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Dr. Fatih Birol is the Chief Economist of the International Energy Agency, with overall responsibility for the organisation's economic analysis of energy and climate change policy. He oversees the annual *World Energy Outlook* which is the flagship publication of the IEA and is recognised as the most authoritative source for energy analysis and projections. He is also responsible for the IEA Energy Business Council which provides policymakers with a business perspective on energy market issues. He is a frequent contributor to media and delivers numerous speeches each year at major international summits and conferences.

Throughout his career, Dr. Birol has been decorated with numerous awards in recognition of his contribution to the energy debate. He was recently named by Forbes Magazine as the world's fourth most powerful person in terms of influence on the world's energy scene. In 2009, alongside awards from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Polish Ministry of Economy, Dr. Birol was honoured with the Federal Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. He was awarded the Golden Honour Medal of the Austrian Republic in 2007 and was made a Chevalier dans l'ordre des Palmes Academique by the French Government in 2006. He received the annual award of the International Association of Energy Economics for 'Outstanding Contribution to the Profession' in 2005. These followed awards from the U.S. Department of Energy in 2004 and the Russian Academy of Sciences in 2002.

Prior to joining the IEA in 1995, Dr. Birol worked for six years at the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna.

A Turkish citizen, Dr. Birol was born in Ankara in 1958. He earned a BSc degree in power engineering from the Technical University of Istanbul. He received his MSc and PhD in energy economics from the Technical University of Vienna.