

Speaking points Industry and Petroleum session - topic CCAC  
- 15:30-16:20  
Helge Lund, CEO, Statoil

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Your Excellencies, distinguished Partners, Ladies and Gentlemen.

This summit is happening because fighting climate change is urgent.

We all know that fossil fuels will provide a substantial part of the energy needed to secure growth and prosperity for decades to come.

We also know that we can achieve this, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

This however will require new policies, new innovation and not the least - action through effective partnership between government, business and civil society.

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The United Nations is where it can happen.

That is why Statoil is here today, to pledge our support for action.

Earlier today I talked about one of the most forceful actions - a global framework that puts an effective price on carbon.

Now, I'd like to focus on Gas, and methane.

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One of our most important contributions to solving the climate challenge is producing natural gas.

It's available, affordable and reliable.

Replacing coal with gas in power generation is a simple way of halving emissions.

But in production of natural gas, methane can escape through leakages, venting or flaring.

Methane (as we just heard) is a climate pollutant that's short lived - but its impacts are far reaching.

As a significant source of global methane emissions, the oil and gas industry must play a leading role in addressing this issue.

That's why I am pleased to announce today that Statoil is joining the Climate and Clean Air Coalition's Oil and Gas partnership - together with governments from the US, UK, France, Mexico, Nicaragua and Norway - along with the Environmental Defense Fund and the United Nations Environment Programme.

We strongly believe this coalition can make a difference. It is a partnership for those seeking to take the lead in our industry.

By systematically monitoring, reducing and publicly reporting on methane emissions, we pave the way for substantial improvement and progress.

I hope other leading oil and gas companies will join us and that other industrial sectors will follow our lead. For Statoil, it is an important part of meeting our objective: to be the most carbon efficient oil and gas producer in the world.