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## Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 (second conference day)

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09:00 – 11:00

### Speeches DESERTEC Foundation

Moderator: Dr. Hani El Nokraschy  
Vice Chairman of Supervisory Board, DESERTEC Foundation

#### **Renewable energy and DESERTEC in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco**

Dr. Thiemo Gropp, Director, DESERTEC Foundation

The DESERTEC concept offers an opportunity for the sun-rich regions regarding economic growth, education and employment.

DESERTEC has from the very beginning been co-initiated and driven by many people and organisations from Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. The new political situation in North Africa now offers an even bigger chance for its societies to enter a path of economic development together with an energy transition to renewables.

#### **Solar boiler as an innovation strategy for DESERTEC**

Dr. Ulrich Hueck, Co-Founder, DESERTEC Foundation

Basic technical features of existing concentrating solar power plants are reviewed. This is followed by the presentation of an optimized, innovative solar power plant configuration, which promises cost reduction and bridges the prevailing gap between solar tower plants and solar plants with parabolic trough or Fresnel shape mirrors.

An appropriate innovation strategy with small steps is proposed to promote the required cost reduction for large-scale deployment of solar power plants.

#### **Renewable future:**

#### **Transferring knowledge and know-how between Morocco and Germany**

Dr. Meriem Rezzaoui, Project Manager MENA, DESERTEC Foundation  
Christian Jussen, Project Manager, Schleswig-Holstein Investment Bank

Morocco's ambitious plans to expand its renewable energy sector must be supported by developmental programs, which offer the institutional and educational support necessary to build a sustainable renewable energy industry.

In this context, the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety are funding the project "Wind Energy, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Maroc" (WEREEMa). It is intended to transfer knowledge and know-how between Morocco and the German federal state of Schleswig-Holstein, a world leader in wind energy. Under the leadership of Schleswig-Holstein Investment Bank, the DESERTEC Foundation works with the Moroccan Agency for Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency (ADEREE), CEWind and CEBiomasse to achieve this goal.

#### **Awareness and acceptance of renewable energies in Egypt and Tunisia**

Nagi Siam, Project Manager MENA, DESERTEC Foundation

The „RE-Generation MENA“ project is conducted by the DESERTEC Foundation and is funded by the Federal Foreign Office of Germany. The objective is to focus on greater involvement of students in Egypt and Tunisia in the EU-MENA renewable energy sector.

The project aims at creating awareness and acceptance of potential renewable energy projects. Potential beneficiaries are provided with first-hand information on the possible impact of solar power projects and their contribution to sustainable development. Several workshops have already been conducted successfully.

**Dr. Thiemo Gropp, Director, DESERTEC Foundation**

Thiemo Gropp studied physics in Karlsruhe and Tucson. He holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Frankfurt. After 10 years as founder, managing director and board member of various biotechnology companies, he decided to enter the field of renewable energy, which has always been one of his favourite fields of interest. In 2009, he co-founded the DESERTEC Foundation and became its director in 2010. Thiemo Gropp is dedicated not only to promote DESERTEC as a solution but also to further develop it as a global civil society movement to support the transition to renewables.



**Dr. Ulrich Hueck, Co-Founder,  
DESERTEC Foundation**



Dr. Ulrich Hueck, born in 1963, has been employed in the field of fossil power generation since 1994. He has worked on project execution for power plants, on the design of gas turbines and on field installation and commissioning of power plants in Europe and Asia. Since 2002 he has assumed various functions in the servicing of units with capacities over 100 MW. Dr. Hueck did an apprenticeship on heating systems and studied mechanical engineering in Darmstadt. During a Fulbright scholarship he obtained a Master of Science degree from the University of New Mexico, USA, and completed his Ph.D. in Darmstadt. He co-founded the DESERTEC Foundation in 2009.

**Dr. Meriem Rezgaoui, Project Manager MENA,  
DESERTEC Foundation**

Dr. Meriem Rezgaoui, born in 1968, grew up in Meknes, Morocco. She studied biology at the University of Rabat in Morocco as well as at the University of Hamburg, Germany. After completing her Ph.D. in molecular biology at the Center for Molecular Neurobiology in Hamburg, she worked as a scientist and conducted several research projects at the universities of Hamburg and Heidelberg. Dr. Rezgaoui joined the DESERTEC Foundation in 2010 and has worked since then as project manager for the MENA region.



**Christian Jussen, Project Manager, Schleswig-Holstein  
Investment Bank**



Christian Jussen, born in 1982, studied industrial engineering in energy and environmental management in Berlin and Flensburg. He lived and worked for four years in North and South America, Asia and Africa. Mr. Jussen currently works as a project manager for the Schleswig-Holstein Investment bank and as a consultant for GIZ Morocco in the area of grid integration of renewables. Since 2010 he has been associated with the DESERTEC Foundation through the WEREEMA project: Wind Energy, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Maroc.

**Nagi Siam, Project Manager MENA, DESERTEC Foundation**

Nagi Siam holds a degree in political science and in European and international law. He was trained at the Ministry for Information and Communication Technology of Egypt, supported the United Nations Development Program in Cairo and worked closely with the Egypt ICT Trust Fund. From 2008 until 2010, he was online content manager at a German publishing group. Since 2010 Mr. Siam has been working for the DESERTEC Foundation. In cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, he is conducting an awareness and acceptance campaign for DESERTEC in Egypt and Tunisia.

