



Ministers;

Ambassadors and Heads of Diplomatic Missions;

Mr. Secretary of the World Energy Council; Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen

I've been granted the honor to speak on behalf of the Energy Department of the Democratic Republic of Congo, on the occasion of the Workshop hosted by the World Energy Council about Inga's financing.

First of all, I want to thank not only on behalf of the Energy Department, but also on behalf of the whole Government of the Democratic of Congo, the World Energy Council for all the initiatives that the WEC does undertake regarding the Inga project.

The energy issue has become, for some years now, a major challenge for most countries of our planet.

Massive investments are necessary to develop existing infrastructures and the ones to build. In a context in which demand increases more rapidly than supplies and in which the oil and gas prices are most of the time increasing, the accessibility to energy resources generates more and more political and strategic competition.



Technological innovations will be essential to put to best use renewable and fossil energies. But it becomes obvious that the latter are not inexhaustible and that the Planet development has now reached its limits of environmental viability.

Today, oil, gas and coal are the main values of the energy bill of practically all the countries, therefore causing the global warming to become faster and faster.

To deal with the legitimate concerns based on the available reserves of non-renewable energies and on the climatic change, resorting to renewable energies becomes more than a necessity, but, indeed, a requirement. And hydro-energy remains the main renewable source of power production.

The Democratic Republic of Congo has at its disposal a huge hydropower potential, of which the economically exploitable part is assessed to 100,000 MW.

On this potential, around 45%, that is 45,000 MW, are localized on the sole Inga site, this latter thus being one of the main merging of global energy, together with Three Gorges in China (± 18.000 MW), ITAIPU in Brazil ($\pm 15,000$ MW) and James Bay, in Canada ($\pm 12,0000$ MW).

If these three sites are already developed, it is not the case for Inga, where only the Inga 1 and Inga 2 plants exist, using less than 5% of the whole potential (± 1.775 MW on 45.000 MW).

With a potential spread through the whole Congolese territory, it is economically more rational to exploit the inland sites to feed the small local demands. So, the Inga site has a vocation to export and to supply the big industrial complexes of our country in power energy.

To deal with this, the Democratic Republic of Congo has specified a clear vision for developing Inga Site, i.e. "considering the increasing deficit slowing down the economical systems of African countries and facing the enormous development needs of the country, Inga's development must bring growth for the whole region and wealth for the whole Democratic Republic of Congo by using this clean, renewable and cheap energy."

The Inga's Development Plan is design in three steps:

1. The building of Inga 1 with an established power of 351 MW and Inga 2 for 1,424 MW by using the Nkokolo Valley.
2. The building of Inga 3 for 4,300 MW, by widening the same valley.
3. The building of Great Inga, producing 39,000 MW with a dam on the whole river upstream and the use of the MBUDI Valley.

This gradual plan of equipment gives Inga a unique flexibility for performing the building according to power demand increase and opportunities of investments raising.

As for Inga 1 and 2 hydropower plants, they have been built respectively in 1972 and 1982.



As of today, considering their current damage state, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo has raised investments for restoring the 14 turbines of Inga 1 and 2.

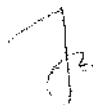
Since April, 2nd of 2008, the donation agreement of US\$ 297 millions, signed between the World Bank and the RD Congo, has come into force to restore 10 turbines, 6 in Inga 1 and 4 in Inga 2. As for the 4 remaining Inga 2 turbines, the National Company for Power (SNEL) is undertaking the restoration within the scope of public/private partnerships.

In other words, the Democratic Republic of Congo already has raised the required money to restore all the machines of these two hydroelectric units.

As for the Inga 3 project, the Democratic Republic of Congo is informing you that it already has at its disposal, since February 28th, 2008, studies of pre-feasibility set out by SNC LAVALIN and also that the African Bank for Development is saying to be ready to finance, as up as US\$ 15 millions, the feasibility studies on Inga 3 and Great Inga.

It is also important to outline that planning to build an aluminum plant in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the BHP BILLITON Company has signed a financial agreement to finance Inga 3 studies.

Whether within the scope of VVESTCOR, of the regional energy pools or bodies working in the energy sector, the Energy Department of the Democratic Republic of Congo always has hailed its partners' efforts.



Nevertheless, the Congolese Government is willing to keep its leadership on the Inga's development. A strategy has been worked out for this by the Energy Department and, waiting for the final decisions about this strategy, any commitment of the Government on this subject is impossible.

The energy sector brings growth and reduces poverty. Thus, the necessity to develop Inga, which needs huge investments.

Here is not the place to create any structure, to raise any investment, but the Democratic Republic of Congo wishes to recall that the energy sector is liberalized and that a meeting will soon be set up in Kinshasa, with every actor interested in the Inga's development, to inform them of its vision, as well as the strategies, efficient purposes and plans of Inga development, taking into account opportunities on the short, middle and long terms.

During this very meeting, it will call for raising investments to build these two big works, Inga 3 and the Great Inga.

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Such are, in a few words, the meaning and trends that the Congolese Government intends to give to the current Forum.

Once more, the Democratic Republic of Congo wishes to express all its gratitude to any entrant in this workshop, who, by travelling to London, expresses his interest for Inga development.

Thank you to everyone.

Made in Kinshasa, on the
Salomon BANAMUHERE BALIENE

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