

# JOINT OIL DATA INITIATIVE

## Newsletter



**Welcome** to the second issue of the JODI Newsletter. Thank you very much for all the positive comments on the first issue. The six organizations (APEC, EUROSTAT, IEA, OLADE, OPEC and UNSD) and the IEFS are continuing to focus their effort on the forthcoming public release of the JODI World Database. The Review Committee is making solid progress in its assessment of the JODI data quality. Participating countries have already been solicited by the organizations to provide additional information. We are aware that the volume of requests for incremental or clarifying information entails a lot of additional work for participants. Nevertheless, full and active

participation and co-operation by all countries involved in the initiative is an essential element in the process of assessing JODI data accurately. To reinforce this effort an independent oil analyst has been recruited to work closely with the Review Committee. As already mentioned in the previous issue, much has been achieved since the launch of the JODI, but sustained effort is required to maintain momentum and reach the next level - a lot remains to be done.

### In this issue:

- Welcome	1
- What Happened in March?	1
- Did you know?	2
- The Review Committee	3

### What Happened in March?

*At the six organizations:* On 16 March, the **IEA Secretariat** gave a presentation on JODI to delegations of the IEA Standing Committee on the Oil Market. The presentation comprised of three main elements: an activity update for the preceding 6 months, the programme of work for the following 6 months, and a strong call for IEA member countries to remedy any outstanding data problems before the official release of the database. The presentation was well received by the participants.

*Workshop on Energy Statistics with a Special Focus on Oil Statistics, Nigeria on 14 – 18 March 2005:* the workshop which was organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (**UNSD**) and the Economic Community of Western African States (**ECOWAS**), in close cooperation with the International Energy Agency (**IEA**) was attended by participants from central statistics offices and energy agencies and departments of selected ECOWAS countries: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. The objective of the workshop was to familiarize participants with concepts and methods of energy statistics and indicators with special emphasis on the monthly oil data initiative (JODI), to provide a forum for exchange of information on the status of national energy statistics and to discuss the possibility of further improvement of energy statistics in the region. The workshop also aimed to strengthen the

national statistical system in the participating ECOWAS countries and to promote inter-regional cooperation among them. The workshop was a success and welcomed by countries.

At the IEFS: The installation/development of an in-house database system has commenced. It is being implemented with the specific aim of facilitating our forthcoming role as host of the JODI World Database (see *Did you know?* for further information). Furthermore, in the April issue of the IEFS Newsletter, available on our web site ([www.iefs.org.sa](http://www.iefs.org.sa)), a section on the JODI initiative has been included.



Model of the IEFS Headquarters in Riyadh. Completion: summer 2005

## **Did you know?**

### **JODI database and web site**

The IEFS in its coordinating role in the Initiative will maintain the JODI World Database and the JODI website. Currently, and on behalf of the organizations, the database and the website are maintained by the IEA and OPEC respectively.

For technical reasons, the IEFS will take over the maintenance of the JODI website from OPEC when it moves into its new premises this summer.

Regarding the maintenance of the JODI database, the IEFS signed a contract, at the end of March, with an IT consultancy and the installation/development of a database system is already underway.

This operation should result in a seamless transfer of responsibilities with no material impact on the users/providers of JODI data. Participating countries will continue to submit the JODI questionnaire to their respective organizations and JODI data users will continue to enjoy the current features of the database that enable them to quickly access and view data from different perspectives.

One benefit of the browser used to display the JODI data is that it allows users to consult metadata, to select and filter user-defined views, to search for specific data, to export data in multiple formats and to visualize data through interactive charting.

### **Oil analyst**

The Review Committee members have already started the assessment of the quality of JODI data. In order to help them in this mammoth task and to ensure the impartiality of the assessment, the organizations have identified and hired an independent oil analyst that will bring additional oil expertise to the Committee.

The oil analyst will start mid-April and be based in the IEFS premises in Riyadh. He will work closely with the Committee to assure the quality and impartiality of the assessment, the structure that underpins the database, and the timely delivery of a fully operational JODI World Database.

## The Review Committee

The role of the Review Committee (RC) is to assess the quality of the JODI data. The RC comprises representatives of each organization (one statistician plus one oil analyst when possible). The Committee is chaired by the IEFS.

In order to assess the quality of the JODI data, the six organizations (APEC, EUROSTAT, IEA, OLADE, OPEC and UNSD) are continuing to collect comparative data from secondary sources, which the IEFS then feeds into a separate database for analysis.

Improving the quality of the JODI data also means improving the completeness, coverage and timeliness of the data submissions. That is why the six organizations have already sent a first set of queries to their participating member countries, asking them for missing JODI questionnaires, missing data points and clarifications on “out of range” data points.

Conversion factors are one possible source of error. Indeed participating countries are given the option of choosing their unit when they fill in the JODI questionnaire: data are therefore reported in litres, tons and/or barrels. So the RC is now checking the conversion factors applied against the submitted data and is contacting the participating countries to confirm their accuracy, where necessary.

This first step in the assessment of the quality of JODI data submissions has already demanded a stronger involvement by the participating countries in the Initiative. So far countries have responded positively to this need. Many issues have

now been resolved through this heightened commitment. Nevertheless it is not the end of the process and a lot remains to be done.

In a second step, the RC will compare the JODI data submissions of each country with secondary data sources. To that purpose the six organizations and the IEFS have already identified and hired an independent oil analyst (see *Did you know?* for further information). The RC will also ensure that each country submitting the JODI questionnaire is well briefed on appropriate methodologies, and that all definitions are well understood and applied.

For the last few weeks, you, the participating countries, have been asked to contribute more to the Initiative and you will be asked for even greater efforts and continued support in the future. The Review Committee and the Organizations cannot improve the quality of the JODI data without your help.

So we count on all of you!

### Contact List

IEFS: Mr. Kazuo Kawahara  
[kazuo.kawahara@iefs.org.sa](mailto:kazuo.kawahara@iefs.org.sa)  
EUROSTAT: Mr. Pekka Loesonen  
[pekka.loesonen@cec.eu.int](mailto:pekka.loesonen@cec.eu.int)  
APEC: Mr. Shigeru Kimura  
[kimura@edmc.iecej.or.jp](mailto:kimura@edmc.iecej.or.jp)  
IEA: Mr. Jean-Yves Garnier  
[jean-yves.garnier@iea.org](mailto:jean-yves.garnier@iea.org)  
OLADE: Mr. Alejandro Villarreal  
[avillarreal@olade.org.ec](mailto:avillarreal@olade.org.ec)  
OPEC: Dr. Muhammad Al-Tayyeb  
[tayyebma@opec.org](mailto:tayyebma@opec.org)  
UNSD: Mr. Karoly Kovacs  
[kovacs@un.org](mailto:kovacs@un.org)  
Newsletter: Mr. Bruno Castellano  
[bruno.castellano@iefs.org.sa](mailto:bruno.castellano@iefs.org.sa)

<http://www.oil-data-transparency.org>