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[Energy Policy] International Conference on Ocean Energy Preliminary Program Rounded Off with Fruitful Achievements

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Bureau of Energy News (2011/04/22) In order to echo the World Earth Day as well as to promote the development of renewable energy, Bureau of Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs, held the International Conference on Ocean Energy Preliminary Program on April 22; more than two hundred industrial, official and academic representatives attended the event with enthusiastic discussions.

The conference aims at the technology exchanges of the development of ocean energy especially with regard to the ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC), wave energy conversion (WEC), tidal current generation, etc. Researchers from ITRI, National Cheng Kung University, National Taiwan Ocean University presented their findings in the conference; Mr. Theodore E LIU, Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, State of Hawaii Governor's Cabinet, and Professor Yasuyuki IKEGAMI, Saga University, were invited to share their findings. Bureau of Energy expected, via the conference, the local ocean energy technology could keep up with the pace of the international development.

Deputy Director-General of Bureau of Energy Yunn-Ming WANG said, the government will continue the promotion of renewable energy. The government plans to increase the total installed capacity up to 8.96 million mw in 2025 (3.06 million mw in 2009). Among the capacity, ocean energy will reach 200 MV in 2025.

Deputy Director-General WANG said, Taiwan is potential to develop OTEC, WEC and tidal current generation. Among them, the open waters off Hualien and Taitung shore is suitable for OTEC. Under the government's support, ITRI has began the construction of OTEC system in the Taiwan Fertilizer Park in Hualien.

Mr. Theodore E LIU, Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, State of Hawaii Governor's Cabinet, has been the major figure promoting Hawaii ocean energy development. He said, more than 90% of the energy in Hawaii comes from oil now. However, the government actively develops renewable energy, especially the ocean energy, for the geographical advantages Hawaii holds. Mr. LIU said, the U.S. plans to construct Hawaii the first demonstration state of total clean energy. He encouraged Taiwan officials and companies to visit Hawaii and take parts in the research and development of ocean energy, promoting the technology in the nation, as well as in the world.

Reference: Bureau of Energy News 2011/04/22 (Chinese)
National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief
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