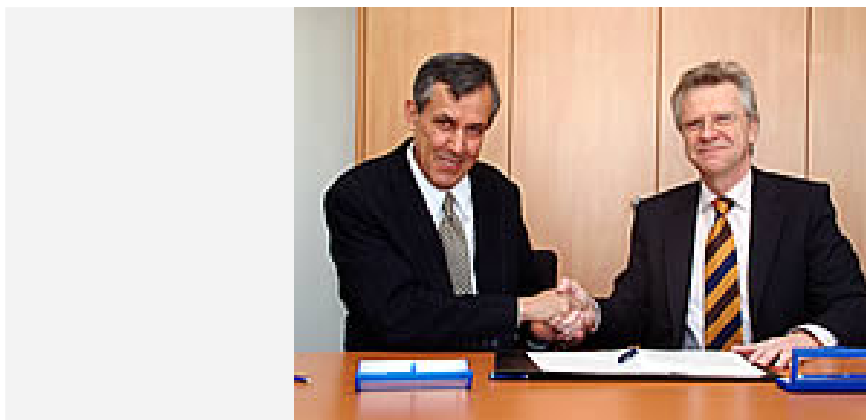

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DLR and NEAL enter into research collaboration on efficient conversion of energy and renewable energies

14 March 2006



Prof. Joachim Szodrich (right) from DLR and New Energy Algeria Präsident Tewfik Hasni

New Energy Algeria (NEAL) and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) are entering into a joint venture on energy research. Today, Prof. Joachim Szodrich, a member of DLR's Executive Board, and Tewfik Hasni, President of NEAL, signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' on the matter. The Algerian delegation then visited DLR's solar laboratories and solar furnace in Cologne-Porz.

New Energy Algeria (NEAL) was set up by the Algerian government to develop renewable energies and is a subsidiary of Algeria's state-owned oil and gas company. A study recently completed by DLR on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety confirms that Algeria has both massive reserves of fossil fuels, such as oil and gas, and tremendous potential for using renewable energies, especially solar power.

The agreement reached focuses on joint research projects into solar power and an important aspect of the venture is that DLR will have direct access to the first Algerian solar power station in order to assess the experience gained in operating such plants and to test new components and operating strategies. Along with solar power station technology, both parties are also interested in producing hydrogen using solar power, fuel cell technology, thermal process technology, system analysis and technological assessments. The agreement also covers exchange placement opportunities for scientists and PhD. students and reciprocal advice on the aforementioned technologies.

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