

Speech at the US Department of Energy Award Ceremony

Excellencies, distinguished members of the Governing Board, dear colleagues;

It is an honour for my colleagues and I to accept this very prestigious award from the Department of Energy of the Government of United States. And it is also a great privilege to receive this award in the presence of the Governing Board delegates.

In my brief speech today, I will not talk about the findings or messages of our World Energy Investment Outlook. However, let me just mention how delighted we are to register that many world political, economic leaders, leaders of the energy industry frequently refer these findings or messages in their deliberations.

Today, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues who contributed to this success story:

I would like to thank first my team for their excellent work. They did a magnificent job. Maria Argiri, Laura Cozzi, Francois Cattier, Hiro Kato, Claudia Jones, Mike Taylor, Lisa Guarrera, Amos Bromhead, Trevor Morgan, Marco Baroni, Nicola Pochettino, Maria Storeng, and Amina Bouziane. Dear members of the Governing Board, when you go to Istanbul for the 30th Anniversary meeting of the IEA; please take a moment to observe the dynamic and harmonious waves of Bosphorous. With one word they are magical... My colleagues in this team are just like that: - they are dynamic and work harmoniously together, and believe me they are also magical.

I also wish to thank many other colleagues from several IEA offices who provided valuable input. Again distinguished delegates of the Governing Board, I urge you to take time when you are in Istanbul to visit one of the wonders of the world – the Hagia Sophia church. An amazing feature of the Hagia Sophia is its mosaics made up of thousands of different coloured stones, each are essential for the final picture. Similarly, the input we received from different IEA offices, Statistics, Oil, Technology, Non-Member Countries, Public Information Offices and others were essential to the richness of our study.

I would also like to thank IEA Senior management for their support and encouragement throughout the work. This support was a very crucial element of our success. Istanbul is founded on seven hills. You have the best view of this charming city from those hills... And, the IEA Senior management, Mr. Mandil, Mr. Ramsay, and recently Mr. Noe van Hulst and other members of the senior management provided me this helicopter view which was very important to drive policy messages arising from our analysis.

Finally, Ms. Bailey I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to US Department of Energy and to US Administration. Thank you very much for this invaluable acknowledgement for the success of our study.

As Henry Kissinger, the master-mind behind the IEA's creation 30 years ago, once wisely said "Each success only buys an admission ticket to a more difficult problem.".... So, where do we go from here? My next objective is to produce an innovative World Energy Outlook 2004 that will focus on some very challenging topics of global energy agenda, and hopefully again to have an impact on that agenda. Please rest assured that we are already working very hard to provide you with this study towards the end of the year.

Once again, thank you.

Paris, 19 February 2004