



2024 US-ALGERIA ENERGY FORUM

Thursday September 19, 2024

THE POST OAK HOTEL, HOUSTON, TEXAS

On September 19, 2024, The US Algeria Business Council and the Bilateral Chamber of Commerce in Houston hosted the 17th edition of the US Algeria Energy Forum at the Post Oak Hotel in Houston, Texas.

The 2024 US-Algeria Energy Forum was an opportunity for Algeria and the United States to reaffirm its energy trade links. The energy industry is the most substantial sector of trade between Algeria and the United States. American companies operating in Algeria have a reputation for working closely with local communities, employing Algerian laborers and maintaining a visible and generous commitment to corporate citizenship projects throughout the country.

Approximately two hundred participants attended the forum. The USABC team under the leadership of Chairman David Wilhelm and the newly elected President & CEO, Samy Boukaila, received many compliments on the organization and layout of the forum.

On this occasion, we would like to recognize and thank our partner in Houston, the Bilateral Chamber of Commerce under the leadership of its CEO, Ms. Aida Araissi.

Industry experts, and USABC members were among the presenters at the 2024 US-Algeria Energy Forum

We had the honor to host the following Algerian officials led by the Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach Group: It was by far the largest Algerian delegation attending the US Algeria Energy Forum.

- Mr. Rachid HACHICHI, Chairman and CEO, Sonatrach
- Mr. Ferhat OUNOUGH, Vice-President Business Development & Marketing, Sonatrach
- Mr. Farid DJETTOU, Vice-President Exploration & Production, Sonatrach
- Mr. Belgacem MAYOUF, Vice President Commercialization, Sonatrach
- Mr. Youcef AMARA, Vice President Liquefaction & Separation, Sonatrach
- Mr. Youcef KHANFAR, Central Director of new Resources, Sonatrach
- Mr. Miloud MEDJELLED, General Director for the Hydrocarbon at the Ministry of Energy & Mines
- Mr. Mourad BELDJEHEM, President of ALNAFT
- Mr. Samir BEKHTI, Director at ALNAFT
- Mr. Azzedine TAIAR, ALNAFT
- Mr. Lounes ADOUR, ALNAFT
- Mr. Amine REMINI, ALNAFT
- Mr. Cherif MEGHAR, Protocol Director, Sonatrach
- Mr. Rachid Nadil, President of the Hydrocarbon Regulation Authority, Ministry of Energy & Mines
- Mr. Sofiane Ouffa, Director of International cooperation, Ministry of Energy & Mines
- Mr. Ammar NOUACER, Director of Production, Sonatrach
- Mr. Billel KALACHE, Director of Renewable Energies, Sonatrach
- Mr. Djamel DAHOU, Director of Eco/Model Studies, Sonatrach
- Ms. Naima BENHAMIDA, Director of GN/GNL, Sonatrach
- Mr. Mohamed MALLEK, Director TRF, Sonatrach
- Ms. Amel BAGHLI, Communication Director, Sonatrach
- Ms. Djanet GUELLAL, Chief Department Events, Sonatrach
- Ms. Zineb KHALDI, Manager in charge of Events, Sonatrach
- Ms. Nadia MAAZOUZA, Manager in charge of Communication, Sonatrach

Several US Oil & Gas companies, such as ExxonMobil, Chevron, Occidental Petroleum, Air Products & Chemicals, HGR Energy, Baker Hughes, Honeywell, and NESR.

Special thanks to the experts from S&P Global who attended and moderated the panels during the event. Another key feature of the US-Algeria Energy Forum was the networking opportunities for the participants. Nearly all the leading US energy companies were represented as well as the leading public and private Algerian energy companies. The forum provided an opportunity for frank discussion about business opportunities.



Samy Boukaila President and CEO of the US Algeria Business Council

Mr. Samy Boukaila, delivering his remarks

“It is my great pleasure as newly selected and appointed President and CEO of the US Algeria Business Council to welcome all of you to this important gathering, the 17th Annual edition of the US – Algeria Energy Forum. I also would take this occasion to thank our previous President and CEO, Dr. Ismael Chikhounne for the last 20 years of hard work, who retired this year.”



