

**Comments of the Secretariat of the Organization of the Petroleum  
Exporting Countries on the Draft United Nations Framework  
Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources 2008**

17<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

The Secretariat of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC Secretariat) is pleased to offer the following comments on the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources 2008 (UNFC-2008):

1. *The OPEC Secretariat sees the UNFC as generic terminology, which would allow easy translation and better understanding among existing and future classifications and across commodity boundaries, through appropriate mapping modules. It stresses that there are, and should continue to be, various and different classification systems, responding to various and specific needs.*
2. *This entails that, in addition to the set of UNFC definitions that are generic and principle-based, mapping to existing and future classifications is key, as has been done with the SPE and the CRIRSCO classifications. Therefore, it is worth referring to the document prepared by the Mapping Task Force within the UNFC-2008 text.*
3. *Mapping modules should be developed and maintained by the relevant bodies of the classification (Classification) which the UNFC is mapped to, using the specifications and guidelines of the said Classification. Therefore, the OPEC Secretariat sees no need to develop specifications and guidelines for the revised UNFC.*
4. *From the foregoing, the OPEC Secretariat is of the opinion that the current structure of the AHGE is adequate and there is no need to develop a different governance structure.*
5. *The OPEC Secretariat recommends that, like the UNFC-2004, the UNFC-2008 should be submitted to the UN ECOSOC.*
6. *The Secretariat disagrees with the proposal to eliminate the use of the term “reserves”.*
7. *There is no need to have two sub-classes for “Development Pending”, namely “economic” or “marginal”.*
8. *The G4 category needs to be expanded to account for a range of uncertainty in the estimation.*

The OPEC Secretariat's comments above shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (i) The comments are not exhaustive and the OPEC Secretariat reserves the right to provide additional comments or revise or modify these comments,
- (ii) The provision of these comments should not be considered in any way as the Secretariat approving all or part of the UNFC-2008 document, and
- (iii) These comments are OPEC Secretariat comments and do not necessarily reflect OPEC Member Countries' opinion or position and should not in any way limit their rights to make any further comments.

The OPEC Secretariat appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.