



## What is IGU?

The International Gas Union, which was established 70 years ago, is a world-wide non-commercial, non-government organisation with currently 62 members from all over the world. These members are the most representative gas organisations of a country, which may encompass producers, transporters, distributors, technological and scientific institutes, and appliance manufacturers.

The main objective of IGU is to promote the technical and economic progress of the gas industry world-wide mainly by facilitating the exchange of information both of a technological nature and of a more general, business-oriented nature. To that end it organises the World Gas Conference and Exhibition and manages currently 10 Working Committees which study all aspects of the gas industry from the well to the burner tip and which report at the World Gas Conference.

Together IGU's members cover about 90% of marketed world gas production. As a result of the advance of natural gas in the world's energy balance and the ever increasing number of countries where gas is being used or emerging, which now stands at about 100, IGU is expanding its network with more developing countries.

## Major IGU Activities in 2000

### World Gas Conference

The main event of the year was the 21<sup>st</sup> World Gas Conference and Exhibition, which took place in Nice, France from June 5-9, with the Theme: "Gas, the energy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century".

Once again WGC turned out to be the most important event of the Gas world, the global meeting place of all major gas players, presenting their activities and technological achievements to the world.

There was a record high attendance to both the conference and the exhibition.

The French Gas Association, being the French IGU member, was in charge of this highly successful event and has issued the following figures from WGC 2000:

- 16.000 Participants
- 3355 Delegates
- 952 Accompanying persons
- 350 Press representatives from 85 countries
- 400 Exhibiting companies
- 10.000 Visitor pr. day for the exhibition

At the end of this 21<sup>st</sup> World Gas Conference Mr. Hiroshi Urano from Japan succeeded Mr. Claude

Détourné as the IGU President. This is the first IGU Presidency in Asia. The term of Mr. Urano will come to a close at the end of the next World Gas Conference.

The theme for the Japanese Presidency and the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Gas Conference is:

"Catalysing an Eco-Responsible Future."

The Japanese National Organisation Committee has already started active preparations for this, the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Gas Conference and Exhibition, which will take place in Tokyo, Japan, 1-5 June 2003.

Information about the Conference and Exhibition can be found through the IGU Web site [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org) or directly on [www.wgc2003.com](http://www.wgc2003.com)

### **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

IGU, as an UN-accredited non-government organisation, took again part in meetings within the UNFCCC, having decided on a more active approach.

At the preparatory meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Convention, which took place in Bonn in June, IGU both had an information stand and organised a Special Event. IGU brought to Bonn a panel of Speakers to relate the results of the discussion around Climate Change issues at the 21<sup>st</sup> WGC in Nice. This event was well visited and very successful. Apart from some prominent IGU speakers it featured guest-speakers from International Energy Agency and University of St. Gallen, Switzerland.

Another preparatory meeting to the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP 6) took place in Lyon in September. IGU had an information stand and announced the programme for Gas involvement at COP 6.

A major involvement was planned for COP 6, taking place in The Hague, The Netherlands from 13 – 26 November. IGU took the initiative to join forces with the 6 other gas related organisations, which are accredited to UNFCCC, in order to present an information stand for Gas and not for the individual organisation.

At COP 6 IGU was thus organising the following:

- Information stand outside The Plenary Hall of the Official Conference (with all other gas organisations)
- Technology stand in an adjoining special technology exhibition (with some of the other organisations)
- A Special Event about Natural Gas Perspectives and Transfer of Technology.

The main speaker was Professor Nebojsa Nakicenovic, from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Vienna, who is also a lead author in the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC)

Also the President of IGU, Mr. Hiroshi Urano, the Secretary General and IGU colleagues from Argentina, Australia and Canada participated in the panel.

- IGU obtained one of the rare possibilities of addressing the official Conference of Ministers of Environment. The IGU Vice-President, Mr George Verberg, gave a brief presentation.

