

## Key Note Address by Mr. Claude Mandil, Executive Director, IEA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this second IEA/IPHE workshop on “Building the Hydrogen Economy” at the IEA headquarters in Paris. The broad objectives of this workshop are

- 1) to convene public and private sector officials in an international strategic process to evaluate transition planning scenarios for the expansion of infrastructure for the hydrogen economy and
- 2) to inform policymakers on opportunities to accelerate these transition plans through policy instruments

This is the second of a series of three workshops. The first took place in Detroit in April, and the third will follow in Shanghai in October. We welcome the cooperation with IPHE which enables us to organize these workshops.

Let me personally thank you for your contribution to the efforts of the IPHE and the IEA when it comes to identifying potential pathways towards a future hydrogen economy. It is your expertise that will help to recognize the challenges and opportunities of transforming current energy systems to more sustainable approaches in the coming decades. In this context, hydrogen can play a major role.

I would also like to thank the IPHE for its great support to this project. As the most important international forum for advancing the hydrogen economy, it has been a very reliable and inspiring partner in this endeavour.

We have seen great R&D strides with hydrogen and fuel cells technologies. For example, hydrogen production costs have dropped, we have new opportunities to store and transport hydrogen and fuel cell costs continue to decline. We need to plan for R&D success, including the consideration of various scenarios of hydrogen infrastructure development.

Moreover, we would like to thank the IEA Hydrogen coordination group which has produced three important reports on the potential of hydrogen fuel within the last couple of years. These include

1. Hydrogen and Fuel Cells: Review of National R&D Programs
2. Prospects for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells
3. Hydrogen Production and Storage: R&D Priorities and Gaps

You have made an important contribution to objectives which are also addressed by this workshop.

We are pleased that the efforts of participants to this workshop will build upon such prior analysis and have appreciated the support of the IEA ministerial and the G 8 summit in Heiligendamm to the objectives of this project. Hydrogen and fuel cell technologies in transport and stationary applications received attention in both communiqués.

Let me conclude my introductory remarks by wishing you all a productive meeting and many interesting discussions with fellow experts from all over the world.

We are pleased to have you here and please do not hesitate to contact IEA staff if you are in need of any support.

Thank you

Claude Mandil  
Executive Director