

International Gas Union (IGU)

News, views and knowledge on gas – worldwide



www.igu.org



International Gas Union

The Worldwide Network on Natural Gas

The International Gas Union (IGU) was founded in 1931. It is a worldwide non-profit organisation registered in Vevey, Switzerland with the Secretariat currently located in Oslo, Norway. The members of the IGU are national associations and corporations of the gas industry worldwide. The IGU's working organisation covers all aspects of the gas industry including exploration and production, storage, LNG, distribution and natural gas utilisation in all market segments.

Together, the members of the IGU cover around 95 % of the world gas market. As a result of the advance of natural gas in the world's energy balance and the increasing number of countries where gas is being used or emerging, the IGU is expanding its network: The total number of members is now exceeding 100.

Although technical and economic issues traditionally have dominated the IGU work, the IGU has increased its focus on geopolitics and energy strategy. These topics have become increasingly important on the global energy scene, and therefore also higher up on the agenda for politicians and decision makers.

Our Vision

Recognising that natural gas has an important part to play in satisfying the global need for an environment-friendly energy source, the IGU will be the most influential, effective and independent non-profit organisation, while serving as the spokesman for the gas industry worldwide.



Our Mission

- The IGU will actively, directly and through its members promote the technical and economic progress of the global gas industry
- The IGU will work towards improving the competitiveness of gas in the world energy markets. By promoting the development and application of new technologies and best practises, the IGU will help optimise the economics of the entire gas chain, while emphasising sound environmental performance, safety and reliability
- The IGU - serving as a global information-clearing house - will promote transfer of technology and know-how
- In carrying out this mission, the IGU will maximise the value to its members and to gas customers

IGU Membership Benefits

Networking and professional development:

- offering easy contacts to gas specialists and useful business contacts worldwide
- gas professionals (executives and specialists) from our global membership community taking active part in the IGU technical committees
- providing you with a unique forum for personal and professional development of your key personnel

Promotion and marketing:

- ensuring top class contacts with companies and organisations
- having the possibility to influence the way that gas is promoted in the different parts of the world and the way the IGU positions itself vis-à-vis local, national or supranational authorities
- being attractive for companies seeking an international arena
- getting your association, company or department and your commodities or services promoted worldwide

Exchange of information:

- getting the latest news about the technological and regulatory development in the gas sector in different parts of the world through participation in the IGU Committees, IGU publications and the IGU website
- getting access to data and case stories within the gas industry

The IGU also provides a well-established channel for cooperation with other international organisations and institutions on all continents.



Charter Members

The gas industry of a country is represented within the IGU by one Charter member considered to be the most representative gas entity (normally an association, but also company or gas department of energy companies and the like) of this country.

Over 70 countries, including the most important gas producing and consuming countries, are Charter members of the IGU.

Associate Members

The IGU Council has adopted rules for IGU membership, including possibilities to have more than one representative from each country, allowing gas companies with physical or commercial assets related to the gas value chain to become an Associate member. The Associate members differ from Charter members in that they have the right to speak, but no voting rights in the IGU Council.

Most of the major gas companies support the IGU through their Associate membership.