Aida Araissi President of the Bilateral Chamber, Houston Texas

Mrs. Aida Araissi, delivering her remarks

“The Bilateral Chamber along with US- Algeria Business council, has been conducting this event for 17 years now, a focal point whereby the professionals in the Energy sector meet with their Algerian counter parts, to build strong partnership that addresses today’s challenges. We are proud of the partnership we have with the USABC, and wish success to all attendees”



Mr. David Wilhelm, CEO of HGR Energy, Chair of the US-Algeria Business Council

Mr. David Wilhelm, delivering his remarks

“This has been an amazing year for the US-Algerian Business Council. We have led a consequential trade delegation of American business executives to Algiers. We have named a new CEO. We have witnessed the clear emergence of Algeria as a geopolitical force in North Africa. We have sponsored this strategically important energy conference. And we have watched with great interest the work of Sonatrach to position itself as a global leader in green hydrogen.

It is my great honor to bring forward the CEO of Sonatrach, Rachid Hachichi. After reading his impressive biography, I am forced to conclude that he is both younger and much smarter than I am!”



Mr. Rachid Hachichi, Chairman and CEO of SONATRACH

In his speech delivered on this occasion, the Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach Rachid Hachichi stressed Sonatrach's commitment to exploring new investment horizons, in the fields of hydrocarbons, renewable energies, hydrogen and energy efficiency.

He also recalled the advantages and incentives offered to investors by the Algerian law on hydrocarbons. It is in this context that the Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach, Rachid Hachichi, highlighted "the permanent commitment of Sonatrach to explore new horizons of investment, in particular in the fields of hydrocarbons, renewable energies, hydrogen and energy efficiency". It must be said that these unprecedented advantages have already contributed to setting up real bridges of cooperation between the two countries, like the memorandum of understanding established this year with ExxonMobil and Chevron for the development of hydrocarbon resources.



Mr. Rachid Hachichi, Chairman and CEO of SONATRACH

A deployment that is based essentially on the advances made and on the impact of the new investment provisions and the facilitation measures undertaken by Algeria to make a real opening in terms of partnership and development of FDI. Actions and orientations that have completely changed the economic landscape in Algeria, generating the signing of strategic cooperation contracts, in particular in the field of gas and oil exploration and production, but also in the launch of green hydrogen co-production bases.



Dr. Fouad Ferhat Commercial Attaché Embassy of Algeria

Dr. Fouad Ferhat, delivering Ambassador Boukadoum's Speech

“Algeria is renewed, with a new vision and direction under the leadership of his excellency president Abdelmadjid Tebboune, to make it the ideal destination for foreign direct investment, partnership and capacity building of its young population made of skilled labor. At the crossroad of Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Algeria is the future energy hub of the region, and Europe in particular, the gateway to Africa, and hence the ideal destination for your investments in the Energy sector comprising Oil & Gas, renewables and Green Hydrogen. A new investment law, and new hydrocarbon law in line with international standards make Algeria a country open for business”

During the forum, three round tables were organized on the sectors of oil and gas, renewable energies and the valorization of hydrocarbon resources.

The first session on the oil and gas industry saw the participation of the Vice-president of the Exploration & Production Activity, Farid Djettou. The latter reviewed the advantages of the hydrocarbon sector, particularly the success rates of exploration in the hydrocarbon sector, which are relatively high in Algeria compared to the international average, as well as the advanced infrastructure in the energy value chain in which Sonatrach invests about one billion dollars per year.



