting place for the international oil and gas industry. Hosted by one of its member countries, the triennial Congress is also known as the “Olympics” of the petroleum industry and covers all aspects of the industry from technological advances in upstream and downstream operations to the role of natural gas and renewables, and sustainable management of the industry. In addition, outside stakeholders such as governments, other industry sectors, NGOs and international institutions have joined the dialogue. Qatar will be the host of the 2020 World Petroleum Congress in 2011. Beyond the triennial Congress, the World Petroleum Council is regularly involved with a number of other meetings such as the WPC Youth Forum, the WPC Regional Meetings and participates actively to key industry issues such as reserves and resources reporting.

THE WORLD PETROLEUM COUNCIL

The World Petroleum Council is the world's premier global oil and gas forum and is the only international organisation representing all aspects of the petroleum sector. The WPC was established in 1933 with the intent to promote the management of the world's petroleum resources for the benefit of mankind. It is the clearest illustration of how interconnection is a vital component of our future. The complexity and scale of the issues facing us require enhanced cooperation between the different communities: today and tomorrow's generation of leaders, between IOCs and NOCs, with governments over regulatory issues, with Academia, because much of the new technologies are developed there, with non-governmental organisations because no one sector of society has all the answers on its own.

Headquartered in London, the World Petroleum Council includes 64 member countries from around the world representing over 95% of global oil and gas production and consumption. WPC membership is unique as it includes both OPEC and Non-OPEC countries with representation of National Oil Companies (NOCs) as well as Independent Oil Companies (IOCs). Each country has a national committee made up from representatives of the oil and gas industry, academia and research institutions and government. Its governing body is the Council consisting of representation from each of the countries national committees.

The WPC’s role to facilitate dialogue on issues that both drive and impact our industry. Without a doubt our major challenge today is to attract and retain more young people into our industry because 80% of us will be retired in the next five years. This means we are working on lifting the very real barriers that exist and convincing them that we are not a sunset industry; that our commitment to the environment is real; that while we make money, the investments to make to secure a sustainable energy future for us all are enormous. More than that, they are crucial as we move from conventional oil to non conventional oil resources that require constant technological innovations - we expect a 25% increase in demand for energy between 2007 and 2030. That translates into about one trillion dollars of new infrastructure investments. And finally, yes, people are our primary resource and key to energising our future.

That is why it is so essential for us to get the youth of today directly plugged into our business. That is why we created our Youth Committee and why we are so thrilled to see the enthusiasm with which they invested in Energise Your Future, the quality of their contributions to the development of the programme and their delivery at the forum itself.

It is the clearest illustration of how interconnection is a vital component of our future. The complexity and scale of the issues facing us require enhanced cooperation between the different communities: today and tomorrow’s generation of leaders, between IOCs and NOCs, with governments over regulatory issues, with Academia, because much of the new technologies are developed there, with non-governmental organisations because no one sector of society has all the answers on its own.

DINESH KUMAR PANDE,
Vice-President WPC, Youth and Gender

Why is the WPC so committed to involving young people in this kind of initiative?

Our Industry is basically a knowledge based industry. Its growth and very existence relies on its R&D successes and innovative technological development.

The three key drivers that are going to make or break our future require the input of the younger generation:

- Our ability to share meaningful knowledge that yields results
- Our adaptability to change quickly in line with fast evolving technologies.
- Our daring to question conventional wisdom and come up with new ideas for developing sustainable resources.
Words From
THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Energise Your Future was a uniquely participative initiative developed by young people for young people from all regions of the world. We came together for 18 months, using Web 2.0 technology, face to face meetings and conference calls to develop the content for the forum designed to shape the future of the industry. We ended up a unique network of empowered individuals with a commitment to share experiences and foster debate around key energy issues.

The core team of the Programme Committee - 20 active members - were naturally the voice of the 1200 people present in Paris and close to 2000 who contributed to the lively debates on the participative platform, energisemynetwork in the preceding months, which became and continues to be a catalyst of ideas.

