

***France-Israel Dialogue on:
Sustainable Energy Options***

4-5 July, 2010

The Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies

20 Radak St., Rehavia, Jerusalem

Issues and Questions for Discussion

Session 1

Energy, Environment and Geopolitics

- Does Israel's accession to the OECD and consequently its status as a developed country, with obligations to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, affect the choice of fossil fuels for electricity production?
- Is nuclear energy an environmentally acceptable option for energy security and for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions?
- Can Israel consider nuclear energy without reconsidering its position in relation to the NPT?
- Could a nuclear power station offer an opportunity for cooperation in the region?
- If Israel becomes an energy exporting country as a result of the recent discovery of large natural gas reserves, what implications may this have on geopolitics?
- Will the basis for electricity production in Israel change as the result of the recent discoveries of offshore natural gas.
- Will the Gulf of Mexico BP oil spill have implications on regulations on offshore oil and gas production in the region

Session 2

Promoting innovative technologies for low carbon economies and cities

- How can governments effectively intervene to promote innovative technologies for low carbon and promote them in international markets?
- How can ICT be harnessed for achieving low carbon economies?
- Are government incentives for solar rooftop units (PV) an effective way for promoting low carbon innovative technologies in Israel?
- Should measures in Israel focus on reducing dependence on oil and increasing energy independence or on reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

Session 3

Sustainable energy options

- In view of Israel's obligations as a developed country and in the light of the discovery of offshore natural gas, will Israel change its policy concerning 50% coal as a base for electricity production?
- Is nuclear energy sustainable?
- Can oil shale reserves be considered an option for sustainable energy supply?
- Can solar energy provide a sustainable energy solution in countries with high solar radiation without causing loss of biodiversity and an unreasonable demand for space?
- Can energy conservation and efficiency significantly reduce the need for added generating capacity?