

SolarSuperState Conference 14 August 2012 in Zurich

SolarSuperState Conference 2012 Conference Resolution

SolarSuperState Conference 2012 "100 % Renewable Energy Economies: Justification, outline and way to "

Zuerich, Switzerland, 31 August 2012

The SolarSuperState Association, the Foerderverein Windenergie Aargau, MOVISOL and Renewables-Now Aktiengesellschaft welcome the presence of participants from 6 countries attending this conference, from solar and wind energy and other renewable energy technologies. The conference took place before the SolarSuperState Prize award ceremony the same day.

The conference appreciates the support of the Umweltbundesamt in Dessau, the Swiss Solar Agency and all organizations and individuals enhancing the Conference.

“More and more towns, cities regions and countries of the world are on the way to have their demand for electricity supplied by solar and wind energy. During a high level event in Zürich we celebrated the six countries with the highest global per capita supply of wind and solar energy by giving them prizes for their achievements. These countries enjoy all the benefits of the transition to clean, affordable and inexhaustible supply of energy; they serve as prominent examples for other nations of the world. Advances in technology, reduced costs and the right political instruments together have made 100% renewable energy nations realistic“, says Preben Maegaard, President, Solar Super State Association.

The conference covered three key aspects of the justification for a transition from a fossil energy economy to a renewable energy economy:

- a) global warming (discussed at the example of glacier melting)
- b) peak oil and peak gas and linked global economic recession
- c) pollution of air, water and soil (discussed at the example of genetic damages of animals in Chernobyl and Fukushima)

The conference applauds the scientifically substantiated statements made that a 100 % renewable energy supply can be reached worldwide in the foreseeable future. A state which produces all its energy needs by local renewable energies at least in the sectors electricity, buildings, transport and industrial process heat is called a SolarSuperState. The conference suggested legal frameworks for SolarSuperStates. The focus was on the electricity sector where a lot can be learned from the success and errors of many states in deploying photovoltaics. The legal aspects for the building sector and transport sector have been discussed in depth in presentations and in the workshop. The workshop analyzed proposals for Germany and Sri Lanka with a panel of experts and the authors of the proposals.

The Conference urges especially the German Government and the Government of Sri Lanka to improve their policy frameworks like in particular the feed-in legislation, in the building and transport legislation. Recent decisions have lead

to uncertainty amongst potential investors, and may have detrimental impact especially on community based investments.

The following technologies were discussed in the conference in more detail:

- * plus energy buildings
- * use of (waste) biomass

Those who left the conference room before the prize award ceremony could not catch a key presentation linking global warming (cooling) to renewable energies and biomass for storage of carbon.

Regarding the concept of Community Power, one speaker of the conference tried answers to the questions

- 1) Is a 100 % renewable energy economy (region) possible only with 100 % community power?
- 2) Is it desirable to make a 100 % renewable energy economy (region) only with community power?

Some presentations or abstracts are open access on the conference website or will be made open access in the next months.

In addition the Conference supports the following objectives, policies and actions to:

1. pursue compensatory regulatory frameworks such as sufficient and effective and long-term feed-in tariffs that allow a fast transition into a SolarSuperState, and that provide sufficient financial security to promote long-term investment, especially for smaller and community based investors;
2. introduce plus energy buildings or at least passive house as building standards for new and to be refurbished buildings
3. further transport with renewable energy by privileges, taxes and import duties on fossil fuels
4. encourage all renewable energy stakeholders to participate in the next **SolarSuperState Prize award ceremony** which will be held on 23 August 2013.

For more information:

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The SolarSuperState Association is the global voice of people and organizations

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