



OAPEC

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Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries

June 2015

Current and Future Prospects for the Diversification of OAPEC Member Countries' Energy Resources



ORGANIZATION OF ARAB PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OAPEC)



The Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) was founded on the basis of the agreement signed in Beirut, Lebanon on 9 January 1968 between the governments of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait and the (then) Kingdom of Libya. The agreement stipulates that the Organization shall be domiciled in the City of Kuwait.

The principal objective of the Organization is the cooperation of the members in various forms of economic activity in the petroleum industry, the determination of ways and means of safeguarding the legitimate interests of its member countries in this industry, individually and collectively, the unification of efforts to ensure the flow of petroleum to its markets on equitable and reasonable terms, and providing appropriate environment for investment in the petroleum industry in member countries.

In 1970 the United Arab Emirates, the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Algeria joined the Organization, followed by the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Iraq in 1972, Arab Republic of Egypt in 1973, then the Republic of Tunisia in 1982 (its activities stopped since 1987). Any Arab country which derives a significant share of its national income from petroleum is eligible for membership in OAPEC upon the approval of three-quarters of the member countries, including all three founding members.

OAPEC'S ORGANS

The Organization carries out its activities through its four organs:

- **Ministerial Council:** The Ministerial Council is the supreme authority of the Organization, responsible for drawing up its general policy.
- **Executive Bureau:** The Executive Bureau is composed of one representative from each of the member countries, drawing recommendations and suggestions to the Council, reviewing the Organization's draft annual budget and submitting it to the Council, it also adopts the regulations applicable to the staff of the General Secretariat. The resolutions of the Executive Bureau are issued by the majority of two-thirds of all members.
- **General Secretariat:** The General Secretariat of OAPEC plans, administers, and executes the Organization's activities in accordance with the objectives stated in the agreement and directives of the Ministerial Council. The General Secretariat is headed by the Secretary General. The Secretary General is appointed by resolution of the Ministerial Council for a tenor of three years renewable for similar period(s). The Secretary General is the official spokesman and legal representative of the Organization and is accountable to the Council. The Secretary General directs the Secretariat and supervises all aspects of its activities, and is responsible for the tasks and duties as directed by the Ministerial Council. The Secretary General and all personnel of the Secretariat carry out their duties in full independence and in the common interests of the Organization member countries. The Secretary General and the Assistant Secretaries General possess in the territories of the Organization members all diplomatic immunities and privileges.
- **Judicial Tribunal:** The protocol of the Judicial Tribunal was signed in Kuwait on 9 May 1978 and came into effect on 20 April 1980. The Tribunal is competent to consider all disputes related to the interpretation and application of OAPEC's establishment agreement, as well as disputes arising between two or more member countries concerning petroleum operations.
- **OAPEC-Sponsored Ventures:** OAPEC has sponsored the creation of four companies: The Arab Maritime Petroleum Transport Company (AMPTC), established in 1972 with headquarters in Kuwait City, the Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) established in 1973 with headquarters in Bahrain, the Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (APICORP) established in 1974 with headquarters in Khobar, Saudi Arabia, the Arab Petroleum Services Company (APSC) established in 1975 with headquarters in Tripoli, Libya.

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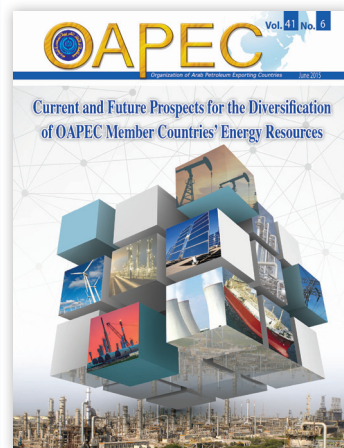
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HE Dr Salih Khabri Appointed as Algeria's New Minister of Energy



**94th Meeting of OAPEC Ministerial Council
(At the level of the Representatives)**

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OAPEC member countries enjoy abundant oil and gas resources as well as a strategic geographical position between the East and the West. This means that the member countries are globally in the heart of energy, oil and natural gas industries developments now and in the future. They contributed actively and in a stable way to the world economic and sustainable development progress for long decades.

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**ابيكورب
APICORP**

APICORP Announces Strong 2014 Financial Performance

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Current and Future Prospects for the Diversification of OAPEC Member Countries' Energy Resources

OAPEC member countries enjoy abundant oil and gas resources as well as a strategic geographical position between the East and the West. This means that the member countries are globally in the heart of energy, oil and natural gas industries developments now and in the future. They contributed actively and in a stable way to the world economic and sustainable development progress for long decades.

According to OAPEC Secretariat General's data, the total oil reserves in OAPEC member countries in 2014 were estimated at about 703 billion barrels, while natural gas reserves for the same period were estimated at about 52950 billion cubic meters.

Statistical reports issued by specialized international energy and oil agencies show the continuous rise of global demand for Oil. Demand has grown from about 77 million bpd in 2000 to about more than 91 million bpd in 2013. Global demand for energy is met mainly from two resources: oil and natural gas, especially from the Middle East and North Africa.

In light of these circumstances, oil producing and exporting countries find themselves in a big challenge to save and extend the lifetime of their hydrocarbon wealth through adopting a number of policies including improving energy efficiency, reviewing governmental policies on supporting energy, and planning to produce energy from new and renewable resources.

Renewable energy industry attracts great interest from energy policy makers in major energy consuming countries. The contribution of renewable energies in the total electrical power generated during 2013 is about 4%, a percentage maintained throughout the past four decades. The United Nations' report on environment showed that global investment in renewable energies reached about \$270 billion in 2014 compared to \$232 billion in 2013, an increase of 17%. The increase came as a result of growing renewable energy projects in China, Japan, and Europe.

There is no doubt that producing energy from new and renewable resources contributes to the diversification of energy resources, whereas such kind of energy resources is considered complimentary to conventional energy resources, i.e. oil and gas. The latter will maintain their leading position as the main energy resources in OAPEC member countries and also as the most important resources of the world's consumed energy mix for long decades to come. Oil and gas together are expected to constitute about 52% of the total energy resources consumed by 2035.

As for OAPEC member countries, many of them have announced their future energy policies including the diversification of energy resources, expanding energy production from new and renewable resources- especially solar, wind, and nuclear- on the purpose of maximizing the lifetime of exploiting the petroleum wealth. Their policies also include meeting a large scale of domestic demand for energy, achieving an ideal economic exploitation of the petroleum wealth through exporting more oil and natural gas rather than using them domestically in generating electrical power, and working on more national economy diversification because most member countries depend on oil and natural gas as their main energy resources constituting together up to about 98% of the total consumed energy.

A number of OAPEC member countries have already invested heavily in globally leading new and renewable energy projects; most important of which “MASDAR” city project in Abu Dhabi, the UAE. Work started in MASDAR back in 2006 as an economic area devoted for executing and marketing clean and renewable energy projects as well as manufacturing green products. Saudi Arabia has also established King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy in 2010. In 1986, Egypt established the New and Renewable Energy Authority (NREA). In 2011, Algeria announced its national program for renewable energy, aiming at expanding the use of renewable energies especially solar. Other member countries continue to execute new and renewable energy projects.

On international cooperation level, the UAE is hosting the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), aiming at spreading the use of renewable energy worldwide, and facilitating cooperation among different countries and international organizations in this field. Most Arab countries, OAPEC member countries included, take part in IRENA meetings to establish a dialogue and enhance international cooperation on renewable energy uses.

New and renewable energy industry faces many major challenges and obstacles due to the world’s economic developments, the continued slowdown of the world economic growth, the fall of oil prices in international markets since mid 2014, which reflected on the slowdown of the pace of energy investment in oil and gas producing and exporting countries. The industry also faces other challenges embodied in future variables with regards to the world’s energy demand.

While observing Arab and international developments in energy, oil and gas industries, OAPEC Secretariat General highly appreciates the significant steps taken by its member countries on energy production from new and renewable resources. The Secretariat General hopes that these projects would contribute to enhancing the value added to the petroleum industry. It calls for more coordination and cooperation and expertise exchange among Arab countries, as well as, providing more investment opportunities for the private sector to execute new and renewable energy projects.



Algeria

HE Dr Salih Khabri Appointed as Algeria's New Minister of Energy



Algeria's President HE Abdul Aziz Bu Taflia issued a decree appointing HE Dr Salih Khabri as Minister of Energy in succession to HE Dr Yousef Youcefi. OAPEC Secretary General HE Abbas Ali Al Naqi sent a cable of congratulations to HE Khabri, also on behalf of the Secretariat General staff, wishing him all the best and looking forward to continuing the cooperation with the Algerian Ministry of Energy.

HE Dr Khabri replied with a cable expressing gratitude and appreciation for the brotherly and warm feelings expressed by HE Al Naqi. He stressed that Algeria will be always ready to support the activities and work of the organization in a way that serves OAPEC member countries interests.

KSA

Headed by HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud Aramco Creates its Supreme Council

Saudi Aramco said its board of directors held their annual meeting in Seoul, South Korea in April 2015. The meeting agenda included a briefing by HE Engineer Ali Al Naimi, Saudi Arabia's Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister and Aramco's Chairman, to Aramco's board on the recent dissolution of the Supreme Council for Petroleum and Mineral Affairs and the creation of the Supreme Council of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco).

أرامكو السعودية
Saudi Aramco



The 10-member board will be led by HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, Deputy Crown Prince, Second Deputy Premier, Minister of Defense, and Chairman of the Economic Affairs and Development Council.

Aramco said also that Health Minister HE Engineer Khalid Al Falih was named Chairman. Senior Vice President of Aramco Engineer Amin bin Hassan Al Nasser was named the company's acting head and CEO until further notice. On the organizational level, Aramco's board appointed six deputies for the Chairman and three new general managers.

Bilateral Iraq-Jordan Talks on Energy

Iraq's Oil Minister HE Adel Abdul Mahdi held official discussions with his Jordanian counterpart HE Ibrahim Seif, Jordan's Energy and Mineral Resources Minister, on issues of mutual interest especially on economy, energy and means to develop them.

During a press conference at the end of the talks, HE Abdul Mahdi stressed that Iraq was keen on bolstering relations with Jordan and opening up new horizons for bilateral cooperation especially in the field of energy. He explained that the talks were positive and tackled the final agreements on the Iraqi-Jordanian oil pipeline from Basrah (Southern Iraq) to the Jordanian port of Aqaba crossing Haditha.

The Minister added that technical and engineering committees will hold meetings to specify safe passages for the pipeline. He explained that discussions were underway between the two sides to reach a final formula of the MoU on providing Amman with crude oil.

Jordan's Minister HE Al Seif underscored his country's keenness on supporting Iraq on all levels and on expanding cooperation with Iraq in the field of energy. He stressed that the Iraqi- Jordanian pipeline is a legitimate ambitious project for the two countries because it symbolizes full integration and enhancement of energy security. He highlighted that Iraq is Jordan's premier commercial partner of excellence.



Gulf Petroleum Investment (PetroGulf) signed a drilling contract with Iraq's Oil Technology for \$40 million.

The three-year contract considers drilling and maintenance works on 80 oil wells of Zubair oil field, Basra, Iraq starting from June 2015.





UAE

Gas Flaring Management Summit Opened in Abu Dhabi



Abu Dhabi, UAE, hosted on 12 May 2015 the ‘Gas Flaring Management Summit’. The event, supported by the Ministry of Energy, UAE, saw the presence of key industry leaders from across the Middle East region, with the common motto of zero gas flaring. The Middle East and North African region flares about 30 billion cubic meters of associate gases every year. If recovered appropriately, these associate gases can be used as an alternative source of energy.

The summit was inaugurated by the keynote address from His Excellency Dr. Matar Al Neyadi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy, UAE. Taking it forward, Nwokeabia Hillary, representing the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, addressed the audience on the age of natural gas and global economic transformations. His session focused on economic feasibility of using natural gases and applicable technologies to generate new sources of energy.

During the summit, Arab and international gas flaring management case studies were presented.





Qatar

Gas Recovery (JBOG) Project opens in Qatar

A special ceremony was held on 28 April 2015 on the occasion of the inauguration of the Jetty Boil-Off Gas Recovery (JBOG) Project, in the presence of Qatar’s Prime Minister and Minister of Interior HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani and HE the Minister of Energy and Industry Dr Mohamed bin Saleh Al Sada with Qatar Petroleum, Qatargas, and RasGas officials.



Qatargas described the \$1bn Jetty Boil-Off Gas Recovery (JBOG) Project in Ras Laffan, as the “biggest environmental project in the world”, and one of the biggest environmental investments worldwide.

The JBOG project demonstrates the commitment of Qatar to balance industrial development with care for the environment to reduce CO2 emissions to their lowest possible rates. The JBOG project is another

milestone in Qatar’s commitment to various green-house gas reduction projects, which include carbon capture initiatives and other flare minimization programs. The JBOG facility will recover the gas flared during Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) loading at the six LNG berths in Ras Laffan Port. The JBOG facility forms part of the Common Facilities Projects at Ras Laffan, and is led and operated by Qatargas on behalf of QP and RasGas.

Kuwait

KNPC

Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) has inked a contract with Larsen & Toubro Limited Company to build a power station at Al Ahmadi refinery (South Kuwait) at a total cost of KD 21.8 million. The station would raise power supply to the refinery from the current 180 MW to the planned 240 MW following its full operation.



إحدى شركات مؤسسة البترول الكويتية
A Subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation

The new power station will gradually replace the current one without the need to stop work at the refinery. The new station would have an explosion-proof design and employ the state-of-the-art technology for operation and control according to the Ministry of Electricity and Water’s technical specifications.



94th Meeting of OAPEC Ministerial Council (At the level of the Representatives) **Continuation of OAPEC Member Countries' Cooperation in Petroleum Industry**

The Ministerial Council convened its 94th meeting on 7 Shaban, 1436H, corresponding to 25 May 2015, in Cairo, Egypt. The meeting was held at the level of the Executive Bureau Members representing their Excellencies the ministers and was chaired by HE Sheikh Mishaal bin Jabr Al Thani, the Executive Bureau Representative of the State of Qatar heading the current term.

HE the Chairman welcomed their Excellencies members of the Ministerial Council and HE OAPEC Secretary General. He expressed thanks to the General Secretariat for the outstanding preparation for the meeting. HE Al Thani also welcomed HE Engineer Khaled Matar Al Ulaij, Assistant Oil and Mineral Resources Minister for Oil and Gas Affairs, as the Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic at the Executive Bureau, wishing him success as he was taking part for the first time in these meetings (at Representatives level). His Excellency extended thanks and gratitude to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the hospitality and constant support to OAPEC.

HE Abbas Ali Al Naqi, OAPEC's Secretary General, welcomed their Excellencies the representatives of the member countries to the 94th Ministerial Council Meeting. HE Al Naqi expressed profound appreciation to Arab Republic of Egypt. The Secretariat General also welcome

HE Engineer Khaled Matar Al Ulaij, Assistant Oil and Mineral Resources Minister for Oil and Gas Affairs, as the Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic at the Executive Bureau, wishing him success as he was taking part for the first time in these meetings (at Representatives level). HE Al Naqi extended his thanks and appreciation to HE Engineer Sherif Ismail, Egypt's Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister and all Ministry staff for their hospitality.

The Council began discussing points on the meeting agenda and approved the following items:

- The Council approved OAPEC's financial statements (Secretariat General and Judicial Tribunal) for 2014.
- The Council also reviewed the activity report of OAPEC Secretariat General, adopted the Executive Bureau recommendations including the recommendations of the 10th



H.E. Abdul Qader La'alam
ALGERIA



H.E. Ali Abdul Jabbar Al Sawad
BAHRAIN



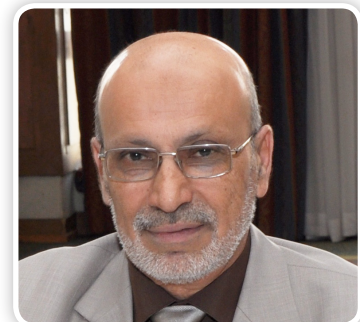
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EGYPT



H.E. Hasan M. Habibib AL Rufaii
IRAQ



H.E. Sheikh Talal Naser AL Sabah
KUWAIT



H.E. Eng. Mohammed K.Zendah
LIBYA



H.E.Eng. Nasser Bin Ibrahim Al Fawzan
KSA



H.E.Eng. Khaled Matar Al Ullaij
SYRIA



H.E. Dr. Mattar Al Neyadi
UAE

Arab Energy Conference, and followed up on environment and climate change issues, the course of work at the databank, and annual program of seminars and meetings organized or attended by the Secretariat General.

- The Council also reviewed the economic and technical studies prepared by the Secretariat General during the first half of 2015.
- The Council concluded the meeting, expressing their thanks and appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt for the hospitality

and quality preparations for the meeting.

The Meeting was preceded by OAPEC's 141st Executive Bureau Meeting, in Cairo, Egypt on 5 and 6 Shaaban 1436H corresponding to 23 and 24 May 2015. The Meeting was headed by HE Sheikh Mishaal bin Jabr Al Thani, the Executive Bureau Representative of the State of Qatar. During the meeting, the agenda for the Ministerial Council's meeting (at the Representatives level) was prepared.



Honoring Ceremony for HE Dr Engineer Hassan Zaynab On the occasion of the end of his tenure as Syria's Representative at OAPEC Executive Bureau



On the sidelines of the 141st meeting of OAPEC Executive Bureau, OAPEC Secretariat General organized an honoring ceremony for HE Dr Engineer Hassan Zaynab, on the occasion of the end of his tenure as Syria's Representative at OAPEC Executive Bureau. The ceremony was attended by their Excellencies members of the Executive Bureau and OAPEC Secretary General, HE Abbas Ali Al Naqi. HE Al Naqi delivered a speech thanking HE Zaynab for all his good efforts during his tenure and representation of Syria at the Executive Bureau. Following is the text of the speech:

**In the Name of God the Most Gracious
Most Merciful
Excellencies the Head and Members of
the Executive Bureau
Excellency Dr Engineer Hassan Zaynab
Our dear guests**

I have the pleasure to welcome you at this gathering with HE Dr Hassan Zaynab on the occasion of the end of his tenure as Syria's Representative at OAPEC Executive Bureau from 18/1/2003 till 24/2/2015.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to HE Zaynab for his positive role and outstanding efforts throughout his tenure. This is not surprising as we know HE Zaynab for what he is: an honest and sincere person with scientific and objective views and a very pleasant personality. He was a great asset and support for the Secretariat General and contributed to reaching recommendations and decisions supporting our activities and work.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity



to wish you and Dr Hassan a Happy Ramadan.

Excellencies,

Our heartfelt feelings and affection towards Dr Hassan express our great appreciation for his kind person and great efforts during his tenure, as well as, his wise role in harmonizing different views during the meetings where disagreements happened. Leaving his job at the Executive Bureau would not mean the end of the story but only a pause awaiting a new start.

Dr Hassan’s experience and expertise throughout his career working in senior positions at Syria’s Oil and Mineral Resources Ministry are the best proof of his ability to continue to enrich us with his expertise.

We wish our brother HE Dr Hassan Zaynab (Abu Ala’a) all the best for his coming life enjoying good health and

success with all our appreciation and love.

Excellencies,

Please allow me, also on behalf all of you, to present a simple gift to Dr Zaynab from his brothers, colleagues and friends to remain a token of our appreciation and gratitude for all his efforts during his tenure at OAPEC Executive Bureau. We hope this good relationship will continue in the future. We wish you and your family health, success, and happiness.

Assalamu Alaikom.



OAPEC Secretary General participates in Crans Montana Forum



Upon a kind invitation by HE Ambassador Jean-Paul Carteron, President of Crans Montana Forum, OAPEC Secretary General, HE Mr Abbas Ali Al Naqi, took part in Crans Montana Forum’s 26th Annual Assembly (from 10 to 13 June 2014) in Brussels, Belgium.

Among the topics discussed at the Forum: world security and peace, European economic relations with Russia and Africa, means to enhance Arab countries integration with the world affairs, new business opportunities in South Caucasus, Central Asia, and Central Europe.

OAPEC Secretary General HE Mr Abbas Ali Al Naqi co-chaired one of the Forum’s sessions tackling:

- Arab countries as a driving force for the new world economy
- Enhancement of Arab countries integration with international affairs
- Arab World’s challenges and our challenges

Participants in the session included Former President of Serbia HE Boris Tadić, Former President of Libyan National Forces Alliance HE Mahmoud Jebril, Former Jordanian Parliament Speaker and Former Interior Minister HE Abdul Hadi Al Majali, and HE Ahmad Saad Omer Khadr, Minister for Council Affairs, Sudan.

HE Al Naqi took part in presenting certificates and gifts to some of the personalities honored at the forum beside His Excellency the Belgian Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister.





6th OPEC International Seminar



Upon a kind invitation by HE Abdullah Al Badri, OPEC Secretary General, HE Abbas Ali Al Naqi, OAPEC Secretary General, took part in the Sixth OPEC International Seminar, in Vienna, Austria, on 3 and 4 June 2015. The Seminar held under the theme ‘Petroleum: An Engine for Global Development’. A group of their Excellencies OPEC and non-OPEC oil ministers, as well as, senior officials from international oil, gas and energy organizations participated in the event.



The seminar, held every three years, discussed a number of important issues; most significant of which were: the world’s energy future, market stability, oil investments, technology, environment, and the condition of the world’s economy. It also discussed the means for creating a secure and stable oil market through boosting cooperation and dialogue with concerned parties worldwide.

Among the main topics discussed at the seminar were:

- Global energy outlook
- Oil market stability
- Production capacity and investment
- Technology and environment
- World economy prospects



International Refining and Petrochemical Conference (IRPC) 2015

OAPEC Secretariat General took part in the International Refining and Petrochemical Conference (IRPC) held under the sponsorship of TAKREER, between 31 May and 3 June 2015, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Experts from OAPEC member countries and other Arab and foreign organizations attended the event. The conference discussed the latest developments in oil refining, petrochemicals, and natural gas treatment and production. OAPEC Secretariat General presented two papers at the conference:



Paper 1: “Cleaner Fuel Production at Arab Oil Refineries” presented by Dr. Samir Elkareish, Director, Technical Affairs Department, OAPEC

Paper 2: “Cooperation Motives for National and International Oil Companies in Downstream Projects at OAPEC Member Countries” presented by Engineer Emad Mekki, Senior Refining Expert, Technical Affairs Department, OAPEC

During the last session, IRPC participants reviewed the conclusions and recommendations presented through the conference papers and discussions; most important of which were:

- The importance of cooperation, coordination and knowledge exchange between regional and international scientific research centers, and national and international oil companies on the invention of advanced technology contributing to overcoming the challenges that hinder downstream industries.
- Modern techniques and inventions help improving the refining and petrochemicals operations’ performance.
- Regular maintenance and preemptive programs for oil refineries’ equipment contribute to reducing the number of emergency stops, which in turn improves performance and profitability.



OAPEC Secretariat General Issues “The Guide for Standard Specifications of Petroleum Products in OAPEC Member Countries”

OAPEC Secretary General HE Abbas Ali Al Naqi said that ever since its early years of establishment, OAPEC Secretariat General has been paying special attention to petroleum products specifications within the framework of OAPEC goals contributing to the development of the petroleum industry in the member countries.

In his speech on the occasion of releasing the fourth edition of “The Guide for Standard Specifications of Petroleum Products in OAPEC Member Countries”, Al Naqi said that since its very first edition back in 1982, this guide has been receiving great welcome from petroleum specialists due to its role in boosting technical cooperation between the OAPEC member countries. He clarified that the second edition, released in 1996, came in line with the growing global interest in developing the petroleum products specifications to meet environmental requirements against pollution at that time. The guide was then updated by a third edition in 2005.

The Secretary General explained that the guide contains the specifications for most major petroleum products produced by oil refineries in member countries, like liquefied petroleum gas, the various types of gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, gas oil, fuel oil, asphalt, and other important products.

Al Naqi said that changes in petroleum products specifications were focused on reducing sulfur in vehicle fuels like gasoline and diesel, as part of OAPEC member countries efforts to be on a par with the global developments in meeting environment protection standards and legalizations. All OAPEC member countries have produced unleaded gasoline.

HE Al Naqi thanked all member countries for their cooperation in providing the required data for updating the guide. He hoped that the guide would fulfill the purpose for which it was released and help efforts on standardizing petroleum products specifications in OAPEC member countries. He added that such a step was important to enhance commercial exchange between the member countries.





APICORP Announces Strong **2014** Financial Performance



ابيكورب
APICORP

The Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (APICORP), a joint venture of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), has announced its 2014 full year consolidated financial results for the period ending 31st December 2014.

APICORP achieved strong revenues over the year, with total income increasing to \$ 156.28 million compared with \$ 149.82 million in 2013; and net profit before provisions growing to \$ 118.51 million from \$ 111.22 million for the previous year. However, given the uncertain geopolitical outlook for some areas of the MENA region, the company took the prudent step of building up an investment provision of \$ 13.48 million. This resulted in an adjusted net profit of \$ 105.03 million for 2014.

On 31st December 2014, total assets had grown to \$ 5.88 billion, with shareholders' equity increasing to \$ 1.86 billion.

During the year, APICORP successfully finalized three Shariah compliant medium-term funding facilities totaling \$ 1.2 billion, which is aligned with their strategic direction of increasing term of funding facilities of better managing cost of funding. This was reinforced by Moody's



reaffirming the company’s foreign currency issuer rating of Aa3 for long-term debt, and Prime-1 for short-term debt, with a stable outlook, for the third consecutive year.

APICORP’s balance sheet remains robust, with significant liquidity of US\$ 983 million and a very healthy capital adequacy ratio of 28.8%.

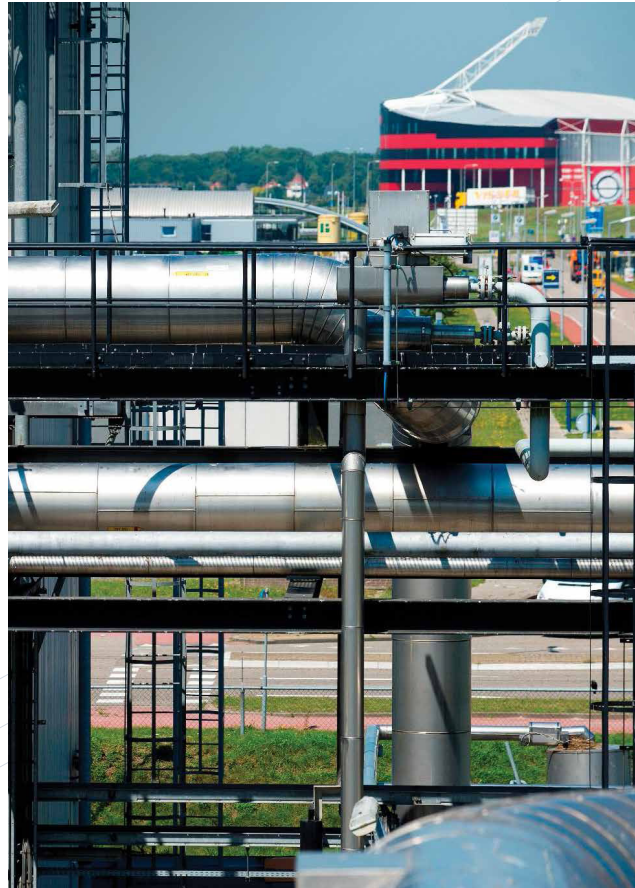
Commenting on the results, APICORP’s Chairman, Dr Aabed bin Abdulla Al Saddoun, said:

“2014 was a solid but challenging year, punctuated by continued uneven global economic growth, ongoing regional geopolitical tensions, and a dramatic decline in oil prices during the fourth quarter. Against this backdrop, we adopted a dynamic but prudent approach, continuing to grow the business while maintaining a conservative risk profile. This enabled us to achieve a strong financial performance overall, while also making sound progress in implementing our new five-year strategy.”

