

Corporate Social Responsibility

The 1st Renewable Energy Caucasus Forum



The 1st Renewable Energy Caucasus Forum took place under the official patronage of the Delegation of the European Union to Azerbaijan on September 7, 2010 at The Landmark Hotel in Baku. The Forum was opened by Ambassador Roland Kobia, the Head of the European Union Delegation.

The Forum's continuing aims are:

(1) the further development and transfer of clean energy technologies, together with the acceleration of environmental

business growth and supply base in the Caucasus Region; and (2) to attract the Caucasus Region's oil and gas companies, banks, and investment institutions to further their successful investments in the renewable energy industry sector as well as to address timely restructuring in regards to climate change.

The European Commission supports the aims of the Forum. The Forum was initiated and organized by the Academy for European Management GmbH, Germany and the EVRA International, Inc. Mrs Elen Meder, the CEO of the Academy for European Management GmbH, Germany and the President of EVRA International, Inc., facilitated the Forum.

Pasha Bank supported the Forum by becoming the sole sponsor of the event, with informational partnership being provided thru the American Chamber of Commerce, Azerbaijan.

The Forum featured presentations by members of: The State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR), AzerEnerji, RWE Power AG, BASF, Baker & McKenzie - CIS, Limited, KfW Bankgroup, and the International Finance Corporation (a member of the World Bank Group).

Official guests in attendance included the Azerbaijan Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and representatives of the respective embassies to Azerbaijan from Greece, the United States of America, Norway, the United Kingdom, the Republic of Poland, and the Republic of Latvia..

Participants: Caucasus & International Governmental Organisations, Representatives of the EU, from the fields of Oil, Gas, Petrochemical and Renewable Industry, Banking.

The Renewable Energy Caucasus Forum will become an annual event in the Caucasus Region.

The 1st Renewable Energy Caucasus Forum included panels on Azerbaijan's current regulation of alternative energy, suggested legislative steps necessary to support and incentivize renewable energy investment, the financing of renewable energy projects in the region, including renewable energy projects into the Azerbaijan energy grid, and enaging private corporations to increase energy efficiency and expand their renewable energy portfolio.

In a concluding Round Table with the leading Azerbaijani and international companies—SOCAR, Azerenerji, Azercell, the Azerbaijan Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, IFC, KfW, BASF, RWE, Bosch, GDF SUEZ—held by the official organizers of the Forum, the Agenda Concept for the Forum's 2011 meeting was discussed and agreed upon. The preparations for the 2nd Renewable Energy Caucasus Forum are now underway.

For more information, please visit the Forum website at <http://caucasus.is-abc.com>. ■