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MENA CHAMBERS ENERGY TEAM

Members

Each member of the MENA Chambers Energy Team (MCET) is a highly qualified expert in one or more aspects of the energy sector. MCET consists of the following principal members:

Adnan Amkhan Bayno

Adnan is the Head of MENA Chambers. He is a practicing international lawyer and a leading international energy law and policy expert. He is the former Head of the Legal Affairs Department of the Energy Charter Secretariat.

Adnan has advised governments and other public and private entities on various aspects of the energy sector, such as sustainable energy policy and regulatory frameworks, energy market reforms (with particular emphasis on renewable energy and energy efficiency) and long-term policy and regulatory strategies for energy investment and trade.

In addition to his wide-ranging energy related practice, Adnan is a visiting professor at several universities lecturing on international energy law and energy security to postgraduate students.

Presently, Adnan is heading a research project on the feasibility of a competitive integrated renewable energy market in the MENA region within the wider context of the European Union.

Adnan acts as counsel in energy related international disputes and serves as an arbitrator in arbitration proceedings under the auspices of the most highly regarded arbitration centres.

Gunnar Gjerde

Gunnar is a world-renowned energy expert. He is the current Chairman of the Committee for Sustainable Energy (UNECE). Gunnar is the former Director-General for Oil and Gas at the Norwegian Ministry of Oil and Energy (2000-2009).

Gunnar's extensive experience in the energy sector include advising on the formulation of economic, legal and regulatory energy frameworks, negotiating exploration and development licences, and devising complex and sustainable frameworks for gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure projects.

Gunnar led the Norwegian team that negotiated gas exports and infrastructures with the UK and other European countries. He has also advised other non-European countries on formulating and implementing oil and gas policies.

His other international energy experience spans from being a member of the IEA's Governing Board to serving as a member of the Bureau of the Energy Charter Treaty.

In 2009, Gunnar served as a Special Envoy for energy in the Middle East.

Most recently, Gunnar took an important role in the Norwegian team that was set up under the auspices of the African Union to facilitate an agreement between Sudan and South Sudan concerning oil transport and revenue sharing.

Nancy Kontou

A lawyer by training, Nancy is a former senior European Commission official with over 20 years experience in regulation and high-level policy advice.

Nancy served most recently as Chief of Staff (Head of the Cabinet) for Stavros Dimas, Commissioner for Environment and Climate Change (2004-2010).

Nancy's experience includes advising on the formulation of EU policy on resource efficiency, fuel quality, biofuels, vehicle efficiency standards, clean energy, carbon capture and storage, national low-carbon strategies. She played a key role in the design and adoption of the EU Climate and Energy Package, a landmark set of European legislative measures on climate change, renewables and energy efficiency. She was also closely involved in the UN discussions on climate change and energy efficiency. In addition, Nancy has a strong comparative perspective on US and Chinese energy policies. She is a member of the Yale-REIL-REEP network (Renewable Energy, International Law and Energy Efficiency).

Nancy's expertise is complemented by her knowledge of international trade, dating from the time she was a political advisor to Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan, and her experience with legal and market analysis whilst working on mergers and acquisitions at the European Commission's anti-trust department.

Peter Wicks

Peter combines an excellent scientific pedigree with deep insight into policy design and implementation, based on his 16 years of experience with the European Commission.

Peter's experience includes leading the early-stage design of the EU's strategy on air quality ("Clean Air For Europe") and setting up the mechanisms for implementing rules on emissions and energy use of industrial installations, including an information exchange on technological solutions. Most recently, he brought to bear his scientific expertise as the European Commission's central liaison with the European Environment Agency, the EU's main science policy hub for sustainability issues. In that capacity he also played a key role in the European Commission's drive to improve the scientific underpinnings of environmental policy, including its links with energy policy (for example, in relation to shale gas and biofuels). In addition to policy design and implementation, Peter has valuable experience with funding research and innovation: whilst in the Commission, he oversaw the allocation of EU funds to research projects, especially in the area of major accident hazards.

Peter has a PhD in applied mathematics from Cambridge University, after which he spent some time at the Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics doing post-doctoral research on industrial processes. He is keen contributor to debates on emerging disruptive technologies and their implications for the society and the individual, not least with regard

to the availability of clean and abundant energy, and has recently started to study the potential applications of such technologies to electricity grid infrastructures.

Sergejs Dilevka

Sergejs is a member of MENA Chambers specialising in international investment, commercial and energy law. Sergejs has first hand experience in international investment arbitrations under the Energy Charter Treaty.

Before joining MENA Chambers, Sergejs managed project teams at Forensic Services of PricewaterhouseCoopers, a professional services firm, where he investigated multi-billion dollar transactions, including investments in a strategic port supplying energy resources to northern shipping lanes.

Sergejs is the co-ordinator and MCET's first point of contact. His direct contact details are as follows:

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