

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

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FACT SHEET: U.S.-BRAZIL STRATEGIC ENERGY DIALOGUE

Today, President Dilma Rousseff and President Barack Obama discussed their countries' common interests in the development of safe, secure and affordable energy, including oil, natural gas, biofuels, and civilian nuclear energy, and agreed that the United States and Brazil should work together on these issues as Strategic Energy Partners to support economic growth, energy security, and the transition to a clean energy economy. To that end, the two Leaders today agreed to launch a Strategic Energy Dialogue, building on the work of the U.S.-Brazil Binational Energy Working Group. Such a Dialogue and resulting partnerships between the two largest democracies and economies in the Americas will create jobs in both countries, make energy supplies more secure, and help address the challenge of climate change.

Oil and Natural Gas. President Rousseff and President Obama committed to take concrete steps to enhance cooperation between their two countries' energy sectors. As Brazil plays an increasingly important role in global oil markets, President Obama indicated that the United States looks forward to being a strategic partner and to participating, as appropriate, in the environmentally-responsible and technologically-advanced development of those resources.

President Rousseff welcomed President Obama's announcement of plans for a U.S. oil and gas trade mission to be conducted in conjunction with the Latin Oil Week conference to be held at the end of May in Rio de Janeiro.

The two Presidents also discussed intensified sharing of best practices with respect to the safe and environmentally benign exploitation of offshore oil and gas resources. Brazilian officials will meet with representatives of the U.S. Department of the Interior within two weeks to advance the dialogue on safe offshore oil and gas development. The United States and Brazil will hold workshops on deepwater production technologies and environmental management, the first planned for early October in Rio de Janeiro.

Biofuels. The two Leaders noted their countries' joint progress in enhancing global biofuel production, both bilaterally, through the Biofuels Memorandum of Understanding and the Binational Energy Working Group, and multilaterally, through the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP). They agreed to commit \$3 million to extend their bilateral efforts to support the development of the necessary legal regimes and domestic biofuels production in seven additional countries: the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica and Senegal.

The two Leaders also welcomed the launch of the Partnership for the Development of Biofuels for Aviation. This partnership provides for bilateral research and development coordination in establishing common standards and specifications, and facilitating commercialization and scale-

up of aviation biofuels. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Brazilian Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) will hold a joint workshop to enhance cooperation on advanced biofuels and sustainability metrics.

Clean Energy & Energy Efficiency. President Obama announced DOE support for a workshop this summer in Sao Paulo focused on developing a rating system in Brazil to help consumers identify energy-saving building products. DOE and MME also are planning to hold a subsequent workshop focused on energy efficiency audits of industrial facilities and methods of financing retrofits.

The leaders took note of the solar technologies reverse trade mission later this month in which representatives from three private Brazilian power companies will travel to the U.S. to visit solar farms, relevant private companies, industry associations, financing institutions, and U.S. government agencies.

A Clean Energy Roundtable will convene later this year at which government and private sector leaders will discuss critical opportunities for, and barriers to, increased collaboration and economic cooperation between the United States and Brazil on clean energy development. This event will showcase the opportunities and vehicles that exist for cooperation in the energy sector and support a number of strategic U.S. initiatives, including those under the Binational Energy Working Group, the President's National Export Initiative, and the related Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Export Initiative. This event is especially timely in light of Brazil's major infrastructure investment obligations to prepare for the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics, as well as its projected domestic economic growth

Nuclear Security and Nuclear Energy. Acknowledging the role that nuclear energy can play in diversifying energy supplies and addressing climate change, President Obama encouraged implementation of current plans by DOE, MME, and Eletronuclear to hold a workshop later this year on safety measures, new technology selection, reactor-life sustainability, human capital development, and risk analysis, underscoring the vital importance of discussing safety measures at the workshop.

To address the issue of non-proliferation, they encouraged continued intergovernmental discussions regarding a nuclear security center of excellence and a Memorandum of Understanding on the Megaports Initiative a collaborative program on nuclear detection.

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