



Conclusions of the EU-OPEC Round Table on Carbon Capture and Storage

Brussels, 31 October 2008

- Progress in Research and Development was recognized by all participants as an important requirement for reducing the costs and technical risks of CCS and to gain public acceptance. In this respect, participation of OPEC countries in the 7th EU R&D programme is welcome. The European Commission (EC) will inform the OPEC Secretariat on the modalities and the relevant call for proposals.
- There was a broad agreement on the necessity of making CCS projects eligible to the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism. The European Commission and OPEC Member Countries are participating in the international negotiations in this respect in the framework of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) 29 in Poznan, Poland.
- The participants recognized the need for appropriate policy initiatives, including developing the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks that would bring CCS closer to wide-scale deployment. International developments in this connection should be carefully monitored.
- CCS should be made even more prominent within the EU-OPEC Energy Dialogue. In particular, CCS should be considered in the ongoing discussions to prepare the Terms of Reference of the proposed EU-OPEC Energy Technology Centre.
- Participation of an OPEC observer to the EU Zero Emissions Platform (ZEP) will be examined in the framework of the ZEP's international cooperation activities, currently in development.
- The EU and OPEC agreed to propose to the Ministerial Meeting the organization of a biennial joint event for examining progress on bilateral CCS issues, including joint R&D projects.

Reports on CCS to the annual EU-OPEC Ministerial energy meetings will be made, where approval and guidance of Ministers and the EC Commissioner will be sought.