

Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF)

The GECF is an intergovernmental organization that provides a framework for exchanging experience and information among its member countries.

As the gathering of the world's leading gas exporting countries, the GECF seeks to build a mechanism for a meaningful dialogue between gas producers and consumers in order to improve the stability and security of supply and demand in gas markets around the world.

Creation of GECF

The origins of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) can be traced to the First Meeting of Ministers held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on May ۱۹-۲۰, ۲۰۰۱. This 1st Ministerial Meeting was convened by the Minister of Petroleum of Iran and was attended by the governments of Algeria, Brunei, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan and Norway (Observer).

Members:

The full-fledged Members of the GECF are:

Algeria, Bolivia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, I.R. Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, UAE and Venezuela.

Observers:

Angola, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Malaysia, Mozambique, Norway, Peru

With its current number of member countries, the GECF enjoys a dominant position on global energy markets and among international energy organizations. Together, the GECF member countries represent ۷۲% of the global proven gas reserves, ۴۴% of marketed production, ۵۱% of exports by pipeline and ۵۲% as LNG exports around the world.

Mission:

To shape the energy future as a global advocate of natural gas and a platform for cooperation and dialogue, with the view to support the sovereign rights of Member Countries over their natural gas resources and to contribute to global sustainable development and energy security.

Strategic Goals:

The Vision and Mission of the GECF are reflected in four Strategic Goals:

- Expand the role of natural gas in sustainable development, in the context of economic, social, and environmental progress;
- Promote fair value of natural gas;
- Advance modern technologies in the natural gas industry;
- Strengthen the international positioning of the GECF as a global platform for energy dialogue.

Governing and Specialized Bodies:

- The Ministerial Meeting
- The Executive Board
- Technical and Economic Council
- Special Envoy for Data and Statistics

Iran:

Iran is a founding member of the GECF, IEF, and OPEC; and a member of ECO, IMF, NAM, OIC, and the UN.

Iran's New Initiative:

Considering the global energy uncertainty and insecurity, H.E. Mr. Raisi President of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed new initiative (Natural Gas for Post Covid-19 Global Economy Recovery) in the Sixth Summit of Gas Exporting Countries Forum. Implementation of the initiative could help producers and consumers (exporting and importing countries) to mutually benefit from the new environment in the world energy markets.

Membership:

The GECF looks forward to welcoming new members that share the common interests and objectives of the GECF Statute.

Meetings:

- ۱ GECF Gas Summits
- ۲۴ ministerial meeting
- ۲۳ GECF Executive Board Meeting

Long-Term Strategy:

The GECF Long-Term Strategy provides a blueprint for a shared course of action for GECF member countries.

The Strategy reflects the common interests of GECF member countries, defines the vision and mission of the GECF, and sets forth its strategic goals and priority objectives.

The Strategy takes into account the importance of natural gas to the global economy, the multi-faceted changes that affect global gas market, and the challenges and opportunities that exist in the expansion of natural gas demand.

The second edition of the GECF Long-Term Strategy was approved by the 14th GECF Ministerial Meeting in Cairo, Egypt on 10 October 2022, during the tenure of Secretary General Eng. Mohamed Hamel.

The previous Long-Term Strategy was approved by the 19th GECF Ministerial Meeting in Moscow, Russia in October 2017.