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### The output cuts decided on by OPEC+ in October are close to 1mbd.

I would have expected to see at least 800,000 barrels to be enforced. Saudi Arabia, according to Bloomberg's latest figures, has made a cut of at least 470,000 barrels and the whole alliance has cut close to a million barrels. No one expected them to cut by two million. Now, China has emerged as a key factor, especially over the past two weeks, with Shanghai and other regions easing their lockdowns and that will be reflected in global demand next year. So, it certainly was not the right time for OPEC+ to make any further cuts at its meeting last week and if China does come back fully economically by June, perhaps we will see an emergency OPEC+ meeting to bring back more of the barrels that were cut back in October.

### Impact of the EU price cap on Russian oil flows and OPEC+ policy?

I would expect Russia to continue supplying Europe with oil despite the threats that they will stop supplies from countries participating in the cap, simply because it's still an attractive deal. China will be the biggest factor for OPEC+. I don't think the price cap will really have an impact on its policy.

### Expectations for President Xi's visit to Saudi Arabia?

Saudi Arabia is leading the Arabs in terms of opening and consolidating relations with China, especially in terms of economic diversification. China is a major partner in achieving that economic vision led by the Crown Prince. Chinese companies will find strong opportunities to explore the energy transition in the Kingdom - in hydrogen, ammonia, solar energy. China is also an important partner in oil; it gets at least 1.5 million barrels a day from Saudi Arabia, sometimes with favorable prices, and I would expect them to continue importing Saudi oil for at least 20 years. Xi's visit will focus on expanding these already established oil relations into other sectors in the economy, especially those that can achieve Vision 2030. ■

*\*Paraphrased Comments*

