



**Interparliamentary conferences
Dutch EU Presidency 2016**

To Mr. F. Birol
Sandra Mooney | Personal Assistant to Dr. Fatih Birol
Executive Director
International Energy Agency
9, rue de la Fédération
75739 Paris Cedex 15 France

Place and date: The Hague, October 19, 2015
Concerning: Invitation to be one of the key note speakers as well as part of a panel at the Interparliamentary Conference on Energy, Innovation and Circular Economy on Monday April 4, 2016, The Hague, The Netherlands

Dear Mr. Birol,

Please allow me to first of all congratulate you on your new position as the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, succeeding former Dutch Minister, Maria van der Hoeven. I wish you all the best in taking up your new role at this lead organisation where you have previously proved your highly appreciated added value as Chief Economist and Director of Global Energy Economics.

From the 1st of January, 2016, the Netherlands will hold the 6 months rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union. As part of the parliamentary dimension of the EU Presidency, the Dutch Parliament will organise an Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) on Energy and Innovation with a special focus on Circular Economy in The Hague from Sunday 3 until Monday 4 April 2016. The conference will be attended by approximately 100 key legislators: national parliamentarians dealing with energy and climate change from the 28 national parliaments in the EU as well as members of the European Parliament. The key question the conference will address, is: *How to speed up the cost-effective transition towards a clean, competitive and secure Energy Future?*

The Monday morning programme opens with contributions from Vice-President Sefčovič (Energy Union) of the European Commission and Eurocommissioner Vella (Environment), followed by a speech by the Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Kamp. After the opening statements there will be a plenary panel discussion with four renowned experts. This panel discussion will take place from 11.00 – 12.30 o'clock.

As chair of the political preparatory group that organizes this conference I would like to kindly invite you to participate in the above mentioned panel discussion as one of four key note speakers. We would be delighted if you could set out the global context at the conference and share your views on the key developments in the international energy landscape in the near future and their implications for the energy policy within the EU. I would therefore be most grateful if you would be willing and available to be on the panel in The Hague. Travel expenses will be covered by the Dutch Parliament.

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We very much look forward to working with you and your staff in the preparation of this panel discussion. For further information please refer to the clerk of the conference parleu2016@staten-generaal.nl, tel. +31-70-3182388

I am looking forward to receiving your response.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michiel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mr. Michiel VAN VEEN
Chair of the Political preparatory group Interparliamentary Conference on Energy, Innovation
and Circular Economy
States General of the Netherlands