5th Central European Gas Congress

Prague 11 to 12 September 2012 Congress Resolution

The Central European Gas Congress is held each year as a joint cooperation event of the Visegrad group V4 gas associations. Already five years ago the representatives of gas sector in Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia realised the necessity to have a closer cooperation and exchange of experiences between their gas associations, focusing primarily on the following fields: natural gas supplies, interconnection of gas markets, development of gas infrastructure, and coordination of common activities in the area of European energy legislation. Based on the results of the five year cooperation so far, which is currently under a single, already intergovernmental umbrella, we confirm our determination to continue this cooperation further on as well.

- 1. On 31.12.2011, the Hungarian Gas Association put an end to its activities. Despite original expectations, no follow-up organisation has been created so far. We therefore appeal to the respective decision-makers in the Hungarian gas industry and economy, asking them to use their influence to facilitate the establishment of a new Hungarian gas industry umbrella organisation. We will appreciate having representatives of the Hungarian gas workers again in the family of the V4 countries gas experts.
- 2. This year the World Gas Conference was held in June, in Kuala Lumpur, under the slogan: "Gas: Sustaining Future Global Growth". Participants of the 5th CEGC are convinced that provided in its energy future the Europe will rely on the following three pillars: security of energy supplies, competitiveness, and sustainable environment; no other fuel meets Europe's expectations more efficiently than the natural gas. Gas has to play an important and stabilising position in the energy mix of all V4 countries as an easily available, reliable, efficient and safe energy resource. We therefore encourage all our members to continue in their activities under the Gas Advocacy Program, organised by International Gas Union (IGU)
- 3. The V4 gas associations support the construction of a North-South interconnecting pipeline, crossing all V4 countries between the Polish and Croatian gasification terminals, which will enhance the security of gas supplies in Central Europe. The gas sectors of participating countries will be proactively involved in the preparation and implementation of individual partial projects, comprising the overall corridor project.
- 4. The V4 member have got a clear vision for the European gas market. It should function in order to benefit individual consumers and industrial stakeholders. Gas market should be free and open. The Central European gas sector is facing a permanent challenge dependency on the import of Russian natural gas. We shall therefore constantly focus on new, unconventional sources of natural gas, biogas and biomethane.

5. The V4 members had identified a number of concrete measures adopted by the EU that would secure the competitiveness of European natural gas industry, ensure fair prices for consumers and improve the security of supply of natural gas on the European market.

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President of the Board

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Czech Gas Association

Slovak Gas and Oil Association