## **The Secretariat**

In the first half of the year the IGU Secretariat was located in The Netherlands with Mr. John. F. Meeder as Secretary General. At the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> World Gas Conference in Nice Mr. Peter K. Storm from Denmark succeeded Mr. Meeder.

The Secretariat of IGU is now located in Hoersholm, north of Copenhagen in Denmark. One full-time assistant assists the Secretary-General. Office space is made available by DONG A/S, which also renders some supporting services.

Because the Secretary-General is seconded by the host organisation – DGF, Danish Gas Association - the cost of the secretariat is relatively low

## **Membership**

In 2000 the following members joined IGU:

- Greece
- Saudi Arabia
- South Africa, and
- Thailand.

New Zealand decided to withdraw its membership.

Total membership at the end of 2000 amounted to 62, of which 15 Observer Members, representing 90% of world gas.

Membership fees from 2001 amount to a modest EUR 4.000, - per year for Charter Members and EUR 2.000,- for new Observer Members.

The IGU rules for membership is under revision in a Task Force – B with a view to expand possibilities for membership

## **Meetings of IGU Bodies**

IGU's activities are supervised by the Council, the Executive Committee and the Technical Co-ordinating Committee. The Secretariat ensures that the business of IGU is conducted in accordance with the Articles of Association and with the directions of the President, Council and Executive Committee.

The Council is the main ruling body of IGU in which each Member is represented. The Executive Committee governs the IGU in accordance with the aims and means fixed by the Council and is chaired by the President of IGU. The function of the Technical Co-ordinating Committee is to co-ordinate the activities of the IGU Working Committees and to provide for all arrangements relevant to the technical Programme of the World Gas Conference.

During 2000 the following meetings of these bodies took place:

<b>Council:</b>	Nice, France, June 5, 2000 Kyoto, Japan, October 4, 2000
<b>Executive Committee:</b>	Dresden, Germany, April 7, 2000 Kyoto, Japan, October 3, 2000
<b>Technical Co-ordinating Committee:</b>	Dresden, Germany, April 7, 2000 Nice, France, June 5, 2000 Kyoto, Japan, October 3, 2000

In 2000 IGU established three Task forces, as follows:

Task Force A (TF-A) to prepare a Symposium in Information and Communication Technology (ICT in the Gas Industry, and to consider the future organisation of ICT within the Union. TF-A reports to TCC.

Task Force B (TF-B) to consider medium and long term changes in the IGU. TF-B reports to the Executive Committee and to the Council.

Task Force C (TF-C) to consider and propose the position of the Union to issues within Climate Change and Sustainable development. TF-C reports to the Executive Committee and to the Council.

## **Contacts with other International Organisations**

### **LNG-13**

IGU as a co-sponsor is involved in preparing the 13<sup>th</sup> Liquefied Natural Gas Conference, which will take place in Seoul, Korea May 14-17, 2001. IGU has the Secretariat of the Steering Committee, which is chaired by Mr. Bernie Lee, who retired from IGT at the end of 1999.

### **IGRC**

IGU as a co-sponsor is involved in preparing the IGRC 2001 Conference, which will be held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, November 5-8, 2001. The Policy Committee is chaired by Mr. Hiroshi Urano, President of IGU.

### **Intergas Marketing (IGM)**

IGU maintains a close relationship with IGM. Co-operation between IGU and IGM is further strengthened by integrating some IGM subjects and IGM representatives in the work of IGU as indicated in the IGU

2000-2003 Triennial Work Programme.

### **Eurogas**

IGU is represented by its Secretary General in the Plenary Meetings of Eurogas.

### **World Energy Council (WEC)**

IGU is normally represented in several working groups and bodies of WEC. The Secretary-General of IGU represents IGU in the meeting of the Executive Assembly. The Chairman of the Technical Co-ordination Committee participates from time to time in the technical Committees. At a WEC conference on Cleaner Fossil Fuels Systems in Dakar, Senegal in June IGU was represented by its Secretary General and three speakers.