Our objectives were multiple and ambitious:
• A bold, transparent and constructive dialogue, lifting major misconceptions and leveraging the diversity of the people involved
• A diverse audience from all five continents. But diverse also in the companies, the organisations, the functions and the generations they represent
• Real interaction with industry leaders, experts and influencers to grow understanding of tomorrow’s energy landscape and to reinforce trans-generational links.

What characterized all our implication was our enthusiasm, our passion, the team-spirit and our belief and faith in our generation and its potential. We all shared a common goal: increase the attractiveness and understanding of this crucial industry and focus on real issues in an open and direct way.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Anna Illariounova, Burcu Gunal, Céline Rottier, Laurène Debesse, Leor Rotchild, Rakhimzhan Khismetov, Nada Al-Mesfer, Ulrike Von Lonski, Pierce Riemer, Wail Mousa, Mishal Jabor Al-Thani, Severin Secklehner, Tibor Hodička

From left to right: Thérèse Assoumou, Pascal Breton, Luc Chatin, Stéphanie Persenda, Philippe Julien

From left to right: Michel Lebon, Claude Léonard, Stephen Whittaker, Ulrike von Lonski, Bruno Wiltz

OverView Of Event

Looking back, Energise Your Future was a milestone in industry events that exceeded our ambitions and allowed us the unique opportunity of working closely with a group of talented, enthusiastic and determined young professionals from across the globe to deliver a thought-provoking event.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Working across generations, companies, businesses and geographies, we implemented a highly participative three-pronged programme, relying on state-of-the-art communications tools:
• Phase 1: an exceptional community network, energisemynetwork, to start discussions and build momentum
• Phase 2: A three-day, three-level interactive event focused on three themes that gathered over 1200 participants from all over the world
• Phase 3: An on-going debate until the third WPC Youth Forum

We believe that a new trend was set in debates between the industry’s senior leaders and young professionals who were at the heart of the initiative from the start. Together on stage, in workshops and in knowledge cafés, current and future leaders and influencers were able to engage in straight talking, tackling a broad range of critical and sometimes controversial issues: where is the energy market heading, what energy mix makes sense, how do all stakeholders work better together to build an ethical and sustainable future, how can our industry give back more to the community and how do our companies and the organisations we represent contribute to shape the future of the industry?

What was most striking for all participants in Paris was the energy, enthusiasm and genuine care that was palpable throughout the three days and beyond. Twenty years ago our companies were not focusing enough on our corporate social responsibility and this is evolving fast. Nowadays, we recognise that the oil and gas industry can and must do more for the countries in which we are operating.

Based on the commitment and responsibility we saw, we are confident that we have the basis to build tomorrow’s leadership able to take decisive action towards a sustainable future for the next generations.

From left to right: Laurène Debesse, Yannick Pennecot, Emmanuel Garaud, Catherine Beneton, Wail Mousa and Leor Rotchild

From left to right: Thérèse Assoumou, Michel Lebon, Pascal Breton, Luc Chatin, Stéphanie Persenda, Philippe Julien.
The momentum created during Energise Your Future was palpable and long-term. Close to a year after the event, the enthusiasm was still present. There were some direct fall-outs to leverage this energy and thinking:

• At CGGVeritas, the young professionals were so energised by the experience that they set up a think-tank, open to all employees, specifically around sustainable development. They are considering taking this a step further and crafting their own event, building on what they have already achieved.

• New industry recognition for some programme committee members through the election to a variety of international bodies
  o In France, a National Committee of Young Professionals - Comité AFTP Jeunes was set up to develop the network of players in the energy sector, share experiences to optimise career development and continue to grow understanding of the challenges facing the industry
  o A Programme Committee member was elected to the new SPE ‘Sustainability’ committee, a group of 19 individuals drawn from over 92,000 members, and was selected by SPE to represent them at the ‘Emerging Leaders Alliance’ - http://emergingleadersalliance.org/Default.aspx
  o Invitation to be a guest lecturer on CSR at Aberdeen University for a particular energy-related post-graduate course.

• Valuable contributions to PhD and MBA research, including completion of an MBA dissertation on Community Development in the energy industry including interviews with a broad range of high quality speakers from Energise Your Future.

