

**First Minister Alex Salmond MSP to open
10th World Renewable Energy Congress & Exhibition**

20 – 25 July 2008

Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre,
Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom
Registration details at www.wrenuk.co.uk

First Minister Alex Salmond MSP will be joined at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow by the European Commission's Director for Energy, the Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency, the Assistant Director General of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and the Director General of ISESCO (Islamic Educational Scientific & Cultural Organisation), in addition to Peter Bonfield, Chief Executive of BRE (Building Research Establishment) and the Deputy Principal of the University of Strathclyde.

WREC 2008 is being organised on behalf of the World Renewable Energy Network and follows on from the successful meetings in Florence (2006), Denver (2004) and Cologne (2002). It will enable policy makers, researchers, manufacturers, economists, financiers, sociologists, environmentalists and others to present their views in Plenary and Technical Sessions and to participate in discussions, both formal and informal, thus facilitating the transfer of knowledge between nations, institutions, disciplines and individuals.

Attracting a truly international audience - *over 100 countries participated in WREC 2006* - this is a *must attend* event for anyone with an interest in the supply, distribution, consumption, and development of energy sources which are benign, sustainable, accessible, and economically viable and will provide a unique opportunity to learn of the latest developments in this rapidly changing and expanding field.

Themes will focus on all aspects of renewable energy, firstly helping to ensure that they become a major contributor to a sustainable and secure energy supply for the greater benefit of all; as well as facilitating the knowledge exchange and business engagement of participants from both developed and developing countries; and finally, assisting with developing finance and institutional support for renewable energy projects locally and internationally.

Subject areas include wind energy, marine, biomass, hydrogen, solar etc – as well as related issues such as policy, architecture and gender. The gender issues will be addressed in a workshop **“Engaging Women in Energy Enterprises”** the focus of which will be understanding the impacts of energy on poverty in the developing world and how that knowledge may be used to bring about a future with **greater energy justice**. There will also be a debate on the future of architecture when faced with increased policy requirement to build energy efficient buildings incorporating emerging technologies and calls for new learning and training initiatives at all levels.

A banquet will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Wednesday 23rd July, where the **WREC/Ali Sayigh Trophy** will be awarded to the country that has progressed most in the renewable field (table or individual tickets may be obtained at www.wrenuk.co.uk)

Notes to the editor:

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For information about the few remaining exhibition stands please contact Helen Fullerton via Helen.fullerton@congrex.com

The full event programme can be downloaded from www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/Scotland/WREC_prog.pdf

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- whole-life performance
- water and waste management
- construction quality, process and productivity
- building performance - structures, materials and systems
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