Summary of the Ministerial Forum on Offshore Safety
Trondheim, Norway, June 27, 2012

Ministers and senior government officials of countries that are significant energy producers and leaders in offshore energy development convened a Ministerial Forum in Trondheim, Norway, on June 27, 2012. Participants included representatives from the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, United Kingdom, and the United States. The European Union participated as well.

Recognizing their shared interests to develop energy resources in a safe and sustainable manner, the participants in the forum affirmed the importance of their Ministerial-level dialogue—first convened on April 14, 2011 by the United States and again convened by the Kingdom of Norway today.

The forum participants agreed to meet again in 2013.

Offshore oil and gas production will continue to be a significant component of the world's energy portfolio for the foreseeable future, the safety of operations will continue to be a key priority for ministers with oversight responsibility for offshore oil and gas activities. The ministerial forum provided a setting for them to discuss all issues related to safe and environmentally-responsible offshore oil and gas exploration and production, including oversight and enforcement, containment and response practices and research and development and industry leadership for a culture of safety.

As part of a shared commitment to reduce the risks associated with offshore drilling and hydrocarbon production around the world, the forum participants emphasized the need to establish means of sharing data on incidents, including near-misses, as expeditiously as possible to maximize the opportunity to benefit from lessons learned and to identify and react effectively to industry-wide risks. They welcomed and supported the significant step that the International Organization for Oil and Gas Producers (OGP) had made to establish a global database of well control incidents and wished to monitor the uptake and effectiveness of this new mechanism at its next meeting.

Forum participants agreed that they would welcome presentations from industry, international organizations and other relevant entities at next year’s ministerial forum on topics such as:

- Containment strategies;
- Emerging trends from health and safety performance data;
- Examples of best practices for offshore safety;
- Progress with the development of international standards and guidelines for offshore safety;
- Mechanisms to share incident data;
- Report on recent serious incidents and their aftermath;
- Industry leadership for a culture of safety.

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Minister of Petroleum and Energy
Kingdom of Norway
June 27, 2012

Ken Salazar
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June 27, 2012