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Stockholm, Sweden

WBA joins the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) as an observer

Both organizations agree to join forces to achieve common objective of sustainable bioenergy development

The World Bioenergy Association (WBA) has officially become an observer organization to the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP).

GBEP was founded in 2006 on the idea that sustainable bioenergy can significantly contribute to energy access and security, climate change mitigation, food security, and ultimately sustainable development. Currently, GBEP brings together public, private and civil society stakeholders in a joint commitment to promote bioenergy for sustainable development. WBA is the leading global organization with a mission to promote the sustainable development of bioenergy and supporting the business environment for bioenergy.

Christian Rakos, President of World Bioenergy Association says *“We find the extensive efforts GBEP has made to develop and test sustainability indicators particularly valuable. Sustainability is the fundamental precondition for bioenergy use. We believe, recent technological advances can contribute a lot to securing bioenergy use is sustainable in all relevant dimensions. Our goal is to contribute to the dissemination of these technologies, and we believe our partnership with GBEP will support our common commitment to preventing a climate catastrophe and supporting the achievement of SDG 7 - making affordable modern and sustainable energy accessible for all.”*

As an observer, WBA will participate actively in all GBEP’s activities and discussions including the technical and steering committee meetings. Together, WBA and GBEP will exchange information, promote individual activities and explore joint events in the near future.

Maria Michela Morese, Executive Secretary of the Global Bioenergy Partnership says *“We are very pleased to welcome WBA as new GBEP Observer; joining forces is key to achieve common goals. Modern bioenergy has a great potential to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as to food and energy security, in the context of sustainable development. Sustainability is key to ensure that bioenergy reaches this potential. In this context, the Sustainability Indicators agreed by the over 80 members of GBEP represent an invaluable tool to guide the sustainability assessment of bioenergy production and use at the national level, with a view to inform decision making and facilitate the sustainable development of bioenergy.”*

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About WBA

WBA is the global organization promoting the development of sustainable biomass to energy around the world. Our member base comprises representatives from all sectors and supply chain of biomass to bioenergy. Since our establishment in 2008, we have been publishing numerous factsheets, statistics reports, mission reports, position papers etc. to provide information and state of art development of bioenergy to the global audience. We have organized numerous workshops, seminars, press conferences etc. to promote bioenergy. WBA also collaborates internationally with various organizations in varying capacities including IRENA, REN21, GCF, Go100%RE etc.

Homepage: <http://www.worldbioenergy.org>

About GBEP

The Global Bioenergy Partnership is an international initiative established in 2006 to reflect a G8 commitment and currently participated by more than 80 members. In GBEP voluntary cooperation works towards consensus amongst governments, intergovernmental organizations and other partners in the areas of the sustainability of bioenergy and its contribution to climate change mitigation. It also provides a platform for raising awareness, sharing information and examples of good practice on bioenergy.

The main objectives of the Global Bioenergy Partnership are to: promote global high-level dialogue on bioenergy policy-related issues and facilitate international cooperation; support national and regional bioenergy policy discussions and market development; favour the transformation of biomass use towards more efficient and sustainable practices; foster exchange of information and skills through bilateral and multilateral collaboration; and facilitate bioenergy integration into energy markets by tackling barriers in the supply chain.

Brazil is currently Chair of the Partnership, supported by the GBEP Secretariat, hosted at FAO Headquarters in Rome.

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