

Remarks delivered on behalf of Secretary of Energy

Daniel Cameron during Session IV: Global Energy Dialogue

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Dear Secretary General of the International Energy Forum, dear delegates,

I am honored to participate as a panelist at one of the working sessions of the International Energy Forum in a decisive moment in the history of the Forum, given the dialogue in this space has been going on for more than 20 years since that Ministerial seminar held in Paris in 1991.

Many studies exist that sustain that both liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons will continue to be the main source of energy of the world in the coming decades. Their importance is key to the world economic development, thus, all the necessary efforts should be directed to consume them in a more efficient manner, and to make more transparent the functioning of the market.

Argentina considers that the International Energy Forum is a useful and productive tool to bring near the main consumer and producer countries , and the so called “transit countries”, stimulating the energy dialogue among them. We wish that this space contributes to temper the tensions in the hydrocarbons market, which in most cases are not due to physical or cost problems, but to financial speculations or geo-political situations.

We wish that all participant countries respect the spirit of cooperation and dialogue which has been held in this Forum for more than 20 years.

We consider of vital importance for the strengthening of the dialogue in this Forum giving Latin America a more participative role. Our region has been in continual development during the past decade, we have successfully gone through international economic crisis and for the first time in many years our governments are engaged in the consolidation of the region as a solid and reliable geo-political and geo-economic bloc.

The political-energetic dialogue is being developed in South America since the recovery of democratic regimes. Its origin is

determined by the agreements signed by Argentina and Brazil during the 80's, when they sealed a Joint Declaration on Nuclear Energy which deactivated the traditional rivalry between both countries and took us towards bilateral energy cooperation, nowadays extended to the entire region.

Nowadays, particularly in the Southern Cone, we follow that road. Our country's geographical position is key in the articulation of energy flow movements in the continent and we are in constant touch and dialogue with our neighboring countries. It is part of our long-term strategic policy the strengthening of regional integration and the global energy dialogue since we seek to take advantage of the complementarities of both supply and demand, and in this way allow to the contribution of global energy security, apart from promoting the exchange, technology transfer and human resources training.

Dialogue generates trust, reduces uncertainty and favours the coordination of policies that promote energy interdependency, international cooperation and promotes a stable framework to make the necessary investments to accompany the energy demand growth and secure supply.

My country wishes that these organizations find the necessary balances to minimize hydrocarbon market risks, add transparency and share information. For that purpose, we understand that we must strengthen the use of JODI database, which is a global database where every country can access and consult hydrocarbon market information without restrictions.

Policies like diversification and efficient use constitute a substantial part of supply security. As it has been previously said, even though hydrocarbons will be a predominant portion of the world energy matrix in the future, we must not avoid alternative sources of energy like nuclear, hydro and the other renewable energies. Likewise, it is necessary to deepen the actions and policies tending to employ and assign in a more efficient manner the energy resources. Therefore, we consider that the strengthening of cooperation and dialogue should also be directed towards these basic cornerstones for the sustainable development.

In addition, we believe that international organizations can collaborate much to achieve these goals. They should promote

cooperation and contribute to, as far as possible, reduce discrepancies, to generate trust among the parties involved.

In our opinion, the International Energy Forum should become the main facilitator of energy agreements among States. Its intermediation among Ministries of Energy should contribute to reduce transaction costs and uncertainty providing complete, transparent and real-time information of energy markets.

Therefore, in the Forum Working Programme 2012-2013 cooperation among the International Energy Agency, which represents developed countries, the Organization of Oil-Producing Countries, which represents producing countries, and IEF, which embraces both producers and consumers is enhanced. From Argentina we consider useful that in the next Working Programme the Latin-American Energy Organization (OLADE) could participate in the cooperation activities with the agencies mentioned in order to add a new vision to the world energy problem from a region in continual growth, where democratic values are deeply rooted and political stability and energy dialogue are a common factor.

Over the years, we have become used to exchanging opinions on energy security, but many times we have only considered its military aspect.

Perhaps this is the time to start analyzing the other aspects of energy security like supply diversification. Letting ourselves maintain sustained economic and demographic developments without adopting the necessary measures so that new generations have at their disposal the minimum essential energy resources is as serious as the permanent impairment of a natural resource.

Well into the XXI century, where world communications and interaction have a substantial role, much to our regret we see that big regions of our planet do not have at their disposal electric power. Therefore, we believe it is of great importance that those countries which have more resources and means join efforts to achieve a greater energy distribution and supply to more vulnerable states.

In the same way, we believe that different regions of our planet should be given the importance they deserve. It is more difficult each day to define the advances or setbacks of only one country.

We see regions that, as a whole, advance or go through crisis for not having taken political decisions together.

Finally, we should establish clear guidelines of access to the energy resource. The cost consumers should absorb in order to exercise their right to energy should not move away from the goals of universalization and social justice.

We recognize the existence of risks in inversions and the right to their recovery, and we see, in certain opportunities, the generation of favorable economic balances with speculative intentions. To think that development can exist without energy is a utopia. The accumulation of resources without their exploitation does not generate development.

We feel the need of incorporating all these topics to the world energy dialogue given that fair energy market development everywhere increases social welfare, contributes to State development and releases potential tensions.

As a way of reinforcing security, we encourage strengthening cooperation between national utilities and international utilities

as a valid way of increasing transparency in the physical market as well as in the financial market.

In South America there are various examples of cooperation between national utilities and we are advancing in establishing cooperation between public and private utilities.

We understand that this Forum has a key role in the articulation of national energy policies and the interests of international utilities.

Looking into the future, we have implemented an energy planning system trying every moment that our country carries on a process of sustainable development that makes it possible to secure justice in resource allocation and social, economic and environmental sustainability, under the premises of guaranteeing that everybody have equal access to energy resources implementing the necessary measures to help those sectors which are unable to do so.

This same principle, of universal access to energy, should lead our actions in this Forum, since we understand that this is the

best way to optimize the use of non renewable resources, then boosting the sustainable energy development of mankind.

Thank you very much.