

William Ramsay

Former Director of the Energy Program at Ifri



Work Experience

Since Oct 2008 Senior Fellow, Director of the Ifri Energy Program

1998–2008 Deputy Executive Director
International Energy Agency (IEA)

- Strongly increased the IEA's engagement with principle exporters and importers of energy around the globe, while keeping the organization prepared to face energy security emergencies.
- Lead the role of the IEA in responding to the energy crises caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- Raised the profile and the credibility of the IEA in the eyes of energy specialists and the public.
- Managed the functioning of the organization through ten years of budget reduction.

1996 – 1998 Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
Energy, Commodities, Economic Sanctions

- Develop and implement U.S. international energy policy on energy security, Caspian development, oil market developments and climate change.
- Force inclusion of U.S. commercial interests in the formulation of sanctions policies and programs.
- Engage private sector in economic sanctions formulation.
- Direct international policy on industrial and strategic commodities and stockpile disposal.

1993 – 1996 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo

- Mediated cessation of ethnic violence.
- Facilitated entry of several U.S. oil companies in previously restricted Congolese petroleum sector.
- Guided Congo to successful initiation of IMF structural adjustment program.
- Identified and secured financing to assist Congolese Presidential elections.
- Strengthened Congolese protection of endangered species of primates and primeval rain forests.
- Decorated Commander of the Congolese Order of Merit.

1989 – 1993 Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
Energy Commodities, Agriculture Trade Policy

- Lead Negotiator for energy and petrochemicals in the North American Free Trade Agreement.

- Co—ordinated and implemented allied oil embargo of Iraq after Kuwait invasion.
- Negotiated International Energy Agency stock-draw for Desert Storm allied assault on Kuwait.
- Chaired U.S. – Canada Energy Consultative Mechanism – resolving multiple politically sensitive energy trade disputes.
- Directed State Department negotiators in Uruguay Round agriculture trade issues.
- Chaired International Energy Agency policy body which renegotiated IEA energy credo adopted by ministers in June 1993.

1988 – 1989 Appointed to Senior Seminar

- Seminar is designed to deepen ambassadorial and military field grade candidates' understanding of fullest range of national security and social issues.
- Presented thesis on strategic oil supply choke points with focus on security of the Bab el Mandeb between Eritrea and the Yemen.

1986 – 1988 Director – Office of Energy Producing Country Affairs

- Maintained personal dialogue with oil ministers from all major producing countries.
- Chaired U.S. bilateral energy talks with Mexico, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, GCC and Japan.
- Delegated to negotiate multilateral support for Libyan oil sanctions regime.
- Maintained dialogue with Iraqi Oil Minister Chalabi during Iran-Iraq war.
- Won administration approval to begin opening dialogue between International Energy Agency and key oil producers.

1984 – 1986 Economic Counselor of Embassy
 Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- Organized and hosted first U.S. – Gulf Co-operation Council Dialogue.
- Uncovered and clarified complex patterns of Saudi financial aid flows.
- Analyzed budget implications for Saudi Arabia and its aid recipients of falling oil prices.
- Anticipated and reported in Saudi oil price war of 1985 – 1986.

1983 – 1984 Deputy, then Chief of the U.S. Embassy Liaison Office
 Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- Prepared and closed Liaison Office and transferred 80 professionals to new U.S. Embassy.
- Established industry and government contacts in preparation for Economic Counselor responsibilities.

1979 – 1982 Regional Resource Officer – U.S. Mission to the
 European Communities, Brussels, Belgium

- Analyzed evolution of Community energy policy and reaction to U.S. nuclear non-proliferation policy.
- Negotiated commodity agreements under the UNCTAD Integrated Program for Commodities.
- Took over responsibility for Department of Energy Office to renegotiate U.S. – Euratom nuclear supply agreement.

1975 – 1979 International Economist – Office of Fuels & Energy Department
 Department of State, Washington D.C.

- Responsible for international coal, nuclear non-proliferation policy, energy research and development and energy emergency preparedness.
- Delegate to the IEA subgroup on the accelerated development of energy alternatives to oil.

1973 – 1975 Commercial Attaché
 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

- Responsible for the promotion of U.S. business interests in the Ivory Coast.

1971 -1973 Commercial Officer
 Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire)

- Responsible for the promotion of U.S. business interests in Zaire.

1968 – 1971 Customer Service Representative – Automotive Sales Division
 Budd Company – Detroit, Michigan

- Sales service for tractor/trailer manufacturers for wheels, hubs and drums and transmission bands.

1965 – 1966 Volunteer – Peace Corps
 Conakry, Guinea

- Teacher of Zoology, Chemistry and Physics at secondary level.

Education

1982 – 1983	Leland Stanford University	Masters Degree in International Trade and Commodities
1967 – 1968	Michigan State University	Masters of Business Administration in International Marketing
1966	Université de France – Nice	non diplômé
1961 – 1965	Michigan State University	Bachelor of Science in Zoology and Chemistry

Awards

2008	Chevalier – French Legion d'Honneur
1996	Commandeur – Ordre de Mérite Congolese
1998	Secretary's Career Achievement Award
1998	Superior Honor Award – Conflict Resolution
1993	Presidential Award – Foreign Policy Contribution
1992	Senior Performance Award – NAFTA Negotiations
1991	Meritorious Honor Award – Gulf Crisis
1991	Senior Performance Award – Gulf Crisis
1989	Senior Performance Award – Middle East Oil Work

- 1989 Superior Honor Award – Libya Sanctions
- 2010 Commandeur – Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin