



JOINT STATEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Kingdom of Norway and the United States of America are both significant energy producers and among the global leaders in offshore energy development. Both Countries have considerable interests in the Arctic areas and recognize the Arctic Ocean as a unique ecosystem, where natural resources must be developed in a sustainable manner and in accordance with international law. Both Countries also believe in the need to develop renewable energy and cleaner fossil fuel technology in order to meet the challenges of climate change.

Based on these shared interests, the Kingdom of Norway and the United States of America seek to strengthen their energy dialogue through bilateral engagement and through the international organizations in the energy field of which both Countries are members. Furthermore, both Countries encourage enhanced cooperation among interested energy companies to conduct energy-related research to promote the development of cutting-edge, effective technologies for offshore exploration, development, safety, and response.

Consequently, the Minister of Petroleum and Energy of the Kingdom of Norway and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior recognize the following priorities for cooperation between the Kingdom of Norway and the United States of America:

- Should continue and develop the existing bilateral energy dialogue at the governmental level. Regular high-level meetings should be held between the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy and the U.S. Department of the Interior;
- Should seek to improve general cooperation and sharing of experiences and best practices within the areas of renewable energy, cleaner fossil fuel technology, and offshore oil and gas production, including resource management, safety, and oil spill preparedness;
- Should continue to contribute to further development of their existing industrial and scientific cooperation; and
- Should support the implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative by sharing best practices.

The Kingdom of Norway will seek to organize a meeting of the Ministerial Forum on Offshore Energy Safety, to be held in Norway in the summer of 2012, as a follow up to the Ministerial Forum on Offshore Drilling Containment hosted by Secretary Ken Salazar in Washington, DC on April 14, 2011.

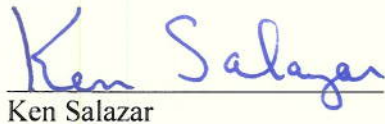
CLOSER CO-OPERATION IN THE HIGH NORTH

The undiscovered energy resources in the Arctic are believed to be significant. Because the Kingdom of Norway and the United States of America share a common interest in establishing favorable conditions for a comprehensive and sustainable development and management of these resources in the northern regions, we find it appropriate to:

- Facilitate the continuous exchange of information on issues related to responsible resource management and sustainable petroleum activities in the High North/Arctic;
- Systematically identify best practices for operation in Arctic conditions; and
- Employ an ecosystem-based approach to management of these resources that incorporates the terrestrial, coastal, and marine environments.

The Kingdom of Norway also intends to organize a meeting – the Arctic Energy Agenda – at the ministerial level in June 2012 to provide an appropriate forum between relevant energy ministers for discussion of issues related to sustainable petroleum/energy activities in the Arctic.

Secretary of the Interior
The United States of America


Ken Salazar

Minister of Petroleum and Energy
Kingdom of Norway


Ola Borten Moe

8 November 2011