“Looking ahead, it appears highly likely that markets will continue to be challenging and varied across the MENA region, but we have identified a number of promising new business opportunities. The latest IMF World Economic Outlook forecast economic growth in the MENA region at 2.7 percent in 2015 and 3.7 percent in 2016, while our own research shows that cumulative MENA energy investment to reach \$685 billion between 2015 and 2019.”

“As we enter our 40th year in operation, we will continue to focus on commercializing our offering and capitalizing on new growth opportunities in the regional energy sector. We have full confidence in the ability of our highly-professional management team to continue to meet our ambitious strategic objectives and business targets; and we remain cautiously optimistic about the future prospects for APICORP.”

Since its establishment in 1975, APICORP has made a significant contribution to the Arab region’s energy industry. The corporation had significantly keeping up with the industry needs and growth plans where total income has increased by 4.3% over last year to total 156.28 million. Currently, its investment portfolio is \$866, its loan portfolio is \$2.9 billion, and its treasury and securities portfolio is \$2.2.



An Invitation to Contribute to the

Oil and Arab Cooperation Journal

The “*Oil and Arab Cooperation Journal*” has the pleasure to invite researchers and specialists of the petroleum industry and developmental issues to participate by publishing their research work and scientific reports in accordance with the following requirements:

1. The magazine publishes original scientific research works in the areas of oil and gas, energy, and economic development which adhere to scientific research methodology and globally recognized procedures. Articles must be written in Arabic and should not be previously published.
2. Article should contain 15-40 pages (and more if required), computer typed. Original shall be printed on A4 in Simplified Arabic font, and shall be paginated.
3. An abstract shall be presented in English, briefing the objective, scope, research methodology, main ideas and conclusions. The abstract should be in the vicinity of 2-3 pages, in clear conceivable manner, without referring to the original text.
4. First page of the research shall contain the time, name(s) of researcher(s), employer, address, telephone numbers, and e-mail. Researcher’s name should not be mentioned in the research body.
5. Reference to all sources is made by numbers of footnotes, which are published at the end of the research paper. Recognized scientific principles of documentation shall be considered, including:
 - When the source is mentioned for the first time, the following items should be provided: Book title, name of author, name of publishers, place of publication, number of edition, year of publication, page number.
 - For repeated use, book title and page number shall be mentioned.
6. The research shall be provided with a separate list of footnotes. In the event of foreign sources, an additional list shall be added, apart from the Arabic list, in alphabetical order giving book/research titles, as published in bulletins.
7. A copy of the scientific resume shall be attached, if the researchers has cooperation with the magazine for the first time.



8. The research should not be quoted from a university degree thesis, not previously published, and should not have been submitted to any other publication. The researcher shall provide a separate declaration accordingly.
9. All ideas published on the magazine shall express the opinions of their writers, and not necessarily the view of publishers. Order of researches shall be subject to technical consideration.
10. Researches shall be subject to a confidential assessment to determine validity for publication. Researches shall not be returned to their authors, whether accepted or not, as follows:
 - The researchers shall be notified, within a maximum of 3 weeks, of receipt of the material for publication.
 - Accepted research authors shall be notified of the approval of the editing panel of publication and date of publication.
 - Researches to which assessors decide any additions of modifications prior to publication shall be returned to their authors, along with comments, for necessary action.
 - Authors of rejected researches shall be notified, without giving reasons.
 - Each author shall be provided with 5 copies of the volume where their research is published.

Articles and reviews should be sent to Editor-in-Chief,

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1. Oil Market

1. Prices

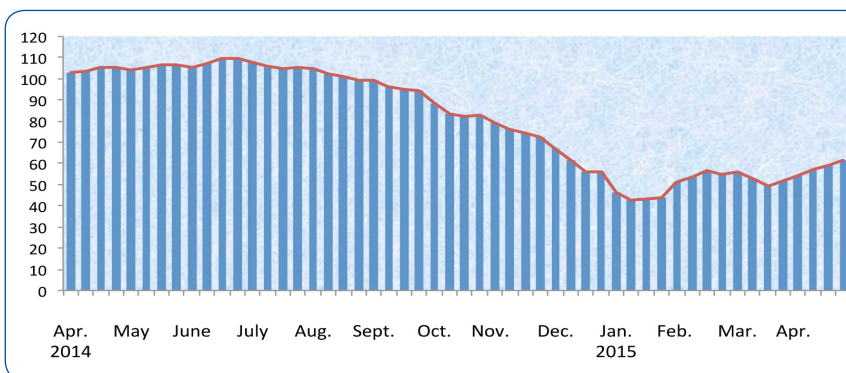
1-1 Crude Oil Prices

Weekly average price of OPEC basket increased during the first week of April 2015, recording \$53.9/bbl, and continued to rise thereafter, to reach its highest level of \$61.4/bbl during the fourth week, as shown in figure 1:

On monthly basis, OPEC Reference Basket in April 2015, averaged \$57.3/bbl, representing an increase of \$4.8/bbl or 9.2% comparing with previous month, and a decrease of \$47.0/bbl or 45% from the same month of previous year. The belief that oil supply glut may be easing, demand for crude picked up

as refiners returned from maintenance in US, healthy refining margins particularly in Asia and to some extent in Europe, higher demand projected ahead of the peak US driving season, and geopolitical tensions, were major stimulus for the increase in oil prices during the month of April 2015 to its highest level this year.

Figure - 1 Weekly Average Spot Price of the OPEC Basket of Crudes 2014 - 2015 (\$/bbl)



Key Indicators

- 📌 In April 2015, **OPEC Reference Basket** increased by 9.2% or \$4.8/bbl from the previous month level to stand at \$57.3/bbl.
- 📌 **World Oil Demand** in April 2015, decreased by 0.7% or 0.7 million b/d from the previous month level to reach 92.8 million b/d.
- 📌 **World oil supplies** in April 2015, decreased by 0.2% or 0.2 million b/d from the previous month level to reach 96.8 million b/d.
- 📌 **US crude oil imports** in March 2015, decreased by 0.04% from the previous month level to reach 7.3 million b/d, and **US product imports** decreased by 8.9% to reach about 1.9 million b/d.
- 📌 **OECD commercial inventories** in March 2015 increased by 39 million barrels from the previous month level to reach 2768 million barrels, and **Strategic inventories** in OECD-34, South Africa and China remained stable at the same previous month level of 1846 million barrels.
- 📌 **The average spot price of natural gas** at the Henry Hub in April 2015 decreased by \$0.24/million BTU from previous month level to reach \$2.57/million BTU.
- 📌 **The Price of Japanese LNG imports** decreased in March 2015 by \$1.1/m BTU to reach \$12.2/m BTU, the **Price of Chinese LNG imports** decreased by \$0.2/m BTU to reach to \$10.1/m BTU, and **the Price of Korean LNG imports** decreased by \$0.4/m BTU to reach \$13.1/m BTU.
- 📌 **Arab LNG exports to Japan, Korea and China** were about 4.727 million tons in March 2015 (a share of 37.7% of total imports).

* Prepared by the Economics Department.



Table (1) and figure (2) show the change in the price of the OPEC basket versus last month and the corresponding month of last year :

Table 1 Change in Price of the OPEC Basket of Crudes, 2014-2015 (\$/bbl)

	Apr. 2014	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan 2015	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
OPEC Basket Price	104.3	105.4	107.9	105.6	100.8	96.0	85.1	75.6	59.5	44.4	54.1	52.5	57.3
Change From previous Month	0.1	1.1	2.5	-2.3	-4.9	-4.8	-10.9	-9.5	-16.1	-15.1	9.7	-1.6	4.8
Change from same month of previous Year	3.2	4.7	6.9	1.2	-6.8	-12.7	-21.6	-29.4	-48.2	-60.3	-51.3	-51.7	-47.0

* Effective June 16, 2005 OPEC replaced its seven-crude basket with one comprised of eleven crudes, one from each member country (weighted according to production and exports to major markets). Effective 1 January and mid of October 2007, Angola's Girassol and Ecuadorian Oriente crudes have been incorporated to become the 12th and 13th crudes comprising the new OPEC Basket. As of Jan. 2009, the basket excluded the Indonesian crude.