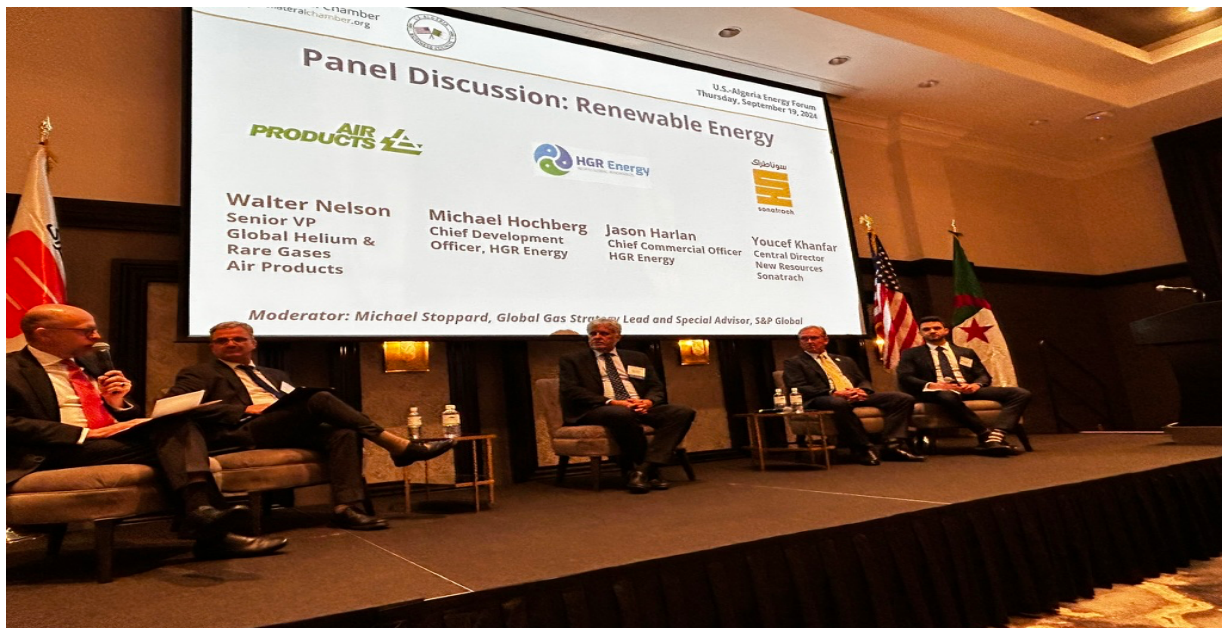
The Oil & Gas Exploration Pannel. Mr. Bob Fryklund, S&P Global- Mr. John Ardill, Exxon – Mrs. Liz Schwartz, Chevron - Murdoch Warren, Oxy- Farid Djettou, Sonatrach

Praising the Algerian law on hydrocarbons, Ms. Liz Schwarz, vice president of international exploration at Chevron, affirmed that it offers several advantages to investors, and described the investment in the hydrocarbon sector in Algeria as being very stimulating due to the existence of a solid infrastructure, in particular the intercontinental network of gas pipelines and LNG plants, which make it easy to market gas to Europe.



Murdoch Warren, Oxy- Farid Djettou, Sonatrach

For his part, Mr. John Ardill, ExxonMobil vice-president in charge of exploration and new opportunities, expressed his optimism about the collaboration with Sonatrach and ExxonMobil's determination to invest in the energy sector in Algeria for the long term, given the favorable oil tax regime that Algeria offers to investors. He also highlighted ExxonMobil's commitment to adopting best practices in environmental protection and minimizing its carbon footprint in its activities.



Mr. Michael Stoppard, S&P Global -Mr. Youcef Khanfar Sonatrach- Mr. Jason Harlan, HGR Energy- Mr. Walter Nelson, Air Product – Mr. Michael Hochberg, HGR Energy

Mr. Youcef Khanfar, central director of New Resources at the Sonatrach Group, highlighted Algeria's enormous potential in the field of renewable energies and the promising prospects in this field, noting Sonatrach's strategy to develop solar energy, wind energy in the highlands and southern regions of the country, as well as the ambitious green hydrogen development program in the medium and long term.

More than fruitful, the participation of the Sonatrach Group at the US Algeria Energy Forum in Houston helped to confirm the attractiveness of Algeria as an investment destination with a view to opening new horizons of development and growth, especially in the energy sector.



It goes without saying that this volume of partnership with the United States of America, an act the emergence of a new dynamic of cooperation and exchanges, conveys important development prospects, in terms of technology transfer and the strengthening of exploration and production capacities.

Of the same importance, the agreements signed with Chevron stem from the attractiveness of the arguments and the assets presented by Algeria on the international economic scene, through a reinforced presence in major economic events, especially in the field of energy.



A deployment and visibility that have not failed to consolidate Algeria's position on the international hydrocarbon market and an attractiveness that has led to the opening of new development and energy production routes, such as the SouthH2 Corridor project for the production and transport of green hydrogen to Europe.

This means the scope of the changes and advances recorded in the sector, reflecting a clear improvement in the business climate and the importance of Algeria's new capabilities to attract major investors in the field.



Mr. Miloud Medjelled, General Director of Studies & prospective at the Ministry of Energy and Mines

Mr. Miloud Medjelled, Delivering his speech

“Algeria today is open for Business in the Energy and Mines sector, with enhanced incentives and advantages given to investors. The new investment Law and the new Hydrocarbon law are set to be unrevised for a period no less than ten years, giving stability and predictability to investors. Many opportunities lay in the mining sector with large deposits of Oil & Gas, minerals, and rare earth to name a few. Renewable energies are also a very large opportunity for investors Algeria the largest country in Africa has amongst the best potential yields in Solar and Wind. We at the Ministry of Energy and Mines are available to attend and encourage ambitious investors to pursue these opportunities in the energy and mining sector.”



