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December 2007 Number 2

- Press Conference in London



Herald Tribune





The Press Conference in London

London, 22nd October 2007, 11:00 local time in the "Foreign Press Association" at Hyde Park. The Press Manager of the Energy Watch Group, Ralph Kappler, has done a great job: more than twenty international correspondents as well as TV-teams from CNN and Sky are present.

After the initial moderation Jörg Schindler, one of the authors of the Oil Study, presents the results. The core messages "Peak Oil has already taken place" and "the descent of the oil production will be steep" electrifies the journalists. Hans-Josef Fell as a parliamentarian draws political conclusions: "Energy efficiency and the development of renewable energy sources must be accelerated in order to reduce the economic consequences of the foreseeable shortage".

Jeremy Leggett, formerly oil geologist for BP and Shell, government adviser and now head of the largest British solar company, Solar Century calls out to invest in renewable energies and to use the economic chances. The following question-answer dialogue is intensive right up to the end of the press conference. But Kappler has still more in store for this day. Now further interviews as well as operational meetings with British parliamentarians are announced:

- TV interviews from CNN and Al Jazeera with Hans-Josef Fell and Jörg Schindler,
- Radio interview with Hans-Josef Fell in the BBC Studio,
- Lunch with Gregory Baker, shadow Environment Minister of the Conservatives, who discussed the realization of the Renewable Energy Act with Hans-Josef Fell,
- Meeting with the parliamentarian John Hemming, leader of the British Peak-Oil Parliamentarian Group,
- Invitation to the House of Commons for a meeting of the British "Parliamentarian Group for Renewable Energies".

These meetings had consequences. In the "Prime Minister's Question Time" Gordon Brown, the British Prime Minister was asked difficult questions. Thereupon Brown again defended the "20 percent"-renewable-energy-aim, which British Government Lobbyists in Brussels had previously wanted to keep their distance from.



In front of an international audience at the press conference in London (from left): Jeremy Leggett, Ralph Kappler (Panel Moderator), Hans-Josef Fell, Member of the German Parliament, Jörg Schindler (author of the study).



After the press conference near the British Parliament (from right): John Hemming (MP), leader of the British Peak-Oil Parliamentarian Group, Hans-Josef Fell (Member of the German Parliament), Thomas Seltmann (Project Manager of the EWG), Ralph Kappler (EWG Press Manager).

Out of nothing the Energy Watch Group managed a break-through into international publicity, is a quotable institution for prominent media from the Middle East to the Far West and affects world energy policy.



Worldwide Media Echo I.

The Oil Report of the Energy Watch Group was reported in the media worldwide. The statements of our scientists were often quoted in connection with the reporting about the new World Energy Outlook of the IEA. Here and on the following page you can find a selection of the reporting media. Many of the reports can be read on the Internet. You can find the links on our Internet site www.energywatchgroup.org.

On YouTube you can see the studio discussion produced by Al Jazeera with the former BBC newscaster Darren Jordon with EWG study author Jörg Schindler and the oil expert Mamdouh Salama including a detailed background report.



Darren Jordon



Jörg Schindler

Mamdouh Salama





Worldwide Media Echo II.

Several of the media specified here reported in a prominent place on the Oil Study of the Energy Watch Group. "The Guardian" placed the report on the "Main News Page" and just like "Le Monde" printed the most important graph of the report, which you can see on page 5 of this bulletin. Here are some media with quotes and further media on the bottom right.

The Guardian "Steep decline in oil production brings risk of war and unrest, says new study"

Handelsblatt.Com "Withdrawal treatment"

Berliner Zeitung "Running dry sources, rising prices"

International Herald Tribune "Oil falls on poor Wall Street earnings"

Die Welt "Worldwide oil bottleneck threatens"

Le Figaro

"Nouvel élan pour Kashagan / Le groupe scientifique Energy Watch Group a publié un rapport sur le niveau de production mondial de pétrole, aujourd'hui lors d'une conférence à Londres"

tagesschau.de

"Oil production in Saudi Arabia / Expensive promotion in the 'empty quarter' "

Islamic Republic News Agency IRNA

"Meltdown in oil production risks war and unrest, study warns"

Le Monde

"Selon une étude d'Energy Watch Group, l'extraction de l'or noir serait sur une pente déclinante / La moitié des réserves pétrolières seraient épuisées"

Tages-Anzeiger Zürich

"Will oil diminish much faster than expected?"