• For students, access to the employment market - a Russian student received a job offer on her return from the Paris event!

For me the event was all about the ‘energy of youth’. I have never been in the same place as so many young industry professionals at one time, the arena was filled with a buzz of constant expectation. There was a real ‘team’ atmosphere, with some of the best conversations I ever had!

I realised that people had very similar concerns to mine about the industry, be they from very different technical or geographic backgrounds.

I think the event was really a forum for new and innovative ideas (be they controversial or not politically correct for the industry, in particular regarding corporate social responsibilities) - I did not feel censored at all, but on the contrary felt encouraged by management to raise questions and debate with other industry professionals.

I have never been to an event where CEOs were so willing to really listen to and empower young people.

This event broadened my vision and understanding of the industry more than several years of working in it.
Christophe de Margerie
CEO Total, Chairman of the Executive Committee

“We are not facing the end of a system but the end of a behaviour”

The world is changing - in fact it is a real revolution, particularly in the energy sector.
- The scale of investments and challenges require bigger companies.
- Technologies are changing
- The environment has changed. Our companies need to continue making the necessary efforts to preserve the environment and contribute to the development of the communities where we work. Then we will be accepted.

And even if so much has changed, so many of the fundamentals remain the same. Geopolitics has always been an issue. We simply have to manage them through greater understanding and cooperation.

Those of us in charge today are doing our best to prepare our common future. But you will be in charge of delivering an energy landscape that avoids the antagonism between having a clean world and the necessary supply of energy.

At the Energise Your Future forum we discussed what a sustainable future requires from us:
1. To combine our thinking across generations and companies to define the right energy mixes makes sense, and creates the right balance between the different sources. What is certain is that we must all work together to provide the planet with enough clean energy - the competition between us is no longer the game.
2. To take on board that tomorrow’s world must reconcile economic growth for all its countries with climate change - we need to protect our environment better without foreclosing growth.
3. To be resolutely committed to developing and nurturing partnerships with all our stakeholders. We should have built these relationships earlier and we need to develop them more than ever.
4. It is vital to hire more diverse young people and especially women at all levels of our organisation. Women are more imaginative and more sensitive and this is crucial when we talk about new energies. It is time to rectify the imbalances in our companies.
5. To empower young people and that starts by being close to them and by offering career opportunities early enough.

To conclude, I would say that for generations to come we will be discussing what the right energy mix is. We are not facing the end of a system but the end of a behaviour –“it is your time, live up to it and we will prepare a sustainable future together”.

Gérard Mestrallet
CEO GDF SUEZ

“The Oil & Gas Sector will have a future but not alone”

Energise Your Future was a unique forum to exchange not only on the future careers of young professionals but also on the future of energy. Our industry is a fascinating industry with a brilliant future. But things are changing. The exploration & production arms of the oil and gas industries will have a future, but not alone. This is the most important message - it is true for all the companies involved in the energy sector.

It will be more and more difficult to be just one given part of the sector.

We all of us have a duty to deliver affordable energy, to guarantee the future supply of energy: not just oil, not just gas but a full range of energies. Energy diversity is more than ever a necessity. We can expect the classical distinction between oil, gas and other utilities to be increasingly eroded in the future.

The key messages that I would like to convey to young people already in the industry or thinking about joining it on how to manage a successful career are simple:

1. Our industry has a promising future with many fascinating projects to offer you in a wide range of countries. You can join our industry in one market, in one business, and progressively move across businesses and countries.
2. Your first duty is to be excellent in your own discipline, whatever it is. Be ambitious and innovative. Embrace projects across the world to build your expertise.
3. But that is not enough. Equally important is ethical and responsible behaviour throughout your careers. You need to convey responsible behaviour to your teams in all the countries in which we operate. Being responsible means to be responsible economically, socially and environmentally.
   o Economically responsible by facilitating the development of countries where we are operating is absolutely key.
   o Socially responsible: we need diversity; we must be aware of the social impact we have on countries where we are present.
   o Environmental responsibility is rightly an increasing preoccupation - if climate change is the primary issue, it is not the only one - we need to be aware of environmental constraints across all our businesses. Reducing CO2 emissions is our problem today and will be yours tomorrow. We must combine our efforts to find the solutions. These solutions are accessible.