### **United Nations, Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)**

IGU is represented by its Secretary-General in the Plenary Meetings of the Working Party on Gas in Geneva.

## **Publications**

In 2000 IGU published two Newsletters in May and September.

In May/June the Proceedings from the 21<sup>st</sup> World Gas Conference was issued in CD-ROM and in a printed version.

In October IGU published the booklet " Global Natural Gas Perspectives" together with IIASA (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis.) The lead Author is professor Nebojsa Nakicenovic from IIASA.

In October IGU also published The Triennial Work Programme 2000-2003.

The publications listed below can be obtained from the IGU Secretariat:

- The proceedings from 20<sup>th</sup> World Gas Conference in Copenhagen on CD-ROM
- The proceedings from 21<sup>st</sup> World Gas Conference in Nice in CD-ROM
- The Triennial Work Programme 2000-2003
- The booklet: "Global Natural Gas perspectives"
- The IGU Mission and Policy Objectives
- Climate change - the case for gas (Joint IGU/Eurogas/Marcogas brochure)

The IGU Environmental Charter can be found on the IGU Web site and so can most of the materials mentioned above. The address is: [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org).

## Communication

Fruitful communication both within the world-wide IGU organisation and with the outside world, is getting constant attention.

Within IGU its officers try to maintain close personal relationship with members by attending annual meetings and special events – when possible.

Thus in year 2000 the President, the Secretary General and the TCC Chairman attended numerous events both within IGU, with other International Organisations and at different Conferences.

*The IGU website* is found at [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org).

It is divided into

- A public part with general and detailed information about IGU, its member organisations, its publications and its documentation.  
It also contains general information from TCC, a link to NOC/WGC2003 (providing information about the next World Gas Conference), numerous links to related organisations/energy entities as well as Calendars of events.
- A "members only" part which requires User name and Password, and containing Internal messages and documents within the organisation

Nearly all IGU members now have electronic contact with the IGU Secretariat.

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## Additional Information

### IGU Organisation

#### IGU Council

President until June 9, 2000: Mr. Claude Détourné

President from June 9, 2000: Mr. Hiroshi Urano

Secretary General until June 30, 2000: Mr. John F. Meeder

Secretary General from July 1, 2000: Mr. Peter K. Storm

#### Executive Committee

Chairman: The IGU President

Countries represented at the Executive Committee (2000-2003):

Algeria

Argentina

Canada

France  
Germany  
Great Britain  
Italy  
Japan  
Malaysia  
the Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Russia  
Spain  
USA

### **Technical Co-ordinating Committee (TCC)**

Chairman of TCC until June 9, 2000: Mr Francis Dewerd

Chairman of TCC from June 9, 2000: Mr. Chiaki (Jack) Gomi

10 Working Committees each with a number of Study groups.  
(For further information please refer to the Triennial Work Programme)

### **Member Associations**

Please visit the IGU web site: [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org)

### **NOC for 22<sup>nd</sup> World Gas Conference in Tokyo, June 2003**

Secretary General: Akira Fukushima

National Organising Committee WGC 2003  
1-15-12 Toranomom, Minato-ku  
Tokyo 1005-0001, Japan  
Tel: +81 3 3502 0620  
Fax: +81 3 3502 0621  
See also Web site at: [www.wgc2003.com](http://www.wgc2003.com)

### **Secretariat of International Gas Union**

Secretary General: Peter K. Storm

Assistant to Secretary General: Lisbeth Koefoed

P.O.Box 550  
C/o DONG A/S  
Agern Allé 24-26  
DK 2970 Hoersholm  
Denmark  
Tel: +45 45 17 12 00  
E-mail: [secr.igu@dong.dk](mailto:secr.igu@dong.dk)  
Fax: +45 45 17 19 00  
See also Web site at: [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org)

*Peter K. Storm*  
*IGU Secretary General*  
*21 February 2001*

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