

Dear Fatih,

First and foremost, we hope you are keeping well during these uncertain times.

Thank you for your bold vision and insightful early calls for clean energy to be “at the heart of stimulus plans” globally and for phasing out fossil fuel subsidies at a time when prices for these fuels are at record lows. Indeed this is a moment of potential transformation, as trillions of dollars of capital are poised to be injected into unprecedented economic recovery efforts.

As you understand better than most, the world is grappling with three converging crises: the widespread health impacts and economic paralysis caused by COVID-19, the collapse in global oil prices, and the ever-looming and escalating climate emergency. These crises have laid bare the structural fragility of a fossil fuel-driven economy. Yet if done right, the decisions governments make in the coming weeks and months could meaningfully address all of these challenges simultaneously to build a healthier, safer and more resilient future for all.

Many of us have written to you before regarding the urgency of developing a World Energy Outlook that puts the Paris Agreement’s objectives at its centre. We are delighted to learn that you have decided to release a special edition of the WEO this June to provide recommendations to governments on how to build back better through strategic use of economic recovery tools including green job-creation policy options. This special edition and the forthcoming annual WEO could be the most influential ever, given the potential to guide efforts to achieve the objective of limiting average global warming to **1.5°C**.

With this historic opportunity in mind, we urge you to include the following recommendations:

- Make a 1.5°C-aligned scenario central. This should include continued descent of GHG emissions after 2020, and a halving of emissions by 2030, in line with the IPCC’s findings.
- A continued precautionary approach to negative emissions technologies.
- A managed phase-down of fossil fuel production and use in parallel with actions to support a just transition.
- A rapid phase-out of direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies, as long ago committed by the G20.
- Increased investment into clean alternatives.
- Investment in socially and ecologically responsible Nature-Based Solutions to achieve the land-based emissions reductions already assumed in WEO scenarios and improve resilience.

Effective stimulus measures will ensure that new clean energy *replaces* fossil fuels, rather than adding to them. They will map out a pathway for a just transition to a net-zero emissions economy, with tremendous potential for job creation at scale. Bold, not incremental, action is required to transform energy systems at the scale and pace required. Global leaders have shown themselves willing and able to take such bold action, but they need the right tools,

which this summer's special edition of the WEO as well as the forthcoming annual WEO can provide.

In responding to the current devastating crisis, we must ensure we don't exacerbate another. The climate crisis requires urgent action, and we now have an unexpected chance to radically and boldly advance policies and investments that truly lead us towards a safer, more resilient economy - one that protects people and the planet. The IEA's Global Energy Review 2020 aptly recognizes the risks and opportunities ahead: "As after previous crises ... the rebound in emissions may be larger than the decline, unless the wave of investment to restart the economy is dedicated to cleaner and more resilient energy infrastructure."

In light of the IEA's considerable impact on global energy decision-making, the tools you provide will shape countless investments and decisions that may either lock in a high carbon future to devastating effect or, conversely, accelerate the transition to a resilient clean energy economy. The stakes are high and we look forward to you rising to the challenge of guiding robust recovery pathways aligned with 1.5°C.

Thank you again for your leadership and quick action on these matters.

Yours sincerely,

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