On 13 January 2021, the newly created European Board held its first meeting, and elected Dawn Summers – Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Wintershall Dea – as Chair.

The European Board brings together high-level representatives from 11 Member companies (bp, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Eni, Equinor, ExxonMobil, MOL Group, NOGEPA, Shell, Total, and Wintershall Dea) to shape the Association’s advocacy efforts in Europe. “I’m honoured to chair the IOGP European Board through what will be two challenging and crucial legislative years. It is a remarkable opportunity to regularly liaise and cooperate with such experienced colleagues and to develop even stronger advocacy strategies and business plans for IOGP in Europe,” she said.

This first meeting covered governance issues and approval of the new Terms of Reference recently developed for the IOGP’s European Committee and Subcommittees following the latest Operational Review. IOGP’s representatives provided Members with an overview of what the European Committee had achieved over the past three years, and its policy priorities and budget for 2021.
In December 2020, Dawn Summers was appointed President of GasNaturally, the partnership representing the European gas industry value chain, for two years. She assumed the role on 1 January 2021, succeeding Marco Alverà, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Italian gas infrastructure company Snam.

As GasNaturally President, Summers aims to work closely with GasNaturally’s Members and to advocate at the EU level for gas to play a key role in reaching EU climate ambitions. "The gas legislation overhaul in 2021-2022 will set the foundations for climate neutrality in the EU in the next 30 years. I’m convinced that having the privilege to lead both IOGP Europe and GasNaturally over this period will unlock natural synergies for an improved industry advocacy," said Summers.

Summers has been the COO of Wintershall Dea since 1 June 2020 and is responsible for Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. She has more than 25 years of extensive international experience in the oil and gas sector, including with bp, Genel Energy, Origin Energy, and Beach Energy. She has a Degree in Chemical Engineering (University of Edinburgh) and Executive Operations Leadership (MIT Sloan School of Management).