

LPA to Sign a 3-Year Partnership with the Norwegian Government!

By Lebanon Gas and Oil

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The Lebanese Petroleum Administration (LPA) will sign on January 27th, 2015 a partnership with the Norwegian Government through its embassy in Beirut to help the Lebanese authorities in the launching process of the country's Oil & Gas industry.

Sources told our website that the partnership will cover all aspects of the Oil and Gas sector and will allow the Norwegians to share their knowledge and expertise after their long experience since the 1960s. This step comes after the huge support presented by the Norwegian Government to the Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water and the LPA for the last 3 years in order to prepare the necessary infrastructure from legislations, Petroleum Activities Regulations as well as the technical know-how before kicking-off the first licensing round.

We should also mention that the Norwegian Ambassador to Lebanon Mr. Svein Aass is one of the supporters in this cooperation. Aas, who had an attractive speech during the Lebanon Petroleum Day (LPD) back in October 2014, has published on January 13, 2015 a remarkable article in the Executive Magazine about helping Lebanon strengthen transparency in the Oil and Gas sector, "towards Energy Independence". He also stated that "Norway will be supporting the fields of resources, safety, environment, and revenue management through the relevant ministries. Furthermore, strengthening accountability and transparency, including providing support to civil society actors, can be foreseen in 2015."

"... The LPA and related government institutions will benefit from a more informed, fact-based public discussion, enhanced from customized training courses, joint conferences, and delegation visits to Norway. New technologies, new petroleum provinces and new forms of energy will all play a role in increasing energy autonomy and reducing

vulnerability, and Norway will continue to play a constructive role in 2015 in this regard.”

With the continuous campaign led by local NGOs and opinion leaders to launch the Lebanese Oil & Gas sector, we hope that this cooperation will push the officials to realize the value of the time lost and to accelerate the process for the good of the Lebanese Citizens.