

Hydrogen Side Event: 2019 IEA Ministerial
Hydrogen: near-term priorities for governments and industry
Chairs' summary

1. The Hydrogen side event of the 2019 International Energy Agency (IEA) Ministerial Meeting was chaired by Mr. Yohei Matsumoto, State Minister of Economy, Industry and Trade of Japan, and H.E. Eric Wiebes, Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy of the Netherlands, in Paris on 5 December 2019 under the theme ***“Hydrogen: near-term priorities for governments and industry”***. In total, the event gathered 80 participants from 22 countries and 15 companies.
2. The meeting discussed the critical role of hydrogen as a key contributor to clean energy transitions. Many governments highlighted that they are developing long-term hydrogen strategies, which is important to guide real-world investments. Japan’s leadership in putting hydrogen on the G20 agenda and launching a Global Action Agenda in the Hydrogen Energy Ministerial this year was welcomed by all participants.
3. Participants welcomed the IEA’s growing contribution to hydrogen, including the landmark study on “The Future of Hydrogen”. The next ten years are critical for the scale-up of the production and use of hydrogen, and there was broad support to the IEA’s recommendation for concrete near-term actions where appropriate, namely projects to use clean hydrogen in industrial sectors in ports while linking this to new potential sources of demand such as trucks, trains and ships that serve the logistical system in those ports; blending clean hydrogen into existing gas infrastructure by setting concrete blending targets for hydrogen; supporting the use of hydrogen in high mileage cars and trucks to help drive down costs of fuel cells; and starting international hydrogen trade.
4. Emphasizing the importance of international collaboration for the deployment of hydrogen, participants agreed that there is a need to support R&D to bring down cost; harmonise regulations, standards and codes to deploy hydrogen technologies; and explore and establish clean hydrogen certificates. Participants also echoed the need to encourage the formation of public-private partnerships, including the financial sector, to enhance the investability and bankability of moonshot projects that can accelerate the scale-up of clean hydrogen supplies and hydrogen demand across the world. The role of multilateral banks was also emphasized in this regard.
5. Recognizing clean energy technology work as a foundation of the IEA’s mandate, the IEA’s unparalleled analytical capacities and convening power, and the importance of its Technology Collaboration Program to foster international RD&D, participants agreed that the IEA has a key role to play in advancing international collaboration on hydrogen.¹
6. Participants expect that the IEA will further continue the study and analysis on hydrogen, including on the potential of hydrogen towards a low-emissions energy sector and establishing milestones that guide the global efforts to unlock the potential of hydrogen. IEA should play a

¹ In close coordination with other international initiatives such as CEM, HEM, IPHE and MI



key role in supporting countries and other stakeholders in developing their national hydrogen roadmaps, and in tracking progress in their achievements.