Pakistan Daily Times

"Global oil supply: 'Dramatic' decline to follow the all-time high"

theguardian



WDR

Handelsblatt





NBC Television BBC World Tonight BBC Radio British Satellite Television New Zealand Radio

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Bloomberg

Radio Canada

Les Echos (FR)



Extract from the Oil Report

A steep decline in the production of oil

The worldwide oil production exceeded its climax – "Peak-Oil" - in 2006. Delivery will be halved in the next two decades. While the industry data bank HIS (2006) estimates the remaining world oil reserves at 1,255 Gigabarrels there are sound reasons for the Energy Watch Group to correct this amount by a third to 854 Gigabarrels. The scientists base their analyses mainly on the production data, which are easier to follow and are also more reliable than the partly politically influenced data on oil reserves. Other fossil, atomic or alternative sources will hardly be able to close the provision gap as quickly as needed. Therefore the world is facing a structural change in the economic system. This change begins with a decreasing provision of fossil fuels and will influence almost all aspects of daily life. Shortly after the publication of the Oil Report of the Energy Watch Group EWG the International Energy Agency IEA presented its World Energy Outlook, also in London. Therein the up to then always optimistic institution likewise warns of a possible shortage of the oil reserves.

The IEA thereby joins the large group of prominent warners with King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, the largest oil producer in the world out in front: "The oil boom is over and will not return. We will all have to get used to a different lifestyle." So also the former US-Defense and Energy Minister as well as CIA director James Schlesinger at an oil conference in Cork in Ireland in September: "The battle is over, the Peak-Oil protagonists have won."



Oil production worldwide according to regions

The graph shows the previous and the expected oil production according to regions. The red line on the top right shows the demand forecast of the IEA from the published World Energy Outlook WEO published in 2006.

ENERGYWATCHGROUP

"Fundamental Geological Restrictions"

Statements from Prominent Experts

Sadad Al-Huseini, former vice president and head of the departments for Exploration and Production of the Saudi state oil company, Aramco: In an interview with the British journalist, David Strahan, which attracted attention, Al-Huseini blames the present high oil prices on "fundamental geological restrictions". Saudi Arabia cannot increase the production - as expected from the IEA and other international organisations - and cannot therefore balance out the falling off in production from other delivery regions. This statement from Al-Huseini has a special meaning because the actual amount of the oil reserves and the possible oil production of the most important producer in Saudi Arabia is treated as a state secret.

US-President George W. Bush on 7th November 2007:

"I believe oil prices are going up because the demand for oil outstrips the supply for oil. Oil is going up because developing countries still use a lot of oil. Oil is going up because we use too much oil, and the capacity to replace reserves is dwindling. That's why the price of oil is going up."

Christophe de Margerie, CEO of Total:

"The world's capacity to produce oil will fall well short of official forecasts."

Tony Hayward, CEO of British Petroleum:

"Every geopolitical event causes a spike in the price [in oil], but these spikes only happen because the underlying market is itself tight. For the medium term, the era of cheap energy is behind us."

Jim Mulva, CEO of ConocoPhillips on 8th November 2007:

"Oil and gas production fell at all of the largest publicly traded oil companies in the third quarter, as aging oil fields, declining access and soaring costs for drilling services took their toll on output. I don't think we're going to see the supply go over 100 million barrels a day. Where is it all going to come from?"





Sadad Al-Huseini

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ENERGYWATCHGROUP

The New Website of Energy Watch Group

www.energywatchgroup.org is the new portal for objective information as required by energy policy. Here you can find among other things the complete texts of the EWG studies and further materials from our work.



Energy policy needs objective information. Objective information needs independence. Therefore support the work of the Energy Watch Group. Your donation will reach us via the Ludwig Bölkow Foundation, Account No. 404 969 39 at the Hypovereinsbank, Sortcode 70020270, IBAN DE39700202700040496939 SWIFT (BIC) HYVEDEMMXXX

Addendum to the Uranium Study

In the specialized newspaper "VDI-Nachrichten" a large sized contribution from Hans-Josef Fell appeared on this topic. You can find the Internet link to the complete text under "Media Review" on our website.



Headline: "No trace of a renaissance of nuclear energy"

Imprint

The Bulletin of the Energy Watch Group appears irregularly

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