Figure - 2 Change in the Price of the OPEC Basket of Crudes, 2014-2015 (\$/bbl)

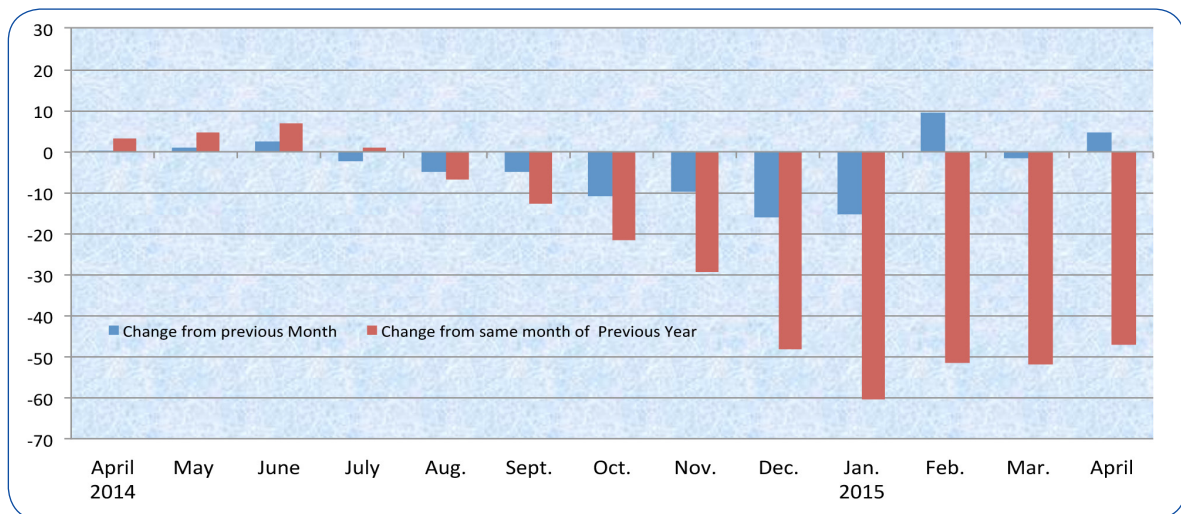


Table (3) in the annex show spot prices for OPEC basket and other crudes for the period 2013-2015.

1-2 Spot Prices of Petroleum Products

- US Gulf

In March 2015, the spot prices of premium gasoline increased by 3.7% or \$2.8/bbl comparing with their previous month levels to reach \$78.4/bbl, whereas spot prices of gas oil decreased by 6.3% or \$4.7/bbl to reach \$68.8/bbl, and spot prices of fuel oil decreased by 4% or \$2.1/bbl to reach \$51.6/bbl.



- Rotterdam

The spot prices of premium gasoline increased in March 2015, by 5.3% or \$3.9/bbl comparing with their previous month levels to reach \$77.6/ bbl, whereas spot prices of gas oil decreased by 4.3% or \$3.2/bbl to reach \$71.8/bbl, and spot prices of fuel oil decreased by 3.5% or \$1.7/ bbl to reach \$45.4/bbl.

- Mediterranean

The spot prices of premium gasoline increased in March 2015, by 7.5% or \$5.1/bbl comparing with previous month levels to reach \$73.4/bbl, whereas spot prices of gas oil decreased by 3.9% or \$2.9/bbl to reach \$73.4/bbl, and spot prices of fuel oil decreased by 2.4% or \$1.2/bbl to reach \$47.9/bbl.

- Singapore

The spot prices of premium gasoline increased in March 2015, by 4.7% or \$3.3/bbl comparing with previous month levels to reach \$73.8/ bbl, spot prices of gas oil increased by 0.2% or \$0.1/bbl to reach \$72.2/ bbl, whereas spot prices of fuel oil decreased by 6.2% or \$3.4/bbl to reach \$51.5/bbl.

Figure (3) shows the price of Premium gasoline in all four markets from March 2014 to March 2015.

Figure - 3 Monthly Average Spot Prices of Premium Gasoline, 2014-2015 (\$/bbl)

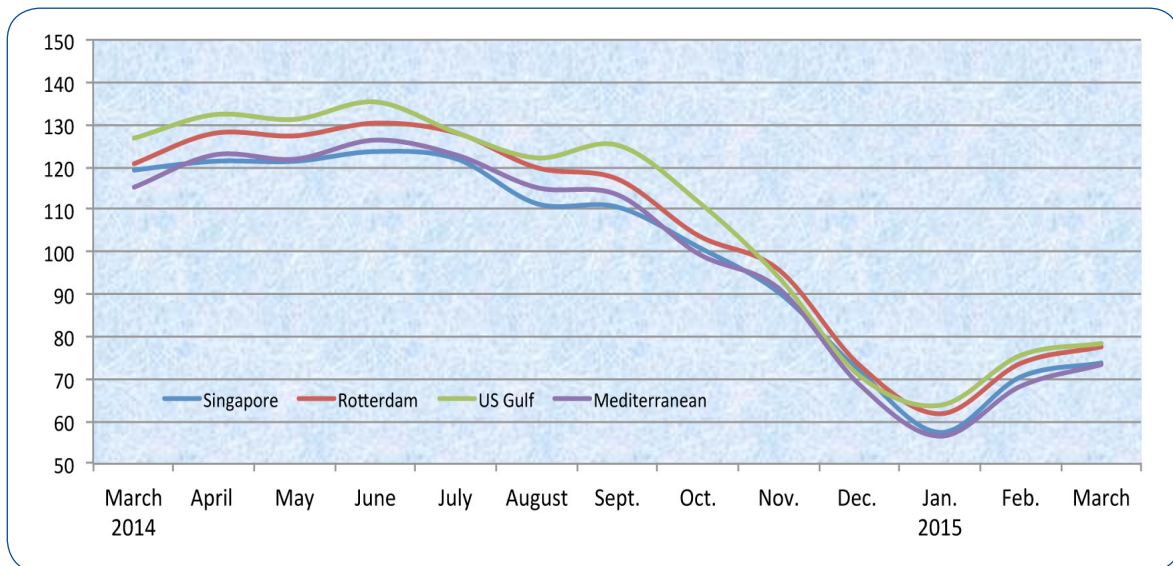


Table (4) in the annex shows the average monthly spot prices of petroleum products, 2013-2015.



1-3 Spot Tanker Crude Freight Rates

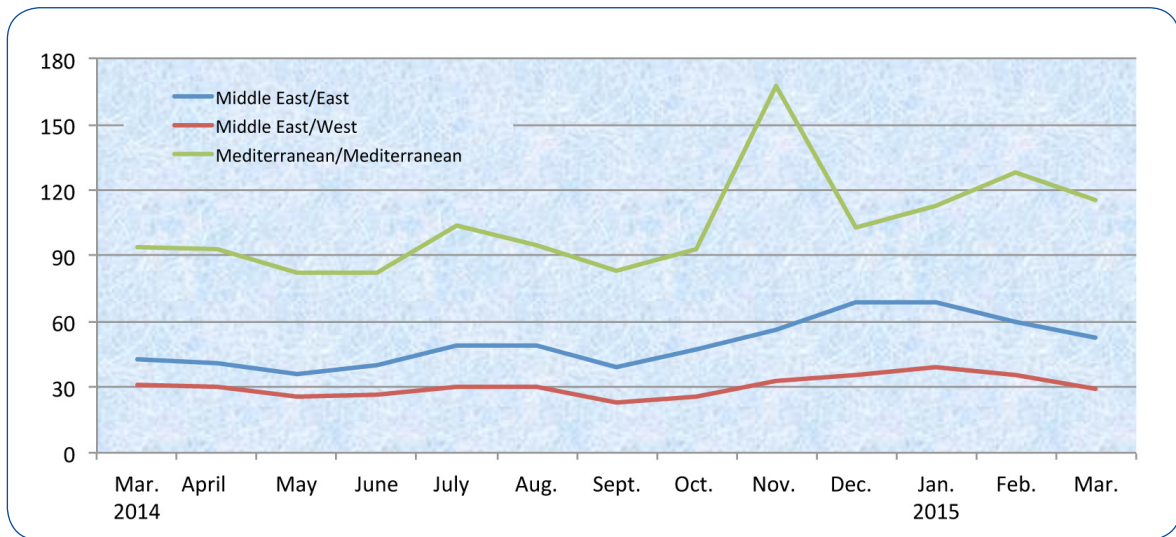
In March 2015, Freight rates for crude oil for tanker size (230-280 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)), leaving Middle Eastern ports to the East, decreased by 7 points or 11.7% comparing with previous month to reach 53 points on the World Scale (WS*), freight rates for crude oil for tanker size (270-285 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)), leaving Middle Eastern ports to the West, decreased by 7 points or 19.4% comparing with previous month to reach 29 points on the World Scale (WS), and freight rates for inter - Mediterranean for small to medium sized tankers (80-85 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)), decreased by 12 points or 9.4% comparing with previous month to reach 116 points on the World Scale (WS).

