

Concluding remarks



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It is not possible to summarise all that we have discussed during these two days. We began by talking about technologies, first those technologies concerned with energy and then those technologies that affect related sectors. We saw that the energy business model was heavily impacted by the business models of these related sectors. One speaker pointed out that technology was perhaps the easiest issue to deal with of all those that we face today.

We then turned to the question of behaviour – individual and collective behaviour, and the behaviour of local authorities and other stakeholders.

We also explored the role of policy makers and regulators, and saw that they also had a major impact on all of these issues.

What conclusions are we able to draw? We heard of the importance of the changes that are currently underway. Some speakers considered these changes as less significant than certain imagine. Others described changes that appeared as quite futuristic. Nevertheless, some of these futuristic business models are already being deployed very effectively in certain sectors.

There was a great deal of uncertainty associated with the development of new business models, and even with the very scope of the changes that are underway. We can therefore safely say that we have raised more questions than we have been able to answer. It is, nevertheless, undeniable that things are moving. The question, however, is whether we will see business models emerge for the long-term. Another outstanding question is the path that will enable us to move from our current situation to that of a future that we still have difficulty in imagining.

To conclude, the World Energy Council has developed the concept of the energy trilemma, which highlights the importance of energy security, energy equity, and environmental sustainability. Balancing these three aspects of the energy question should also be part of the process as we reflect

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on the business models of tomorrow. The World Energy Council is in fact planning a contribution to these new business models in the coming months.

I would like to finish with a word of thanks to our participants and speakers for their contribution to such a successful and fruitful meeting. I would like to thank Dominique Finon, Scientific Adviser to the French Energy Council, for his key role in the preparation of this forum. I would also like to thank Assia, Clothilde, Hervé and Joëlle who played a crucial role in the organisation of this meeting. We look forward to seeing you all at our forum next year.