So let us build the entrepreneurial spirit in our companies and encourage our professionals across the world to participate in the broad range of fascinating projects in the energy field from Brazil to France, from China to the USA and the Middle-East.
When we were asked to participate in Energise Your Future, it was an easy decision. It was a perfect fit with our vision and values. The idea was even more exciting because it was not your usual conference. It was built by young professionals in the oil and gas industry for other young professionals. We were keen to get our own young people to participate and to drive the initiative. The result was astounding. The event was not only extremely successful, but internally, the take-aways were significant.

At CGGVeritas, it has generated the emergence of new initiatives aimed at facilitating cross-generational dialogue and fostering new ideas around the world on how to continue to make our company as sustainable as possible. And this is vital if we are to successfully rise to the huge challenges that face our industry in the years to come.

Young professionals called for more diversity at all levels of our organisations and they are right. Our sustainable future depends on our ability to do this better.

And, I hope that we, today’s leaders, convinced them that we are prepared to listen to new ideas and solutions, particularly when we see real commitment behind them. I personally believe that as leaders we have a mission to leverage this energy and deploy it to transform the dreams and hopes we discussed into reality.

Robert Brunck
CEO CGGVeritas

“We are not a twilight industry. Hydro carbon based energy is as much part of the sustainability solution as it is part of the sustainability challenge.”

Paal Kibsgaard
Chief Operating Officer, Schlumberger

“Every one of us has two hands that are complimentary and mutually supportive. At all levels of our organisation we need both men and women working together to rise to the scale of the challenges that face us.”

From left to right: Lucian Tarnowski, Hege Marie Norheim, Robert Brunck
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT

PLENARY SESSION
Current and future industry leaders and influencers engaged in panel discussions in front of 1,200 people about vital and sometimes controversial issues for the future of the energy world...

WORKSHOPS
After the plenary sessions, the workshops were the opportunity for lively discussions about identified key issues...

KNOWLEDGE CAFÉS
Debates continued in the Knowledge Cafés, where all participants developed their networks and shared more insights.

GALA EVENING AT THE SHOWCASE IN PARIS
And after the debates, it was time to relax and share the energy...
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT

THEME 1:
Taking the pulse of tomorrow’s energy landscape: a reality check

Key ideas
• There has not been much change in the oil, gas and coal mix over the past four decades. Change takes time and effort.

We need to do more with less. We need to concentrate our efforts on improving how we produce energy which is 15% of the energy chain.
Baudoin Kelecom

The background to tomorrow’s energy landscape
• The citizens of the world will grow significantly according to Cap Gemini. By 2050, we will be between 9 and 10 billion people. The majority of the world’s citizens today are without access to fundamental services. Life needs energy to develop.

We will need 30% more energy by 2030. 80% will be coal, gas and oil. 60% and growing will be oil and gas. Meeting demand will require investments of 26 trillion dollars in the next 20 years.

The accelerating need for mobility in the rest of the world is massive. Energy demand just looks at the evolution of the car industry in China and in the next years we will see how increasingly sophisticated the consumer demands will be, evolving away from today’s low amenity cars.

We need to strike the right balance between addressing climate change and lifting more countries out of poverty. But forecasts are difficult: in the 1980s the estimates of mobile phone use proved to be wrong by 220%!

Unfortunately, there is no simple formula for balancing climate and energy security because the different technologies often present radically different challenges.

Education - a very central focus building a sustainable future. Policies should be developed at global level to support education of “learning consumers”, in emerging countries and in particular in energy producing countries where the split between "the rich & connected" and "the poor majority" is less and less acceptable.

Growth in global demand as projected cannot be sustainably met even from the exploitation of conventional and unconventional resources.

The complex energy landscape
• Today’s energy system is complex. Business as ususal is not an option at all for the energy sector. Company business models, our standards of living and our values will have to change. Greater cooperation between all the stakeholders is vital.