Figure (4) shows the freight rates for crude oil to all three destinations from March 2014 to March 2015.

Figure - 4

Monthly Spot Crude Oil Tanker Freight Rates, 2014 -2015

(World Scale)*



* World Scale is a method for calculating freight prices. One point for the WS means 1% of the standard price of freight in the direction in the WS book, which is published annually by the World Scale Association. The book contains a list of prices in the form of US dollar per ton, called “World Scale 100,” for all the major routes in the world.

1-4 Spot Tanker Product Freight Rates

In March 2015, monthly spot Tanker freight rates for petroleum products [for tanker size 30-35 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)], leaving Middle Eastern ports to the East, increased by 20 points, or 18.5% comparing with previous month to reach 128 points on WS. Similarly freight rates for

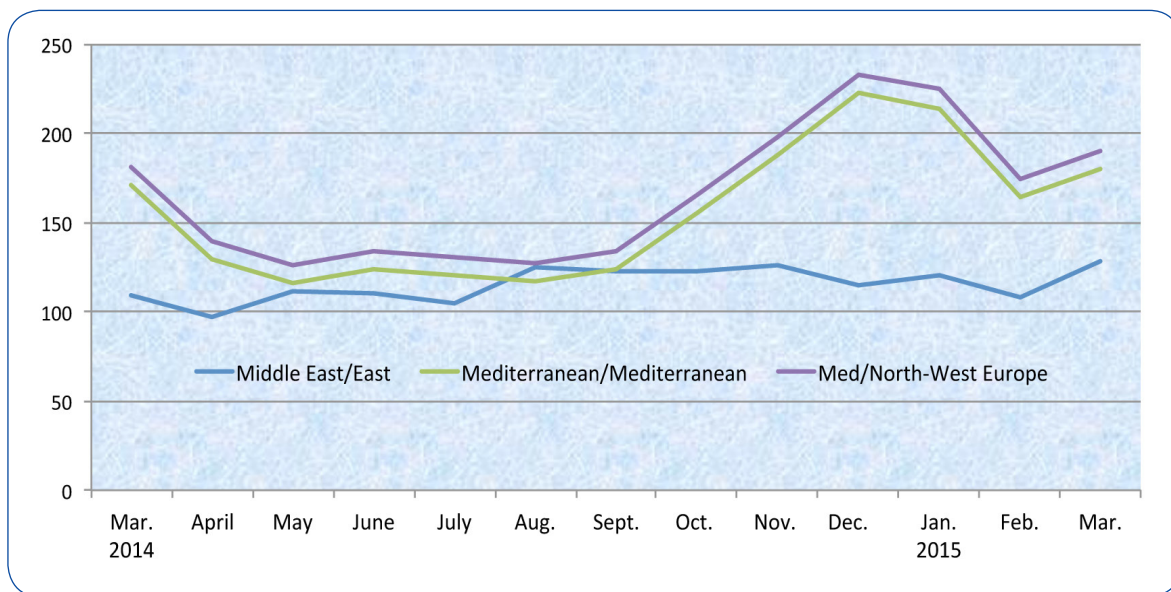


Petroleum Products across Mediterranean [for tanker size 30-35 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)], increased by 16 points, or 9.8% to reach 180 points on WS, and freight rates for petroleum products [for tanker size 30-35 thousand deadweight tons (dwt)], leaving Mediterranean to North-West Europe also increased by 16 points, or 9.2% to reach 190 points on WS.

Figure (5) shows the freight rates for oil products to all three destinations from March 2014 to March 2015.

Table (5) and (6) in the annex show crude and products Tankers Freight Rates, 2013-2015.

Figure - 5 Monthly Spot Product Tanker Freight Rates, 2014 -2015 (World Scale)



2. Supply and Demand

Preliminary estimates in April 2015 show a decrease in world oil demand by 0.7% or 0.7 million b/d, comparing with the previous month to reach 92.8 million b/d, representing an increase of 1.3 million b/d from their last year level.

Demand in OECD countries decreased by 2.2% or 1 million b/d comparing with their previous month level to reach 45.3 million b/d, representing an increase of 0.4 million b/d from their last year level. Whereas demand in Non-OECD countries increased by 0.6% or 0.3 million b/d comparing with their previous month level to reach 47.5 million b/d, representing an increase of 0.9 million b/d from their last year level.



On the supply side, preliminary estimates show that world oil supplies for April 2015 decreased by 0.2% or 0.2 million b/d comparing with the previous month level to reach 96.8 million b/d, a level that is 3.8 million b/d higher than last year.

In April 2015, OPEC crude oil and NGLs/condensates total supplies decreased by 0.5% or 0.2 million b/d comparing with the previous month level to reach 37.6 million b/d, a level that is 2 million b/d higher than last year. Whereas Preliminary estimates show that Non-OPEC supplies remained stable at the same previous month level of 59.3 million b/d, a level that is 1.9 million b/d higher than last year.

Preliminary estimates of the supply and demand for April 2015 reveal a surplus of 4.0 million b/d, compared to a surplus of 3.5 million b/d in March 2015 and a surplus of 1.6 million b/d in April 2014, as shown in table (2) and figure (6):

Tables (7) and (8) in the annex show world oil demand and supply for the period 2013-2015.

Table 2 World Supply and Demand (Million b/d)

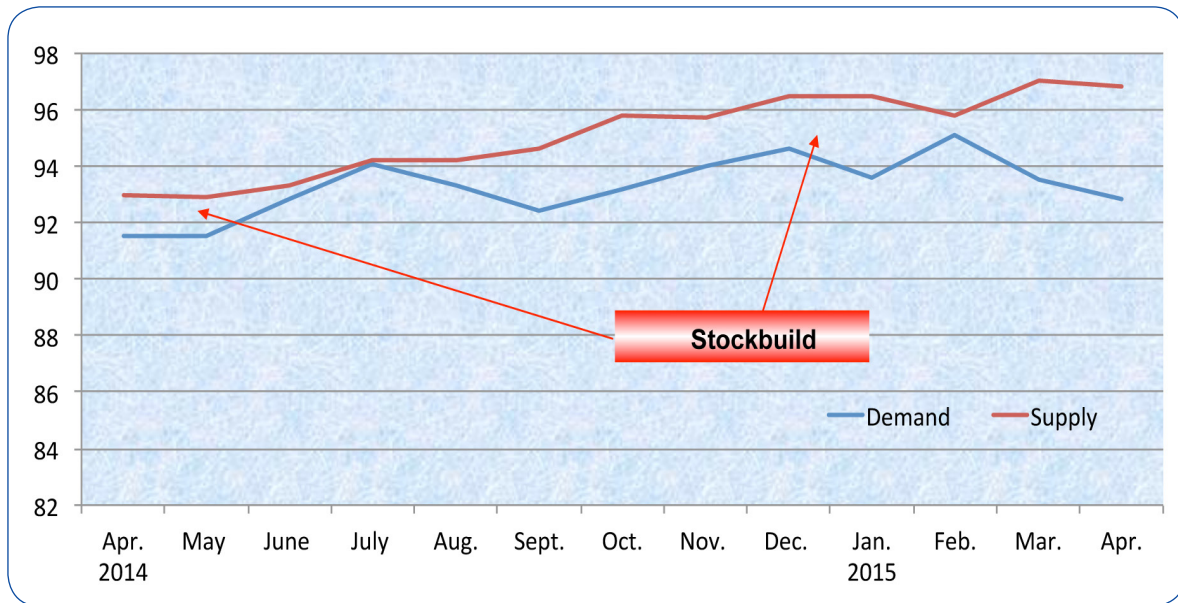
	<i>April 2015</i>	<i>March 2015</i>	<i>Change from March 2015</i>	<i>April 2014</i>	<i>Change from April 2014</i>
<i>OECD Demand</i>	45.3	46.3	-1.0	44.9	0.4
<i>Rest of the World</i>	47.5	47.2	0.3	46.6	0.9
<i>World Demand</i>	92.8	93.5	-0.7	91.5	1.3
<i>OPEC Supply:</i>	<u>37.6</u>	<u>37.8</u>	<u>-0.2</u>	<u>35.6</u>	<u>2.0</u>
<i>Crude Oil</i>	30.8	31.0	-0.2	29.3	1.5
<i>NGL's & Cond.</i>	6.8	6.8	0.0	6.3	0.5
<i>Non-Opec Supply</i>	57.3	57.3	0.0	54.9	2.4
<i>Processing Gain</i>	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.5	-0.5
<i>World Supply</i>	96.8	97.0	-0.2	93.0	3.8
<i>Balance</i>	4.0	3.5		1.6	

Source: Energy Intelligence Briefing May 8, 2015.



Figure - 6 World Supply and Demand

(Million b/d)



3.Oil Trade

USA

In March 2015, US crude oil imports decreased by 3 thousand b/d or 0.04% comparing with the previous month level to reach 7.3 million b/d, and US oil products imports decreased by 181 thousand b/d or 8.9% to reach about 1.9 million b/d.

