

GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

Special Issue Part 1 on the Occasion of International Renewable Energy Congress 2014 (IREC 2014)

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This volume of *International Journal of Energy Optimization and Engineering (IJE OE)* is devoted to the *fifth edition of the International Renewable Energy Congress (IREC 2014; <http://2014.irec-conference.com/>)*, which was held on March 25-27, 2014 in Hammamet, Tunisia. *IREC 2014* provided a forum for researchers and practitioners from all over the world on recent developments in the various areas of renewable energy. This congress offered keynote speeches, oral sessions and poster presentations. IREC served as a catalyst of modern research works. Authors from academia as well as industry working within the scope of the congress subjects presented their newest and emerging contributions to one of the most urgent research subjects in engineering, in economics and for humankind. Four of them are presented in this first half of the special issue.

Hammamet, one of the first tourist centers in Tunisia, still keeps its charm thanks to its privileged climate, to the vegetation of its exuberant gardens, to its beaches of sand and to the quality of its hotel facilities. The conference attendees could enjoy this unique and inspiring venue and ambience in the spare time left outside of the academic study hours of the congress.

In fact, the *IREC 2014* conference provided an excellent stage for investigators and practitioners to promote their recent advances in *Renewable Energy* to the wider scientific community, to identify scientific and practical challenges for their fields, as well as promising and rising research developments in theory, methodology and applications, and to a promotion of interactions with colleagues from related

study fields on modern *Renewable Energy* and its emerging applications.

Our cordial thanks are going to the guest editors of this special issue, Prof. Dr. Faisal Mohamed, Prof. Dr. Maher Chaabene and Prof. Dr. Fernando Taerico, for their vision, their hard work and their care! We send our gratitude to the editorial team our around Dr. Pandian Vasant, Prof. Dr. G.-W. Weber and Dr. Vo Ngoc Dieu.

We wish all the readers a pleasant and enjoyable, instructive, and inspiring study of the contributions of this *International Journal of Energy Optimization and Engineering (IJE OE)* special issue. Indeed, we very much hope that

this special issue will represent *Renewable Energy* as a premium journal of science, engineering and economics, which strongly supports the Energy Sector, Optimization and Operations Research areas worldwide and contributes to the protection of life today and tomorrow – of properties and companies, of nature and environment, of economics and societies, of nations and humankind.

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