We have resources for centuries. We have the right knowledge assets needed for the low carbon economy.

Investments in renewable energies are long term and investors want a long term view. And you know the CO2 emission prices are very volatile when they need to be sustainable.

Today’s price (14 euros per ton of carbon) is not high enough to incentivise low carbon industry to invest in renewables or nuclear.

Developed countries must lead the way but we should also make sure that developing economies play their role to avoid intensive and potentially unsustainable pathways.

At a more tactical level, it might be interesting to set up incentives for the use of sustainable energy and roadblocks to copying consumption practices inherited from the development model of developed countries.

Developed countries, for example in Europe, energy demand is going down, although this may be cyclical according to experts from Chatham House and Cap Gemini, a positive fall out of the economic crisis. In the US and Europe, legislation is supporting the drive for reduction in CO2 emissions and reduction in energy consumption:

We need to do more with less. We need to concentrate our efforts on improving how we produce energy which is 15% of the energy chain.

It really isn’t about whether there is sufficient energy for the foreseeable future BUT the real question is rather what will be the cost of getting to it and how clean it will be?
Peter Whiting

No one source of energy will be enough. Diversification of energy sources will remain essential even if it comes at the expense of slower transition to zero-carbon sources.

It is a major challenge to both decarbonise the existing mix and switch to new alternative energies as fast as possible. In 2008, investments in renewable energy power generation amounted to 140 billion, 30 billion more than investment in fossil power generation. Investing in low carbon generation (nuclear and renewables) is part of a shared commitment to ensure the transition towards global decarbonisation in line with G8 and G20 goals.

High carbon companies control some of the key knowledge assets needed for the low carbon economy.

In developed countries, for example in Europe, energy demand is going down, although this may be cyclical according to experts from Chatham House and Cap Gemini, a positive fall out of the economic crisis. In the US and Europe, legislation is supporting the drive for reduction in CO2 emissions and reduction in energy consumption.

There need to be clear directions, frameworks to encourage oil & gas producers to shift investments from oil to other renewable sources.

Plastics are key to reducing energy consumption in buildings, packaging, cars and transportation. In mature markets, we consume a hundred kilogram of plastics per year per person. In the rest of the world that represents 80% of the population, they consume 1/5 of what we consume. As these countries evolve, so will their consumption of plastics which is an opportunity for our industry and for the planet.

It is a story of interdependence.

We need talent and technological innovation to make energy accessible and affordable. We need to ensure that economic growth goes hand in hand with energy efficiency. Energy is a story of interdependence.

Baudoin Kelecom, Exxon Mobil
Expectations

• I am an engineer. Like most of the people in the room I work in front of my PC without really seeing the implications of my work most of the time. My hope is that all the people in this forum learn as much in the coming days about corporate social responsibility as I do.

Key ideas

• There was a general consensus that:
  o The industry needs to move from negotiating a license to operate delivered by the local authorities to a far more engaged and committed approach.
  o ThePull has to come from industry. Only when there is a demand for greater transparency will companies start to deliver on their obligations to the communities. They should feed back more of these revenues from the projects to provide healthcare, infrastructure, education...
  o The industry has to move from negotiating a license to operate delivered by the local authorities to a far more engaged and committed approach.

• Most importantly, participants agreed that:
  1. Community actions cannot be a substitute for how you do your day-to-day business. One set of high standards of sustainability needs to be enforced better.
  2. Self-regulation is not enough - more regulation is necessary to fight corruption and encourage more transparency.

• EITI is one of these initiatives. The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a coalition of governments, companies, civil society groups, investors and international organisations. It aims to strengthen governance by improving transparency and accountability in the extractive sector.

  o The United Nations Global Compact is an initiative that recognizes that the UN needs to work more effectively with the private sector to achieve its own goals. It is the largest corporate citizenship and sustainability initiative in the world with over 7,500 members. It aims to strengthen governance by improving transparency and accountability in the extractive sector.

VOTES

1/ Who should be responsible for the poverty of host communities: the government only, the operating companies or both?

- Both Companies
- Government only
- Both

2/ Do you think the oil and gas industry is corrupt? There is some; a minimum or a lot?