On the export side, US crude oil exports increased by 1 thousand b/d or 0.2% comparing with the previous month level to reach about 491 thousand b/d, and US products exports increased by 83 thousand b/d or 2.2% to reach 3.9 million b/d. As a result, US net oil imports in March 2015 were 268 thousand b/d or nearly 5.3% lower than the previous month, averaging 4.8 million b/d.

Canada remained the main supplier of crude oil to the US with 45% of total US crude oil imports during the month, followed by Saudi Arabia with 13% ,then Venezuela with 10%. OPEC Member Countries supplied 35% of total US crude oil imports.

Japan

In March 2015, Japan’s crude oil imports increased by 32 thousand b/d or 0.9% comparing with the previous month to reach 3.7 million b/d. Whereas Japan oil product imports decreased by 4 thousand b/d or 0.6% comparing with the previous month to reach 631 thousand b/d.



On the export side, Japan's oil products exports decreased in March 2015, by 78 thousand b/d or 13.6% comparing with the previous month, averaging 493 thousand b/d, the lowest level since August 2014. As a result, Japan's net oil imports in March 2015 increased by 106 thousand b/d or 2.9% to reach 3.8 million b/d, the highest level since March 2014.

Saudi Arabia remained the main supplier of crude oil to Japan with 38% of total Japan crude oil imports, followed by UAE with 25% and Qatar with 7% of total Japan crude oil imports.

China

In March 2015, China's crude oil imports decreased by 350 thousand b/d or 5.2% to reach 6.3 million b/d, whereas China's oil products imports increased by 3 thousand b/d or 0.3% to reach 1.1 million b/d.

On the export side, China's oil products exports increased in March 2015, by 134 thousand b/d, averaging 176 thousand b/d, and China's oil products exports increased by 279 thousand b/d or 55% to reach 786 thousand b/d. As result, China's net oil imports reached 6.5 million b/d, representing a decrease of 10.4% comparing with the previous month.

Saudi Arabia remained the main supplier of crude oil to China with 15% of total China's crude oil imports during the month, followed by Angola with 13% and Russia with 11% of total China's crude oil imports.

Table (3) shows changes in crude and oil products net imports/(exports) in March 2015 versus the previous month:

Table 3 USA, Japan and China Crude and Product Net Imports / Exports (Million bbl/d)

	Crude Oil			Total Products		
	March 2015	February 2015	Change from February 2015	March 2015	February 2015	Change from February 2015
USA	6.766	6.770	0.004 -	1.993 -	1.729 -	0.264 -
Japan	3.686	3.654	0.032	0.138	0.064	0.074
China	6.154	6.638	0.484 -	0.363	0.640	0.276 -

Source: OPEC Monthly Oil Market Report, various issues 2015.



4. Oil Inventories

In March 2015, OECD commercial oil inventories increased by 39 million barrels to reach 2768 million barrels – a level that is 184 million barrels higher than a year ago. It is worth mentioning that during the month, commercial crude inventories in OECD increased by 41 million barrels to reach 1111 million barrels, Whereas commercial oil products inventories decreased by 2 million barrels to reach 1657 million barrels.

Commercial oil inventories in Americas increased by 32 million barrels to reach 1484 million barrels, of which 632 million barrels of crude and 852 million barrels of oil products. Commercial oil Inventories in Europe increased by 8 million barrels to reach 909 million barrels, of which 320 million barrels of crude and 589 million barrels of oil products. Commercial oil inventories in Pacific decreased by 1 million barrels, to reach 375 million barrels, of which 159 million barrels of crude and 216 million barrels of oil products.

In the rest of the world, commercial oil inventories increased by 16 million barrels to reach 2456 million barrels, whereas the Inventories at sea decreased by 10 million barrels to reach 1024 million barrels.

As result, Total Commercial oil inventories in March 2015 increased by 55 million barrels comparing with the previous month to reach 5224 million barrels – a level that is 268 million barrels higher than a year ago.

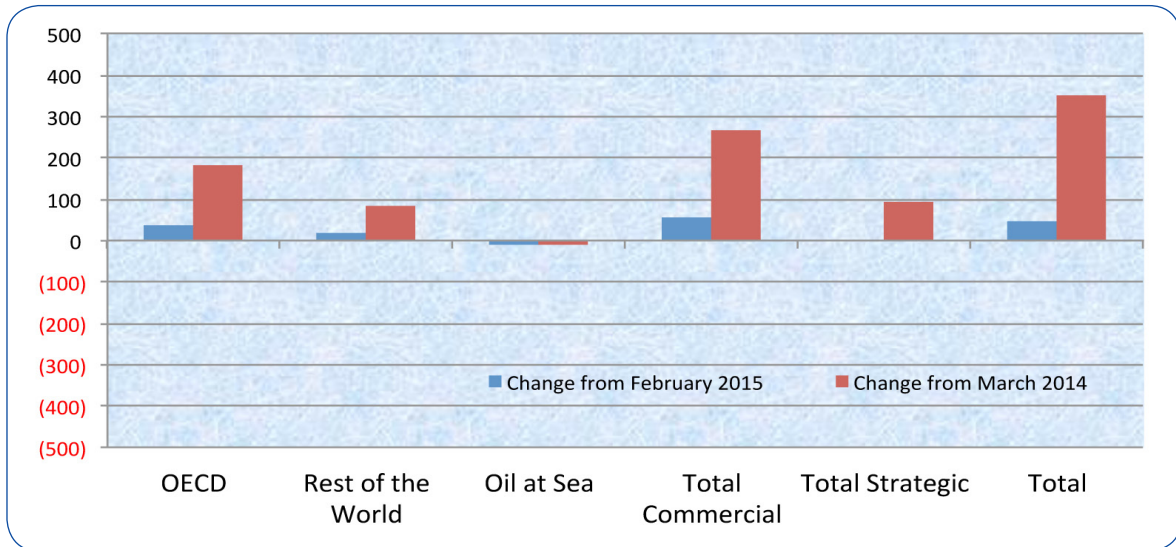
Strategic inventories in OECD-34, South Africa and China remained stable at the same previous month level of 1846 million barrels – a level that is 91 million barrels higher than a year ago.

Total world inventories, at the end of March 2015 were at 8094 million barrels, representing an increase of 45 million barrels comparing with the previous month, and an increase of 349 million barrels comparing with the same month a year ago.

Table (9) in the annex and figure (7) show the changes in global inventories prevailing at the end of March 2015.



Figure - 7 Changes in Global Inventories at the End of March 2015 (Million bbl)



II. The Natural Gas Market

1- Spot and Future Prices of Natural Gas in US market

The monthly average of spot natural gas price at the Henry Hub in April 2015 decreased by \$0.24/million BTU comparing with the previous month to reach \$2.57/ million BTU.

The comparison, shown in table (4), between natural gas prices and those for the WTI crude and low sulfur fuel oil reveal differential of \$6.8/ million BTU in favor of WTI crude and \$7.3/ million BTU in favor of low sulfur fuel oil.

Table 4 Henry Hub Natural Gas, WTI Crude Average, and Low Sulfur Fuel Oil Spot Prices, 2014-2015 (Million BTU¹)

	Apr. 2014	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 2015	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
Natural Gas ⁽²⁾	4.7	4.6	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.1	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.6
WTI Crude ⁽³⁾	17.6	17.6	18.1	17.7	16.6	16.1	14.6	13.1	10.3	8.2	8.8	8.2	9.4
Low Sulfur Fuel Oil (0..3%)	18.0	17.2	16.9	17.4	16.4	15.9	14.3	13.2	11.0	9.1	10.6	9.7	9.9

1. British Thermal Unit.

2. Henry Hub spot price.

3. WTI – West Texas Intermediate Crude oil price, in dollars per barrel, is converted to dollar per million BTU using a conversion factor of 5.80 million BTU/bbl.

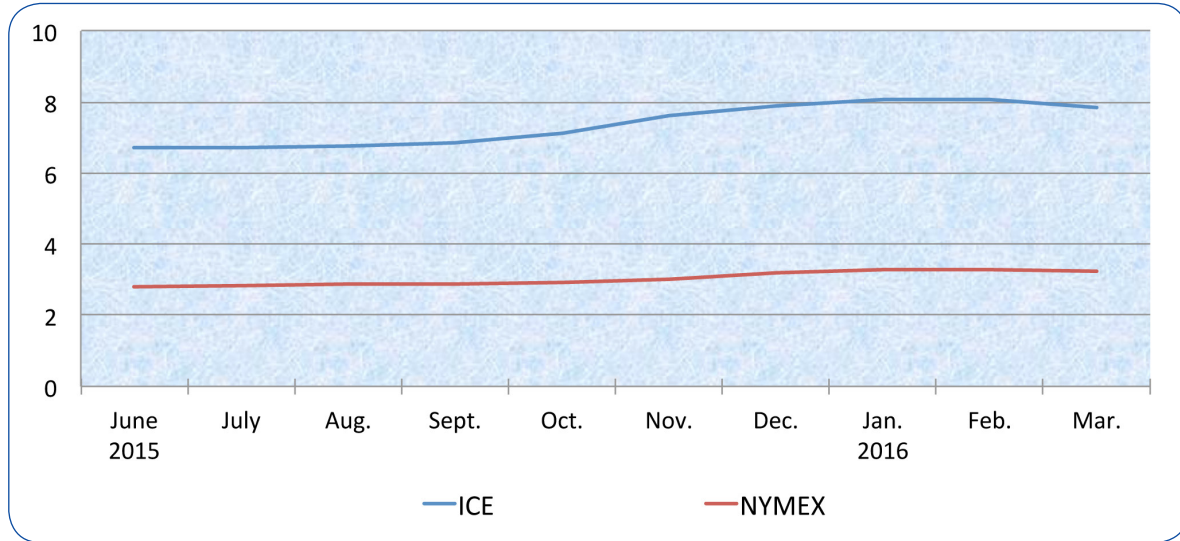
Source: World Gas Intelligence May 6, 2015.



