

## 4<sup>th</sup> OPEC - VIENNA ENERGY SCHOLAR PROGRAMME (VESP)

OPEC Secretariat / 2024

### General Information and Application Procedures

#### a) Objective

The Vienna Energy Scholar Programme (VESP) is an integrated knowledge and networking platform open to students and young professionals residing in Vienna and Austria.

Inspired by similar exchange programmes developed by other organizations around the world, **the VESP seeks to further develop mutual understanding between the OPEC Secretariat, its Member Countries and the Austrian and European citizens participating in the Programme.**

Participants will improve their knowledge about the most relevant aspects of energy policy and the energy industry, as well as of OPEC's Member Countries and the challenges they face. They will help designing and executing strategies for future cooperation between the mentioned countries.

#### b) About OPEC

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is an international organization comprising 13 members. It was founded in 1960 in Baghdad, Iraq, and has, since 1965, been headquartered in Vienna, Austria.

The Organization's objectives are to coordinate energy policies of its Member Countries and to work in stabilizing the global energy markets. In recent years, OPEC has increased its support to its Member Countries and the global community in matters of energy poverty, climate change, environment and energy transition.

### c) Content of the Programme

The Programme will have a duration of two weeks, the first to take place at the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna in 2024, and the second in one of the OPEC Member Countries.

Tentative programme for Week 1:

<b>Week 1 (9 – 13 September 2023)</b>
<b>To be held at the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna</b>
<b><u>Monday – Day 1 - OPEC</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Inauguration and general presentation of the Secretariat’s activities</li><li>▪ Secretariat and Member Countries’ knowledge activities</li><li>▪ Data and technology as raw material and instruments for decision making in the energy industry</li><li>▪ SDG and UNFCCC challenges from the energy perspective</li></ul>
<b><u>Tuesday – Day 2 – OPEC &amp; OMV</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The short-term outlook of the energy sector</li><li>▪ Visit to oil and energy-related facilities of OMV</li><li>▪ Discussion about the oil and low-carbon business developed by OMV in the context of the energy transition</li></ul>
<b><u>Wednesday – Day 3 - Austria day</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Discussion with relevant ministries about Austrian and European energy, climate and development policies</li> <li>▪ Energy planning in Vienna</li><li>▪ Climate-friendly city</li><li>▪ Geothermal sources</li><li>▪ Hydrogen-generated energy</li><li>▪ Ground water resources</li><li>▪ Public mobility systems</li></ul>
<b><u>Thursday – Day 4 - OPEC Fund</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The long-term challenges of the energy sector</li><li>▪ Discussion and activities at the OPEC Fund about:</li></ul>

- Energy sustainability
- Energy access and energy poverty
- Renewable energies
- Financing for sustainable development

#### **Friday – Day 5 - OPEC**

- Institutional and regulatory framework for the energy sector
- Discussion with the Secretary General – The Future of Energy

#### **Week 2 – 2025**

#### **To be held in one of the OPEC Member Countries**

- Dialogue with high-level energy authorities
- Visit to energy-related facilities
- Professional exchanges in energy institutions
- Cultural activities
- Exchanges with technical teams at the Energy/Oil Ministry and the National Oil Company, among other entities

Expenses generated by the travel and participation in the Programme will be covered by the OPEC Secretariat (Week 1) and/or OPEC Member Countries sponsoring the Programme (Week 2).

After completion of the Programme, participants will be required to present a brief document summarizing their experience and how they envision to contribute to a better understanding of the relevant stakeholders.

#### **d) Profile of the Candidates**

The participants in the Programme should fulfil the following:

- Age between 21 and 27 years (in 2024).
- Residence in Austria at the moment of application.
- Studying to obtain a university degree (tertiary education or master level) at the moment of application, or working in a public or private institution in Austria, having obtained his/her university degree in the five years prior to the application.
- Good English knowledge.

- There is **NO** limitation regarding the area of studies of the candidate. Students from all careers are invited to apply.

### **e) Call for Nominations and Applications**

Applicants should submit to their institution the following documents in English:

- Up-to-date CV (including contact information)
- Cover letter (1 page) explaining:
  - Past leadership, community engagement activities or interest in public service.
  - How the candidate's participation will enrich the discussion of energy-related matters.
  - How the candidate considers she/he can contribute to a better long-term understanding between Austria, Europe and OPEC Member Countries, especially in energy-related matters.

The Selection Committee will be composed of two members of the OPEC Secretariat and two members of the office of the Mayor of the City of Vienna. The Committee will evaluate the applications and prepare a list of recommended candidates (15) for final approval by OPEC's Secretary General.

### **f) Time Schedule**

- Final date for receipt of applications: 30 June 2024
- Notification to selected candidates: 31 July 2024
- Programme Week 1 (Vienna): 9 - 13 September 2024
- Programme Week 2 (OPEC Member Country): 2025

### **g) Information and Contacts**

In case of queries and for submission of applications, please contact the OPEC Secretariat – Secretary General's Office ([sgos@opec.org](mailto:sgos@opec.org))