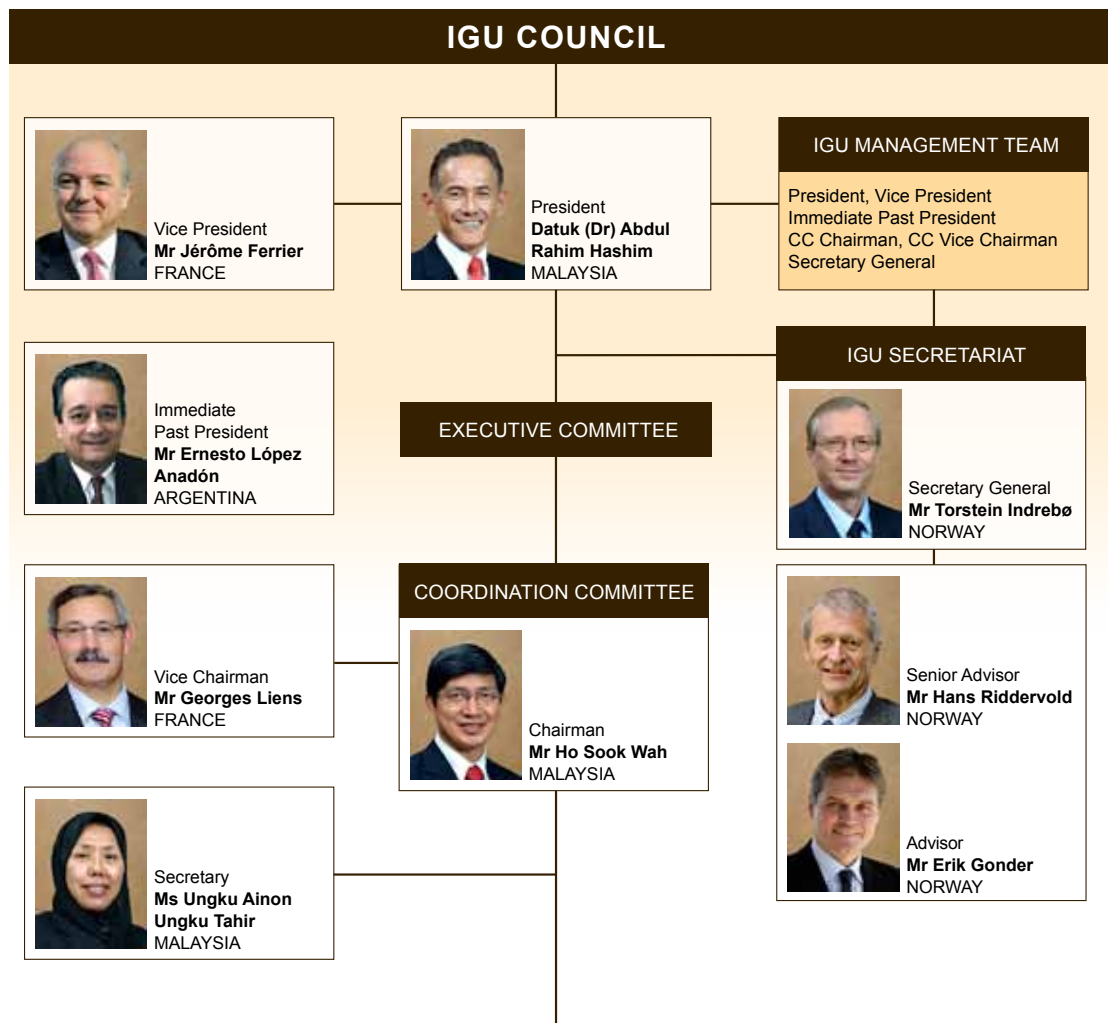
IGU Organisation 2009 – 2012

The Council is the main ruling body of the IGU, convening once a year.

The Executive Committee and the IGU Management Team govern the IGU in accordance with the directives from the Council and in accordance with the Vision, Mission and Objectives of the Union.

The President of the IGU is elected by the Council for a three-year period and is responsible for preparing the World Gas Conference which is undertaken by the Charter member to which the President belongs.

The Secretary General is elected from a Charter member and shall be appointed for a minimum of six years. The headquarters of the IGU shall be at the office of the Secretary General.



Active Participation from the IGU Members in the IGU Technical Committees

The work in the Working Committees, Programme Committees and in the Task Forces, as described in the Triennial Work Programme, is managed and coordinated by the Coordination Committee (CC). It is the main body behind the preparation of the programme for the next World Gas Conference (WGC), and it supports other IGU Management bodies, as appropriate.

Thus, the IGU Committees refer to the Coordination Committee, which in turn will coordinate with the Secretary General in matters of principle, of general policy or in issues of special importance to the Union. The result of the work in the IGU Committees will be passed on to members, and in specific cases be published in accordance with the IGU publication policy.

The main results of the work in the IGU in each triennium will be presented at the WGC, convened by the IGU every three years.





The World Gas Conference (WGC)

WGC

1931	London
1934	Zurich
1937	Paris
1949	London
1952	Brussels
1955	New York
1958	Rome
1961	Stockholm
1964	Scheveningen
1967	Hamburg
1970	Moscow
1973	Nice
1976	London
1979	Toronto
1982	Lausanne
1985	Munich
1988	Washington
1991	Berlin
1994	Milan
1997	Copenhagen
2000	Nice
2003	Tokyo
2006	Amsterdam
2009	Buenos Aires
2012	Kuala Lumpur
2015	Paris

The dynamics of the global energy scenario pose both a challenge and a responsibility for defining the present and future roles for natural gas, reinforcing the need for the IGU's contribution to its members and the international community, through the promotion of knowledge, information exchange, and the preparation of solid and concrete reference tools for decision makers.

In this respect, the World Gas Conference (WGC), organised every third year by the IGU, is the most important global event for the gas industry. During the 2006-2009 triennium, more than 750 of the industry's leading experts active in the IGU have been involved in contributing to all the studies and programmes undertaken under the Argentine Presidency, culminating in the 24th World Gas Conference in Buenos Aires.

