



G8 Energy

Signing establishing IPEEC (International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation)

SPEECH

Rome, Sunday 24 May 2009: 17:30 – 18:00

Fellow Ministers,

I am proud to announce a great result for this meeting of G8 Energy: an international agreement on energy efficiency which is essential to face the economic crisis and combat climate change.

Investment in efficient energy may be carried out immediately and has an important effect against the recession; in this way energy imports and pollution can be reduced; the current critical situation may be faced until new technological systems on which we are working become operational.

Therefore, let us now proceed to the signing of the Statute founding **IPEEC**, the **International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation**.

I should **especially like to thank Japan**, co-chairman of this ceremony with Minister Toshihiro Nikai, who with great patience has worked to consult colleagues and to coordinate efforts which allowed the launch of the preparatory phase just a few months after the Japanese G8 meeting at Aomori.

I am convinced that **IPEEC represents an important response to the question of the G8's responsibility and commitment** which we have discussed with some of you.

Furthermore, IPEEC is open to all countries. For the first time as part of the G8 process we have created a body in which **Outreach nations may participate** from the outset. The very fact that we have managed to conclude negotiations on such a complex subject and in the context of such an important

group of countries would a few years ago have seemed impossible and for us now is a matter of great pride.

IPEEC will be provide a privileged platform to exchange and develop individual countries' experience of energy-saving measures.

Low-carbon technology, investment in the construction and transport sectors, low-emission fuels, capturing and storing CO₂, safe use of nuclear energy: these are the objectives for which our governments must be working. In Italy we are moving in this direction and we are stepping up international cooperation.

The signing of the IPEEC statute will be followed by the signing of the **IPEEC Memorandum with the International Energy Agency**. In this way the Partnership will become immediately operational.