Futures gas prices recorded on May 11, 2015, indicate that those quoted at the London's ICE were higher than those quoted at the NYMEX for the period from June 2015 to March 2016, with maximum differential of \$4.80/ million BTU in February 2016. These developments are shown in figure (8).

Figure - 8 Gas Futures, May 11, 2015

(\$/Million BTU)



Source: World Gas Intelligence May 13, 2015.

2- Asian LNG Markets

In March 2015, the price of Japanese LNG imports decreased by \$1.1/ million BTU comparing with the previous month to reach \$12.2/ million BTU, the price of Chinese LNG imports decreased by \$0.2/million BTU comparing with the previous month to reach \$10.1/ million BTU, and the price of Korean LNG imports decreased by \$0.4/million BTU comparing with the previous month to reach \$13.1/ million BTU.

Total Japanese, Korean and Chinese LNG imports from various sources, increased by 0.3% or 42 thousand tons from the previous month level to reach 12.531 million tons.

The Arab countries LNG exports to Japan, Korea and China totaled 4.727 million tons - a share 37.7% of total Japanese, Korean and Chinese LNG imports.

Table (5) shows the prices and quantities of LNG imported by Japan, South Korea, and China for the period 2013-2015.



Table 5 LNG Prices and Imports: Korea, Japan, and China 2013-2015

	Imports				10.Average Import Price		
	(thousand tons)				(\$/million BTU)		
	Japan	Korea	China	Total	Japan	Korea	China
2013	87490	40175	17997	145662	16.0	14.7	11.1
Jan. 2013	8230	3982	1505	13717	15.9	14.8	11.5
February	7525	4144	1412	13081	16.5	15.0	13.3
March	7739	4174	1257	13170	16.3	15.2	10.5
April	7050	3513	1559	12122	16.2	14.3	10.9
May	6421	2915	1352	10688	16.2	14.6	9.1
June	6442	2788	1250	10480	16.6	14.9	11.0
July	7412	2426	1347	11185	16.2	14.9	10.8
August	7249	3271	1689	12209	15.6	14.7	11.5
September	6582	2476	1517	10575	15.0	14.9	11.8
October	7538	3189	1356	12083	15.2	14.4	9.4
November	7217	3277	1318	11812	15.4	14.5	9.5
December	8085	4020	2435	14540	16.4	14.6	13.8
Jan. 2014	8179	4451	2652	15282	16.7	15.5	13.3
February	7511	4194	1498	13203	16.8	16.5	11.7
March	8044	4115	1479	13638	16.6	16.5	12.0
April	7212	3220	1375	11807	16.8	16.4	10.8
May	6495	2212	1579	10286	16.3	16.3	11.4
June	6821	2207	1343	10371	16.1	16.6	11.2
July	7838	2182	1835	11855	16.1	16.3	10.3
August	7050	2543	1582	11175	15.7	16.2	11.7
September	7276	2302	1394	10972	15.2	16.5	12.2
October	6944	2755	1381	11080	15.9	16.2	12.3
November	6877	2932	1757	11566	15.6	15.9	11.6
December	8258	4289	2016	14563	15.6	16.1	12.1
January 2015	8434	4122	2121	14677	15.1	14.3	11.1
February	7730	3098	1661	12489	13.3	13.4	10.3
March	8137	3048	1346	12531	12.2	13.1	10.1

Source: World Gas Intelligence various issues.



Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development signed a loan agreement and a guarantee agreement, for KD 54.4 million (\$180.7 million), in Amman to help finance the Samra Power Generating Station Project (Phase VII). The agreement was signed by HE Emad Najeeb Al Fakhouri, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and HE Abdullatif Yousef Al Hamad, Director General/Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Fund.

Morocco

Moroccan Office of Hydrocarbons and Mining (ONHYM) announced on 11 May 2015 some positive test results for the SAH-W1 well in the western-central area of the Sebou Permit, onshore Morocco. The well was drilled by Circle Oil Plc to a TD of 1263 meters MD in June 2014, with gas shows encountered at different levels within the target Guebbas sands. Well flows were 140000 cubic meters per day.

Malaysia

During the opening of the 18th Asia Oil and Gas Conference held recently in Malaysia, Malaysia's Prime Minister HE Mohammed Najeeb Abdul Razzaq said that the oil and gas sector in Asia is continuing to support the energy's future growth in spite of economic challenges and crises both on Asian and international levels. He mentioned that there was a continuously growing consumption of energy whether in Asia or the world. He added that the growing population of Asia by 33% in 1990, compared to 20% in the rest of the world, has contributed to the growth of the Asian economy by 6.9% in 2014, 3 times higher than the world's economic growth rate. He explained that China was the main contributor to the economic growth of Asia.

Indonesia

Indonesian President Joko Widodo has given the green light to his country to rejoin the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) after seven years of quitting the Organization.

HE Sudirman Said, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, said that his country needs to strengthen relations with all parties in the oil market. He explained that he will attend OPEC meeting on 3 and 4 June 2015. Indonesia is the only Southeast Asian member in OPEC. It joined the oil cartel in 1962 and withdrew in 2008.



Tables Annex



OAPEC AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOR THE YEAR 2016

Pursuant to its policy of encouraging scientific research by awarding two prizes on a biennial basis (First Prize KD 7000, Second Prize KD 5000, equivalent to USD \$24000 and USD \$17000), upon the resolution number 1/139 of OAPEC Executive Bureau at its meeting dated 12/10/2014. The Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) is pleased to announce that the research topic selected for the “OAPEC Award for Scientific Research for the Year 2016” is:

“Re-Refining of Used Lubricating Oils and its Economic & Environmental Implications”

Research Theme

OAPEC members’ increasing interest in re-refining of used lubricating oils comes in line with their efforts to improving the performance of oil industry, seizing the added value opportunities, and maximizing the utilization of their natural resources, in addition to enhance their compliance with the requirements of the legislation related to environment protection.

The following main issues are suggested for the research, to which the researcher is encouraged to add other suitable aspects:

- 1- **Historical overview of used lube oils re-refining processes.**
- 2- **Sources and evaluation of used lube oils.**
- 3- **Types of used lube oils re-refining processes.**
- 4- **Environmental implications of re-refining of used lube oils.**
- 5- **Economic viability of the re-refining process and its role in improving the added value of oil industry and natural resources conservation.**
- 6- **Examples and case studies of used oils re-refining projects worldwide and in Arab countries.**
- 7- **Conclusions and recommendations.**

Conditions for Submitting the Research

- 1- **The research may be submitted by one or more author(s). Institutions and organizations are excluded.**
- 2- **The research submitted must be new and original, and has not been granted an award previously.**
- 3- **The author(s) shall agree in advance to give OAPEC the right to print and publish the research in case his/her/their win one of the prizes. A signed statement to this effect must be submitted with the research (sample provided below). The author(s) will maintain all other rights, including patent rights (if applicable). OAPEC shall not exercise its right to publish the winning research for a period of six months commencing with the date of advising the winning author (s) with the decision of the Award Committee.**

- 4- A statement by the author(s), attesting that the research is original. Segments fully or partially adopted from other sources should be properly cited. A detailed list of all references used must also be attached.
- 5- Four hard copies and a digital copy of the research (either in Arabic or English) should be submitted, along with the Curriculum Vitae of each researcher, to the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries.
- 6- The deadline for submitting the research is 31st May, 2016. No submission will be accepted after that date.
- 7- Prizes are awarded to individuals of all nationalities advised of the Award Committee's decision.
- 8- **The award will not be presented twice consecutively to the same recipient.**
- 9- Any research that does not fulfill the above conditions shall be disregarded.

Researchers will be notified by OAPEC Secretariat of the Award Committee's decision. The winners will be officially announced at the end of the OAPEC's Ministerial Council in 2016.

For further information you may contact the OAPEC General Secretariat at:

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Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC)
OAPEC AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOR THE YEAR 2016

TOPIC

“Re-Refining of Used Lubricating Oils and its Economic and Environmental Implications”

Statement of relinquishment of printing and publication right for the research

I, undersigned:

.....

Hereby undertake to relinquish all printing and publications right of the research submitted by me entitled:

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to the Organization of the Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), in the event of winning one of the two prizes of OAPEC Award for Scientific Research for the year 2016.

Name:

Signature:

Date: / /