



**Opening Remarks By
Acting Director-General of the Department Energy
of the Republic of South Africa at the JODI
Energy Data Transparency Workshop
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Programme Director;

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Executives and senior officials from governments and private
sector in the energy sector;

Academics; and

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning,

It is with great honor for me to address you at this Joint Organisations Data Initiative (JODI) workshop on **Energy Data Transparency**” hosted by the Department of Energy South Africa together with IEF (International Energy Forum).

I would like to applaud and encourage the continuous participation of different countries on the efforts to ensure data transparency and promotion of quality data to enable a clear picture on how well our respective countries are doing in issues of oil and gas. Again, raising awareness among oil market players about the need for more transparency in the oil market data.

In South Africa, our energy planning and policy development is centred on availability of quality data from energy sector. Energy Planning is centred on three pillars;

1. *Electricity Master Plan*, commonly referred to as the Integrated Resource Plan,
2. The *Gas Master Plan* and the
3. *Liquid Fuels Master Plan*.

However, transparency does not happen overnight and despite the significant progress achieved since JODI's inception. It is very much crucial to realize how the quality, timeliness and completeness of data plays a role in data submissions.

Colleagues should note that JODI is an international ambition translated into action with the main objective of improving the quality and transparency of international oil statistics that are important for investments and energy security.

The initiative relies on the combined efforts of producing and consuming countries and the eight JODI partner organisations to build the data provision architecture which is a prerequisite for the delivery of timely, comprehensive, and sustainable energy statistics necessary to underpin stable energy commodity markets.

In this workshop, data custodians and statisticians will be trained to enhance JODI-Oil and JODI-Gas submissions and improve the overall data quality and energy data transparency in Africa. It will also be interesting for other relevant stakeholders in the energy space to have an understanding of JODI Oil and Gas data value chain in terms of data collection and conducting basic verification of data to avoid common reporting errors and share examples of real life practices.

From where we stand, submission of data to JODI monthly assist in improving the availability and reliability of oil data from the custodians and also ensuring that data is accessible to relevant stakeholders and role players in the energy space as when required, all thanks to the developed JODI database and reliable data which the custodians are submitting as required. In any case, the ongoing success of JODI relies on the sustained and active participation and support of all key actors.

The importance of exchanging data as a means to enhance transparency of global energy commodity markets is recognized by IEF Energy Ministers as being beneficial to energy security and in the interest of producers and consumers alike.

The initiative solely relies on the combined efforts of producing and consuming countries and the eight JODI partner organisations to build the data provision architecture, which is a prerequisite for the delivery of timely, comprehensive, and sustainable energy statistics necessary to underpin stable energy commodity markets.

I therefore hope and believe that with time, there will eventually be a complete and comprehensive database with good quality data, updated on a timely basis and providing an overview of the global oil situation.

Governments have to work together with industry, investors and the public to achieve all these co-benefits.

I thank you.