

► Asserting and Applying Our Values

AN ACTIVE VOICE IN PUBLIC DEBATES

We participate in a number of public debates in France, Europe and worldwide. Our dialogue with competent government authorities and civil society representatives focuses on topics directly related to our operations, and is an extension of our corporate social responsibility commitments.

It is not our role to intervene in the conduct or, especially, financing of politics in host countries. ■

ISSUE	PUBLIC POSITION
<b>Universal guidelines and norms on human rights and transnational corporations</b>	Total supports the establishment of universal guidelines and is participating actively in the process conducted by the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.
<b>Operating in countries that do not uphold human rights</b>	Total promotes human rights within our scope of operations and is careful to ensure that our presence benefits the local community. We respect and implement the decisions made by the competent international organizations, but do not believe that boycotts and embargoes of countries promote human rights.
<b>Transparent management of oil and gas revenues</b>	Total supports the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. We encourage our host countries to adhere to the EITI, participate in the programs initiated by countries committed to the EITI and provide assistance to countries that request it. With their agreement, we publish the required financial information and contribute to its dissemination (see page 66).
<b>Climate change</b>	Total supports implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, which must not, however, undermine the industrial competitiveness of signatory countries. Our industrial strategy helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our scope of operations (see page 30).
<b>Secure energy supply</b>	In a world where easily-producible oil and gas resources are increasingly scarce and oil and gas nationalism and geopolitical instability are on the rise, Total believes that: - All available sources of energy will have to be utilized and oil should be reserved for applications where substitutes are hardest to find, namely transportation and petrochemicals. - Supply chain security must be upgraded and regional supply sources diversified. - Acreage must remain open to international companies and their technical capabilities, to ensure that the necessary investments are made.
<b>Energy efficiency</b>	Policies to promote energy efficiency, a vital component in reducing energy consumption, must cover all segments, especially the residential and commercial segments, where significant improvements can be made. They must combine regulations, incentives and market mechanisms that support continued competition among the various types of energy.
<b>Biofuels</b>	Total supports the development of biofuels, which must meet customer quality and performance requirements and comply with European Union regulations concerning competition and the free movement of goods. We are participating in the sustained research and development programs that second-generation biofuels require (see page 79).
<b>Maritime transportation safety</b>	Total supports the European Commission's "Third package of legislative measures on maritime safety in the European Union," with the exception of certain provisions that are still being negotiated, especially in the directive concerning shipowner responsibility. We regret the failure to revise the CLC/IOPC Fund to provide compensation for oil pollution damage resulting from spills from tankers. But we approve the introduction of the STOPIA and TOPIA agreements increasing the "shipowners' limit" for compensation for accidents involving small tankers or for major disasters, which reduces the imbalance vis-à-vis IOPC Funds contributions. Total is part of a new IOPC Funds working group looking at ways of improving maritime safety, to supplement the technical measures recommended by the International Maritime Organization.
<b>European Union energy policy</b>	We support this policy and are actively taking part in the process to draft consistent renewable energy and climate change regulations that protect competitiveness.