

WORKSHOP ON “CARBON CREDITS POTENTIAL IN OIL AND GAS SECTOR”

11TH & 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

WELCOME ADDRESS BY SAADULLAH AYAZ. HEAD, CDM CELL

Bismillah er Rahman er Rahim

- Mr. Khizar Hayat Khan, Joint Secretary (IC) Ministry of Environment,
- Mr. Hilal Raza. D. G. Hydro- Carbon Development Institute of Pakistan,
- Brig. Jamil Hassan. Secretary PPEPCA,
- Distinguished guests, dear participants, ladies and gentlemen:

Assalam o’ Alaikum

I welcome you all to this workshop on “*Carbon Credits Potential in Oil and Gas Sector of Pakistan*”, organized by the Ministry of Environment in collaboration with Hydro- Carbon Development Institute of Pakistan and Pakistan Petroleum Exploration and Production Companies Association (PPEPCA).

The tremendous increase in the use of conventional fossil fuels has increased the level of Greenhouse Gases in the atmosphere, which is causing Global Warming and rapid changes in our climatic system. The negative impacts of these changes are already evident on every sector of economy and has become a major concern for Governments across the globe.

Ministry of Environment is the Designated National Authority (DNA) for CDM and is undertaking a number of initiatives for capitalizing carbon as tradable commodity from different carbon intensive sectors. This workshop specifically focuses on Oil and Gas Sector, which is a life- line of the national economy of Pakistan. It is believed that tapping the potential of carbon trading in this important sector will not only help earning additional revenue, but will also help the companies in this sector to comply with the National Environmental Quality Standards in addition to achieving the objectives of their corporate social values.

This workshop also aims at highlighting the benefits of developing CDM projects in oil and gas sector by providing a platform for potential project proponents to interact, understand and discuss the possibilities of tapping the carbon credits potential in oil and gas extraction, distribution and processing industry. It is for the first time that representatives from a number of oil and gas companies are invited to such an event. The role of PPEPCA for ensuring the presence of its member companies have helped us in doing so.

I would particularly like to mention that, a number of investors and CDM project advisory companies have also been invited. This unique representation will provide an opportunity to help the development of a competitive carbon market in Pakistan. I hope that this initiative will contribute significantly in obtaining the desired goals and will also help Pakistan in capturing a due share in global carbon market.

I may take this opportunity to thank the Secretary Environment and Joint Secretary, (International Cooperation) Ministry of Environment for their support for successfully organizing this event and also for his overall patronization, encouragement and support.

I want to thank PPEPCA for their participation and the Hydro- carbon Development Institute for providing technical support for organizing this very important workshop.

Finally, I welcome all the workshop participants and wish all of you fruitful deliberations and discussions and also hope that the desired objectives of this workshop will be achieved.

Thank you.