As from October 2009, Malaysia will take over the Presidency in the IGU and the 25th WGC will take place in Kuala Lumpur on 4-8 June 2012.

The WGC unites the industry from all over the world to present its findings, discuss and share the latest technologies and present strategies for the continued growth and development of gas as the natural fuel of choice.

The theme of the triennium leading up to the 25th World Gas Conference in June 2012 is: "Gas: Sustaining Future Global Growth" where the issue on sustainability serves as the key pillar of growth that focuses on the economic, environmental, technological and social dimension. Driven by concerns such as geopolitics, global warming, development of green energy, low carbon economy and heightened sensitivity towards cleaner environment, the role of natural gas will become ever more significant.

KUALA LUMPUR
2012
WORLD GAS CONFERENCE





Other Conferences Organised by IGU

IGU Research Conference (IGRC)

More than ever, the global gas industry must continue and indeed strengthen past investment trends in research and development (R&D) if it wishes to fulfil what the world expects from us in terms of energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Technological success must not be taken for granted; it must be nurtured through research and development focused on basic science, as well as technological breakthroughs. However, at the end of the day, a clear link to market needs is decisive for the interest of companies.

The IGRC provides an excellent opportunity for interactions among delegates from various institutions worldwide that have gas research in common or benefit from the results.

The most recent IGRC Conference in Paris in 2008 focused on developments of the most important subjects for the gas industry. Oral and poster sessions covering the whole gas chain were organised; exploration and production (including LNG), storage, transmission, distribution and utilisation. The proceedings are available on www.igrc2008.com

The next IGRC Conference will take place on 19-21 October 2011, in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Further information is to be found at www.igrc2011.com



The LNG Exhibition and Conference

Together with Gas Technology Institute (GTI) and the International Institute of Refrigeration, the IGU is organising the LNG Exhibition and Conference which takes place every three years with producing and consuming countries taking turns to organise the event.

From 18-21 April 2010, the city of Oran in Algeria will host LNG 16. It is the largest event in the world dedicated to the liquefied natural gas industry, attracting more than 2,500 delegates and 200 exhibitors. Following the success of previous LNG congresses; Seoul (Korea) 2001, Doha (Qatar) 2004 and Barcelona (Spain) 2007, LNG 16 is now coming to North Africa. Further details to be found on www.lng16.org

LNG 17 will take place 16-19 April 2013, in Houston, USA.



SPECIAL PROJECTS

We seek to balance global environmental concerns with global energy demand





Mitigation of Climate Change

Natural Gas - Part of the Solution

The energy industry finds itself at the intersection of the world's most pressing dual challenge: to strike the balance between economic development and climate change. Being the most environmentally friendly fossil fuel, natural gas can make a major contribution towards a sustainable energy future.

By focusing on important short and long term aspects of the use of natural gas towards a sustainable energy future, the IGU's objectives are to make the opinion aware of the advantages natural gas can offer in a climate perspective towards a sustainable future.

Facts and Figures

The use of natural gas results in fewer environmental impacts than other fossil fuels:

- natural gas is a much cleaner burning fuel than coal or oil
- when burned, it releases up to 50 percent less carbon dioxide (CO₂) than coal and 20-30 percent less than oil
- vehicles powered by natural gas produce 20-30 percent less carbon dioxide emissions than vehicles powered by petrol
- ongoing technology developments aim at enabling the capture and sequestration of CO₂ (CCS) also supports the choice of natural gas
- the lower levels of carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide and particulate matter generated by the combustion of natural gas make the continued and increasing use of this energy resource a significant contributor to improved local air quality





Ministerial Gas Forum

Enhancing the energy dialogue

The First Ministerial Gas Forum, organised jointly by the International Energy Forum (IEF) and the IGU, was held on 24 November 2008 in Vienna, Austria.

The theme being “The World Gas Markets Going from Regional to Global”, the forum had participation from ministers and delegates from gas producing and consuming countries, executives from the gas industry and senior officials from international organisations.

This First IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum was an important step forward in promoting and strengthening a global dialogue between natural gas producing and consuming countries.

The Second IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum focused on the Role of Natural Gas in a Sustainable Energy Future where one of the main topics were how to meet the global energy challenging of bringing clean and reliable supplies to a growing population and ensuring at the same time a sustainable growth.

The IGU will continue organising Ministerial Gas Forums in order to create meeting platforms that enhance the dialogue between authorities and key industrial players.

The Third IEF-IGU Ministerial Gas Forum will be held in Paris in November 2012.





The IGU will on a worldwide basis continue to act as an effective interface between industry and governments promoting natural gas as part of a sustainable energy future



