

Session: UN Opening of the second part of the Forum: Workshop Days

Organizers: United Nations

Target group: Opening session of the second day, open to all

The second day of the Eighth Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development will start with an UN opening by high-level UN representatives. The audience will be informed about the Fora series, and how the Eighth Forum builds upon the outcomes of the previous Fora in Baku, Yerevan, and Hammamet. Baku's Call for Action for commitments by ministers resulted in the Energy Ministerial discussions that took place on the first day of the Forum. The speakers will take reference to the outcomes of the ministerial round tables, and the relevance for the upcoming Forum Days.

Building upon the sequence of previous Fora, the Eighth Forum explores in greater depth what is meant by "sustainable energy" and what actions will be needed to put in action the commitments that were agreed by ministers. An introduction will be given to the various UN activities surrounding the Eighth Forum, organized by the five UN Regional Commissions, including the UN Day Dialogues on Energy for Sustainable Development, and the UN Pavilion at the Future Energy EXPO. Within the Forum, more than 10 UN organisations and many other international organisations come together to organize 30+ sessions to engage with energy experts on a range of topics related to sustainable energy.

As part of the One UN opening segment, two selected important topics will be discussed in more details during two Hard Talks on "Sustainable Energy of the 21st century – Government meets Industry". The first moderated panel discussion will focus on the Energy Transition for Sustainable Development, while the second hard talk focuses on the Interplay between Renewable Energy and Fossil Fuels.

Speakers:

- Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)
- Olga Algayerova, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Cihan Sultanoğlu, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (RBEC), UN Commissioner-General for EXPO 2017 in Astana

Chair:

- Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN ESCWA)