Mr. Mourad Beldjehem President of ALNAFT

Mr. Mourad Beldjehem, Delivering his remarks

“Algeria Oil & Gas exploration is below world average exploration rate, enormous untapped deposits in the Oil & Gas conventional and unconventional are available. ALNAFT seeks to encourage US Companies large and small to participate in the upcoming Bid round next November for the 6 Blocks that are tendered for exploration and production in partnership with Sonatrach to increase Algeria Oil & Gas Assets and share profits in a win win partnership.”



Mr. Timothy James, Owner/Partner of Elevate Leadership Group

Mr. Timothy James delivering his remarks as a guest speaker during the dinner.

Tim James, Treasurer of the US-Algeria Business Council and Managing Partner at The Elevate Leadership Group, addressed the audience at the forum, expressing gratitude to the event’s organizers. He thanked the bilateral chamber, the leadership at USABC—including Samy Boukaila and David Wilhelm—and Sonatrach CEO Rachid Hachichi for their commitment to strengthening U.S.-Algeria relations.

Tim spoke of the enduring partnership between the United States and Algeria, rooted in a longstanding history that began over two centuries ago with the Treaty of Amity and Peace in 1795. He highlighted the remarkable opportunities on the horizon to deepen this relationship and usher in a new era of cooperation and prosperity between both nations.

To further illustrate the warmth of the Algerian people, Tim recounted a memorable experience from his recent visit in January 2024. Despite a mishap with lost luggage at the airport, Algerians went out of their way to help him secure dress clothes in time for crucial meetings, treating him like family or a close friend. This story underscored the genuine hospitality and camaraderie he experienced firsthand.

In closing, Tim extended his thanks to all attendees and shared his enthusiasm for what lies ahead for USABC and the distinguished guests, looking forward to the continued growth and success of U.S.-Algerian relations

https://youtu.be/swX9Y1b5T5U?si=reeYX0ZfQ_uGJNfG

AGENDA

2:00 pm Registration, Post Oak Hotel Ballroom

2:30 pm Welcoming Remarks & Keynote Addresses

- Mr. Samy Boukaila, Newly Elected, President/CEO, USABC
- Ms. Aida Araissi, CEO of the Bilateral Chamber
- Mr. David Wilhelm, Chairman, USABC

Keynote Speaker (Emcee: Chairman Wilhelm)

- **Mr. Rachid HACHICHI**, President & CEO, Sonatrach

3:15 pm **Panel discussion on the Oil & Gas Sector:**

Exploration trends and how Algeria fit in providing supply both globally, regionally and domestically.

Moderator:

Bob Fryklund: Vice President and Chief Strategist Upstream, S&P Global

Panelists:

John Ardill, Vice President, Exploration and New Ventures, ExxonMobil

Liz Schwarze, Vice President, Global Exploration, Chevron

Simon Wood, Head of EMEA Gas & LNG Consulting. , S&P Global

Farid Djettou, Vice President Upstream, Sonatrach

Warren Murdoch, President of Algeria's Occidental Petroleum

4:15 pm **Panel discussion on Renewable Energy:**

The Renewable Panel will discuss the world trend in terms of renewable energy development worldwide, the challenges and the opportunities, with a focus on Algeria's ambitious development program, as well as Sonatrach strategy to become the major player in the value chain of renewable energy to the international and local industrial market in the coming years, i.e. green Electricity, Green H2.

Moderator:

Michael Stoppard: Global Gas Strategy Lead and Special Advisor,
S&P Global

Panelists:

Walter Nelson, Senior VP, Global Helium & Rare Gases, Air Products

Michael Hochberg, Chief Development Officer, HGR Energy

Jason Harlan, Chief Commercial Officer, HGR Energy

Youcef Khanfar, Central Director, New Resources, Sonatrach

5:15pm **“Valorization of Hydrocarbon Resources”**

Mr. Mourad BELDJEHEM, President, ALNAFT

Dr. Miloud MEDJELLED, General Director of Studies &
Prospective, Ministry of Energy

6-7pm Networking Reception

7-8:30pm Dinner: **Guest Speaker:** Timothy James, Owner/Partner of Elevate
Leadership Group



Mrs Aida Araissi – Bilateral Chamber & David Wilhelm – US-Algeria Business Council

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