- a lot = half the room
- a bit

3/ Can the oil and gas industry self-regulate social responsibility or do we need regulation?

- strong regulation is answered

4/ If an oil and gas operator becomes aware of corruption, what should they do?

- Continue working and try to improve the situation
- Stop, but continue dialogue with the government
- Continue working but begin dialogue with the government and try to improve the situation

5/ Do you consider the social and environmental implications of your actions when you make decisions in your daily work?

- Sometimes
- Always
- Rarely

* The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
Key ideas

**Ghandi**

“Be the change you want to see in the world.”

A real dialogue between today and tomorrow’s leaders is vital to respond to the challenges facing the industry.

**Hege Marie Norheim:**

“Being a leader in this industry is one of the most meaningful jobs anyone can have and it is also one of the most challenging. It requires input from the young as industry struggles to both reduce CO2 emissions whilst giving energy to the world.

Leaders of this new generation will need to excel in listening and working in networks. The industry is very structured, in line with the broad range of issues and with the level of risk and innovation that it has to manage.

And this industry offers opportunities to work across region and cross discipline. Tomorrow’s leaders will probably be better at communicating, at understanding the operational context, in managing multi-stakeholders with a cross section of ages, genders, nationalities. This is essential to generating the innovative thinking that the industry needs in the coming years.

**Thierry Pilenko, Technip:**

A key principle that needs to direct efforts to prepare tomorrow’s leadership is that everybody joining the industry should have the possibility of reaching the highest levels, regardless of gender, religion or nationality.

How can we be sure that we have more women in the boardroom? There was consensus at the conference that more women were essential to the success of the industry moving forward.

**Lucian Tarnowski:**

For most industries, hiring women is getting a little bit of quality that has been missing into the workplace during this last millennium.

The main plenary saw a success story: how a woman engineer in a very conservative and male-dominated society in Kuwait cut her way through to the boardroom, Sara Akbar, CEO of Kuwait Energy.

**Thierry Pilenko, Technip:**

Key success factors were highlighted. It is fundamental for future leaders to build their technical skills and invest in developing them.

**Philip Jordan, Total:**

“There is a need for training and opening the views of people about multicultural benefits, diversity of career opportunities and challenges...”

**Sara Akbar:**

“...Young professionals need to plan their lives so as to reconcile their two lives: family & career.

...IOCs and NOCs need to be more proactive in managing their image. Participants highlighted the fact that large redundancies programmes have a disastrous effect on image. Young professionals need to encourage their companies to think twice before cutting human resources in hard times. It is the time for action not just words. There was collective agreement that today and tomorrow’s leaders need to engage more together to build a sustainable future.

Participants recognised that there has been progress in cross-generational debate. Work-life balance was seen as a keystone for men and women and solutions are being found with technology.

Above all, today’s leaders appealed to young professionals to keep their passion and courage to really address key issues open and with commitment.”
The first is that of course we cannot understand what is happening in the world without integrating energy and oil in particular.

But we cannot understand the world if we focus solely or even mainly on strict energy considerations.

In fact, when you look at geopolitics today you come to conclusion that the energy that really matters and makes a difference is the energy of the mind, the energy of the spirit, the energy that hope gives you.

If you look at images that have impacted our world in 2009, you see two scenarios:

- The 20th anniversary celebrations of the fall of the Berlin wall and you remember that famous image of Gorbatchev kissing Honecker on the lips for a very long time; he is in fact giving him the kiss of death. He is telling him: I am not going to support you anymore. Not long after the kiss, the Berlin wall falls, the German Democratic Republic disappears and the Soviet Empire collapses.

- In November 2009, we saw so something that will probably be present in all history books, an image that opens the world and that takes place in Beijing. It is an image of the proud President of China walking side by side with Barack Obama. For the first time you realize that the two men are equal. The world has changed dramatically. The image of the American President and the Chinese President walking side by side could be seen as the closing of a period of more than two and a half centuries. From the middle of the 18th century to the beginning of the 21st century, the West dominated the world with its vision, interests and ideas. This is now over. And this is extraordinarily new.

