

Energy, water security defining issues

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Energy and water security is the defining issue of the 21st century and perhaps no other issue connects strategic, geopolitical concerns and the basic requirements of every single human being so intimately, Shaikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah, said.

“It is almost two decades since Dr Mahbub Ul Haq introduced the concept of human security in the 1994 Human Development Report emphasising the needs of individuals, and not just states,” Shaikh Mohammed said in a speech at the 23rd Yearly Crans Montana Forum which brought together ministers and officials from a host of countries.

Shaikh Mohammed met Anne Marie, honorary member of the Belgian Senate; Joachim Schwarze, Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; former CNN talk show host Larry King and former Secretary-General of the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Francesco Frangialli. He cited UN-Water’s estimates that by 2025, 1.8 billion people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity and two-thirds of the world’s population could be under stress conditions.