

For the attention of Commissioner Cañete  
Commissioner for Energy & Climate  
European Commission  
200, Rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels

6 April 2017

Dear Commissioner Cañete,

Ahead of your upcoming visit to Algiers for meetings on 11 April 2017 we write to express the Oil and Gas industry support for the European Commission's and Algerian authorities' continued efforts in strengthening the EU-Algerian Energy Dialogue.

Cooperation in the field of energy will continue to be central to relations between Algeria and the European Union also in the future, be it in oil, natural gas, renewables or energy efficiency. As energy sector investors, our Members believe both sides of this partnership stand to gain from intensifying the cooperation on promotion and protection of investments.

As investors they do see continued need for improvements of the conditions for doing business in the energy sector of Algeria. In particular, further actions must be taken to i) improve the attractiveness of the petroleum fiscal and contractual regime; ii) share best practices in oil and gas contracting; and iii) lowering of administrative and operational barriers for foreign investors in the field of energy, including simplifications pertaining to customs.

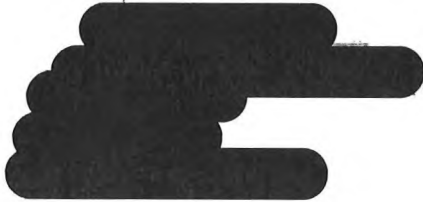
In this regard, we refer to the suggestions for legislative and non-legislative improvements in the oil & gas sector already made by the European Union last year. A useful next step in strengthening the EU-Algerian Energy Dialogue could be to evaluate in detail the progress of implementation of these suggestions. We believe that such an exercise could be a meaningful part of preparing for a second Energy Sector Business Forum.

In our view, the business forum represents a good opportunity to present planned reforms, legal and non-legal, for enhancing energy sector investments, resulting in a detailed roadmap with concrete actions and associated timelines for implementation. Such a roadmap could also include targeted use of various cooperation mechanisms under the Association Agreement.

Finally, we observe that the security dialogue and cooperation with Algerian authorities has substantially improved since the In Amenas attack in 2013. These efforts need to continue and we strongly welcome a continuous open dialogue between authorities, foreign embassies and operators in the Algerian energy sector. An effective dialogue is instrumental to guaranteeing the security of foreign investors' people and assets as well as to foster longer term investor confidence.

We wish you a productive meeting on 11 April and look forward to continue contributing to the success of the EU-Algeria Energy Dialogue also in the future.

Yours sincerely,

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CC: Dominique Ristori, Director General, DG Energy  
Christopher Jones, Deputy Director General, DG Energy