And the countries that have succeeded most are not those with energy resources. They had something else, something that proved more influential.

If you look at the concept of the BRICs (Brazil, Russia, China and India), the only one that is seen as being left behind and that is in a deep crisis, that is not meeting its leaders objectives is Russia. The country that perceived itself as an energy superpower, the country that could dictate its will to its neighbours, the country that could use its pride and its influence through oil and gas did not succeed. History moved in a slightly more complex and different way. If you consider the financial economic and social crisis which we are currently witnessing, this crisis has accelerated the definition of a new world in which the West is no longer what it used to be and where emerging powers have moved to the forefront of world stage. Because this crisis has been ours.

If we look at this crisis, we can ask ourselves which industry would launch a product without testing it. The Western financial world is the only one to have done it. The encounter between the infectious greed of all the financial actors and their customers and the lack of proper regulation by the states has created a new world.

All of that without deep energy considerations. You cannot understand the new dynamics between Asia and Africa without energy. It is good news for the African continent that will count 1.5 billion people in a few years. Those two giants in Asia and China have made it without energy resources. What they didn’t have they had to create, to invent. The Indians are just the opposite. They thought they could live without their resources without reinventing themselves.

I think China is going to the right direction with miniscule steps, whereas Russia has probably gone to the wrong direction with major steps backward.

Again, that does not mean that we should not consider energy considerations with a sense of respect. These issues are crucial. We are going to be at some point 10 billion living on this planet. And rising power may be confronted with a scarcity of energy resources.

But do not forget the power of the mind, the imagination of men. Do not look at the world in a purely technical, defensive way. What has happened in the last decades, has been the relative decline of the United States for deep historical reasons and the emergence of new powers that have greatly benefited from this relative decline of the West at large.

At the first European Presidential elections, we know that Europe has decided to move out of history, has decided to be a non-power on the world stage. Our leaders have chosen to incarnate Europe in the World with people chosen for their limits rather than their strengths. What company would succeed if they chose a CEO the one that is least likely to be energetic and dynamic? We want to be the marginal part of the West at the time when it is not enough. America has an ability to rebound and reinvent itself that is unique. And we should not bury America too soon. But we must be conscious that today nothing can be done without America but nothing can be done by America alone. No solution in Afghanistan without the help of Pakistan or India; no solution in Iran without the Russians; no solution in North Korea without the implication of the Chinese. This is difficult for us to understand and accept. America is the only one dispensable nation; one among others.

In Europe, we used to see ourselves exclusively in relation to the United States. That’s over. We have to consider how to exist in relation to Asia, the Gulf, Latin America.

We have entered a new phase where the countries that have succeeded, that are sitting side by side are not necessarily the ones that come above all by appetite, the absolute commitment to make it, an appetite reinforced by a confidence, a confidence reinforced by a deep sense of national and cultural identity. They know who they are, where they have come from. They have no sense of inferiority with us.

What does that mean for us in the western world? It means that somewhere we have to reinvent ourselves. Otherwise we run the risk of becoming a place where richer and more dynamic people will come to see the art of good life. It is not something I can accept easily.

“The energy that makes the difference is the energy of the mind, the energy of the belief and the confidence that you can make a difference individually and collectively. It can be through energy or through the lack of energy because you have to reinvent yourself even more. If you don’t have energy sources at your disposal.”

Closing plenary session: “Our roadmap towards a sustainable Energy future”

From left to right: Olivier Appert, Jozef Toth, Didier Holleaux, Catherine MacGregor, Yves-Louis Darricarrère

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION:

Highlights of Dominique Moisi’s Keynote Address

Dominique Moisi, founder and former deputy Director of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) is currently a senior counsellor there. He is also a senior counsellor at Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and at the Paris Politics Institute. He was Raymon Aron’s assistant. He is an expert in geopolitics and an international relations specialist, with a specific focus on the Middle East. Author of many books, he published “The Geopolitics of Emotion” in 2008. He is a graduate in law & politics from La Sorbonne & Harvard and has taught at ENS, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and at the Paris Politics Institute. He was Raymon Aron’s assistant.