

Registration now open for APPO Cape VII Congress and Exhibition conference

The African Petroleum Producers Organisation (APPO) and its member countries call for unity, cooperation and reform amongst oil producers ahead of the Cape VII Congress and Exhibition, which will take place from 1-5 April 2019 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, under the theme *Pathways to Shared Prosperity in the African Petroleum Industry*.



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APPO is inviting all interested companies and organisations to participate in the gathering of oil and gas government and private sector leaders in Africa in 2019, with ministerial speakers from all African oil producing nations. Registration for the event is now open.

"We invite the global oil and gas industry to participate in this historic conference. Cape VII is like the Olympics of African oil and gas, it's a time when the world comes together," said Mahaman Laouan Gaya, APPO secretary general. "Africa needs unity and synergy in all sectors of its economies to boost growth. When we unite, it is easier to collaborate."

Taking place against a backdrop of greater African involvement the conference will highlight regional cooperation and aims to promote alliances in African energy.

The event also shines a spotlight on key regional energy projects and initiatives such as Equatorial Guinea's Gas Megahub, which will link domestic and cross-border gas projects; Equatorial Guinea's LNG2Africa, which is promoting intra-African gas trade; Sudan and South Sudan's cooperation on restarting oil production; licensing rounds in Nigeria, Gabon and the Republic of Congo; and key economic and investment reforms in Angola.

Regulatory and policy reforms needed

APPO is currently undergoing reforms focused on creating a united African front on the global energy stage. The organisation seeks to increase regional cooperation on upstream projects, infrastructure, refineries and other major projects. It also aims to attract more members as African countries make significant oil and gas discoveries, while growing their reserves.

"Regulatory and policy reforms are needed on a case-by-case basis. Countries like Ghana, Senegal and Mozambique have some of the most attractive and competitive market conditions in the world. Additionally, Africa has proven itself as a host of mega discoveries with a wealth of untapped and undiscovered potential." said Gaya.

APPO Cape VII takes place during Equatorial Guinea's Year of Energy, a series of events promoting Africa's energy potential and positioning Malabo as a continental energy centre. "Equatorial Guinea has a distinguished track record as a host country for events of continental importance, and this APPO meeting will be momentous," said H.E. Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima, Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons of Equatorial Guinea, host of the conference.

Speakers at APPO Cape VII include the ministers of petroleum of Algeria, Angola, Benin, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan and Sudan. The private sector is represented by international oil companies including ExxonMobil, Shell, Marathon Oil, Noble Energy, Kosmos Energy, Trident Energy, South Africa's CEF Group, and GE Baker Hughes.

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