



GECF



Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra

Fourth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the GECF Member Countries

November 24th, 2017
Santa Cruz de la Sierra
Plurinational State of Bolivia

**Natural Gas: Clean and Reliable Resource for Global
Sustainable Development**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra on November 24, 2017, according to the invitation extended by His Excellency Evo Morales Ayma, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to celebrate the Fourth Gas Summit of the GECF, in a spirit of solidarity and cooperation:

- i. Reaffirming the sovereign and absolute rights of Member Countries over their natural gas resources;
- ii. Recalling the Declarations of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Summits held in Doha, the State of Qatar (2011), Moscow, the Russian Federation (2013) and Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran (2015);
- iii. Recognizing the essential role of Natural Gas as a clean and reliable energy source for sustainable development and in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal N° 7, to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
- iv. Emphasizing the importance of Natural Gas in the global energy mix and in building climate resilient economies in line with the Paris Agreement;
- v. Recalling that the GECF Member Countries have the largest share of gas reserves and production capacity in the world, and emphasizing their role as reliable suppliers to satisfy global energy needs;
- vi. Underlining the importance of Natural Gas in enhancing energy security as well as of natural gas markets stability and security of supply and demand to ensure that sufficient investments through all the gas value chain are undertaken in a proper timing to meet increasing global demand;
- vii. Reaffirming the importance of cooperation and coordination among Member Countries for the development of research, information exchange and knowledge transfer and sharing of best practices in the gas industry, and welcoming the creation of the GECF Gas Research Institute in Algeria;
- viii. Reaffirming our intention to enhance the international positioning of the GECF as an effective inter-governmental organization engaged in promoting cooperation and constructive dialogue on issues related to the development of gas sector and favorable market conditions;
- ix. Highlighting the importance of fair value for natural gas resources, based on the sovereign right of Member Countries to define appropriate policies and regulations for the production and commercialization of Natural Gas;
- x. Expressing our deep concern about extra territorial application of laws and regulations and our objection to unilateral economic sanctions, in gas sector, and particularly against GECF Member Countries, that are not authorized by the relevant organs of the United Nations.

Resolve our common determination to:

1. Develop and implement policies for production and consumption of Natural Gas as a reliable, clean, efficient and vital source in the global energy mix, supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Promote the use of Natural Gas in its different forms and sectors, including energy production, transport and industry, for worldwide benefit and among all participants involved in the energy sector, through coordinated policies and strategies among the GECF Member Countries.
3. Highlight the joint effort of the GECF Member Countries to position Natural Gas as a fuel of choice and feedstock, and to attract investments in the natural gas value chain securing balance between prospective supply growth and demand, supporting stability of global gas markets and developing new Natural Gas markets.
4. Develop and implement coordinated policies and actions among GECF Member Countries to promote the long-term natural gas contracts necessary for financing natural gas projects.
5. Pursue equitable risk sharing approach to the issue of gas pricing mechanism with the linkage to the crude oil and its products to ensure a fair price for natural gas taking into account its advantages in terms of energy efficiency and environmental premiums.
6. Strengthen the GECF as a platform to plan, coordinate positions and advance both the profile and the cause of the Forum in the global energy context.
7. Promote and develop effective channels of dialogue between producers and consumers of natural gas, in coordination with regional and global energy organizations, in order to facilitate access to the global consumption of Natural Gas.
8. Strengthen and improve the analysis, technology transfer, training, research and development of the gas industry, through cooperation and coordination among GECF Member Countries, in particular through the Gas Research Institute in Algeria.
9. Promote policies and regulations that facilitate Natural Gas trans-border trade.
10. The Heads of State and Government welcomed to the proposal of Equatorial Guinea to host the 5th GECF Summit, in 2019.
11. The Heads of State and Government of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum extended their appreciation to His Excellency Evo Morales Ayma President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia for his magnificent leadership at the IV

Gas Summit of the GECF, as well as to his Government and the People of the Plurinational State of Bolivia for their warm hospitality.