

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Integrated approach to resources efficiency and security crucial: Shivshankar Menon**

New Delhi, 23 August 2012: The National Security Adviser, Ambassador Shivshankar Menon, said today that an integrated approach to resources efficiency and security was crucial for India's national security. Ambassador Menon was speaking at the second anniversary of the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), an independent research institution chaired by former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu and co-chaired by industrialist, Jamshyd Godrej.

Speaking about energy and water in the context of national security, Menon said: "Today, it is almost a truism that energy, water and resources, all affect national security. In an interdependent world, international economic and political influence – and not just military capability – becomes a much more significant factor and much more significant indicator and provider of national security."

Economic and political levers are the most usable levers of power in the world today, according to Ambassador Menon. The result is a turn to non-military levers, like social media, pipelines, energy, etc. become ways for groups to secure their security goals. And this is a profound shift.

Ambassador Menon advised CEEW, "This is why your work on resources efficiency and security is particularly significant in this profoundly changed context. In the case of energy, while in the past two years new sources of energy have been found, risk and vulnerability are also much higher today than ever before. New sources are outside the Middle East, so there are geopolitical consequences in what was traditionally viewed only as an energy market. And there are similar shifts also occurring in other resources, including coal, iron ore, copper, rare earths, etc. That's why what you do here with your integrated approach, looking across the board, is so important."

Commending CEEW's work, Menon said, "I first became aware of your work when you published the report on India and global governance, which set out an agenda for India on most of the issues of global concern. It was unique work, which no one had done before, and it has since spawned imitators – the ultimate flattery!"

The NSA also warned against "frightening ourselves over water wars" since there have been no wars over water in Indian history.

Addressing gathered dignitaries, including the Ambassadors of Brazil and China and the High Commissioner of Australia, Mr Suresh Prabhu, CEEW Chairperson, said, "CEEW's mission is to address global challenges by developing policies in an integrated manner, for the benefit of India and other developing countries." He said CEEW's approach was to work at both the macro level of policymaking as well as the micro level of governance where implementation takes place. He gave examples of CEEW's work at the global level (for instance, the Maharashtra-Guangdong partnership), the national level (on water frameworks for the Planning Commission), and the state level (its recently completed study on minor irrigation in Bihar).



## COUNCIL ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

The Council on Energy, Environment and Water is an independent, not-for-profit policy research institution. CEEW addresses pressing global challenges through an integrated and internationally focused approach. It does so through high quality research, partnerships with public and private institutions, and engagement with and outreach to the wider public. Among its major initiatives, CEEW has: published the 584-page National Water Resources Framework Study for India's 12th Five Year Plan; written India's first report on global governance, submitted to the National Security Adviser; assessed India's 22 gigawatt solar mission; developed an innovation ecosystem framework for India; facilitated the \$100 million India-U.S. Joint Clean Energy R&D Centre; worked on geoengineering governance (with UK's Royal Society and the IPCC); created the Maharashtra-Guangdong partnership on sustainability; published research on energy-trade-climate linkages (including on governing clean energy subsidies for Rio+20); produced comprehensive reports and briefed negotiators on climate finance; and supported Bihar (one of India's poorest states) with minor irrigation reform and for water-climate adaptation frameworks.

CEEW's work profile covers all levels of governance: at the global/regional level, these include climate finance, energy-trade-climate linkages, geoengineering governance, and bilateral collaborations with China, Israel, Pakistan, and the United States; at the national level, it covers energy and resource efficiency and security, water resources management, renewable energy policies, India and global governance, and innovation strategies; and at the state/local level, CEEW develops integrated energy, environment and water plans, and facilitates industry action to reduce emissions or increase R&D investments in clean technologies. More information about CEEW is available at: <http://ceew.in/>.

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