Session 3 | A Regional Partnership for Gas Trade

A moderated discussion reflecting different perspectives on next steps to gradually establish a regional gas market and develop an action plan to address the prerequisites for a Pan-Arab gas market vision, i.e. political will to cooperate in Regional Trade Agreements, market based gas prices across the region, harmonized regulatory environment for trade & supply, and an investment framework for infrastructure. Next steps may involve another event at which roles and actions can be agreed.

Pan-Arab Regional Gas Trade: Benefits and Opportunities, Barriers and Approaches
Mr. Alexander Huurdeman, Senior Gas Specialist, World Bank Group

Regional Gas Hub Development in Egypt
Eng. Osama Mobarez, Under-Secretary Technical Office, Ministry of Petroleum, Egypt

Panel Discussion
- Mr. Christopher Sheldon, Extractives Practice Manager, World Bank Group

Moderator: Eng. Amira El-Mazni, Vice President for Regulatory Affairs, EGAS

Panelists

Ms Amira El-Mazni is Director on the Board of Egypt’s Gas Regulatory Authority’s, GasReg. She is former Vice Chairman for Gas Regulatory Affairs in the Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company, EGAS. Her responsibilities included planning and follow-up the development of the legal & regulatory framework needed for establishing the Gas Regulatory Authority in Egypt. She led the Oil & Gas Hub Strategy team, which is program 6 of Egypt’s Oil & Gas Sector Modernization Project.

During her work in EGAS: she managed the joint working groups for EU-funded Energy Sector Policy Support Program and represented the Petroleum Sector in the Technical Steering Committee of the beneficiaries; she was secretary for EGAS’ LNG Sales Committee and Egypt’s representative in the Steering Committee for Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF); also EGAS/EGPC representative in the West Delta Deep Marine Co-Sellers Committee, as well as co-secretary of the Steering Committee for Damietta LNG train 2 project. Her previous responsibilities in the Planning & Projects Division in EGAS included planning and follow-up for gas field development, treatment, processing, liquefaction and LNG projects and studies.

Prior to joining EGAS in 2005, she worked for Engineering for the Petroleum and Process Industries (ENPPI). She earned her BSc. in Chemical Engineering from Cairo University in 1981. She’s a Certified Quality Auditor and holds a Diploma in Human Recourses Management.
Mr. Alexander Huurdeman is a Senior Oil and Gas Expert at the World Bank since 2010. He brings senior leadership with over 35 years of global experience in the oil and gas sector. He is responsible for World Bank oil and gas programs in East Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia, leading preparation and negotiation of financial instruments for oil and gas infrastructure and responsible for major policy initiatives and advice to Governments. Prior to that, he held technical, commercial and senior management roles in Shell International E&P in the Middle East, Europe, North Africa and Asia.

Mr. Osama Mobarez has over 25 years of experience in Oil & Gas. In his current role, he is responsible for the Realization Office to drive Egypt’s Modernization Program across the Oil & Gas sector. Over his career he supported development of policies and reforms within the petroleum sector in Egypt including; a comprehensive energy subsidy reform strategy, initiation of gas market reform, modification and updating of upstream agreements, and feasibility studies of infrastructure development projects. He leads bi-lateral cooperation with other countries on Petroleum topics, as well as with communication with financial institutions and oil and gas organizations.

He holds an MBA with Distinction from Edinburgh Business School, Heriot Watt University UK, and completed Post-Graduate Studies in Economics of Energy at Reading University UK.

Mr. Christopher Sheldon is a Practice Manager with the Energy and Extractives Global Practice of the World Bank with responsibility for the unit’s operations in Africa, Middle East, Europe, Central Asia, East Asia and the Pacific. His goal is to support countries to develop and manage responsible oil, gas and mining industries that contribute to inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction. Prior to that he was a Sr. Mining Specialist working on diverse projects throughout Africa and Asia.

Before joining the World Bank, Mr. Sheldon worked in mines and lived with communities in Papua New Guinea and the Philippines and worked in the private sector in Sydney, Australia. He holds an MBA from the University of New Castle is an Australian Chartered Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Economics from Macquarie University.
Mr. ALHEYARI is the Director of Oil & Natural Gas Directorate/ Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources - Jordan. He is one of the key leaders in Natural Gas & oil policy and strategy development at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, where he joined the Ministry in 2001 and has held various designations and responsibilities including implementation of policies, strategies and follow up of Oil & Natural Gas Mega projects.

Mr. ALHEYARI is a Mechanical Engineer who graduated from Basrah University/ Iraq in 1993, and conducted post graduate courses and advanced training in Germany. He is a member of several local committees, Member of the board of directors of National Petroleum Company.

His local and international representations include being the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Petroleum Company, a member of the Board of Directors of Jordan Oil Terminals, and a member of a group of Experts on Fossil Fuels/Committee on Energy/ Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia / United Nations.