



**Minutes of the 3rd General Assembly
of the Mediterranean Working Group on Electricity and Natural Gas
Regulation (MEDREG)**

DATE OF THE MEETING: 14 May 2007

VENUE OF THE MEETING: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sala delle Conferenze Internazionali, Piazzale della Farnesina 1, Rome

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Alessandro Ortis

VICE-CHAIRMEN: Mr. Nadjib Otmane and Mr. Yusuf Gunay

PARTICIPANTS: see the attached list ([Doc Med 01-07 GA](#))

1. *Opening address.* Mr Ortis, Chairman of MEDREG and President of the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity and Gas (AEEG), welcomed the participants, thanked the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the hospitality offered, REMEP and the European Commission for their support. The meeting started with a welcoming address by Mr Cesare Maria Ragaglini, Director General for the Mediterranean and Middle East at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs ([see Doc Med 02-07 GA](#)).
The two MEDREG Vice-Chairmen, Mr Gunay, President of the Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EMRA-Turkey), and Mr Otmane, President of the Commission de regulation de l'électricité et du gaz (CREG - Algeria), underlined the progress made by MEDREG after one year of work and remarked the real interdependence existing among all members.
The European Commission's representative, Ms Marie-Christine Jalabert, remarked the increase of MEDREG's activities and underlined the support offered by the EC to the initiative.
Mr Domenico Gaudio (Italian Ministry of Economic Development) illustrated REMEP's structure and the strong institutional collaboration foreseen between MEDREG and REMEP ([see Doc Med 03-07 GA](#)).
2. The *Agenda* was approved ([see Doc Med 04-07 GA](#)).
3. The *Minutes of the last Meeting, 20 November 2006* were approved ([see Doc Med 10-06 GA](#)).
Mr Ortis informed the Assembly that the updated list of representatives in the Ad Hoc Groups will be annexed to the minutes including the representatives recently appointed by the Moroccan Ministry of Energy and Mines ([see Doc Med 05-07 GA](#)).
4. *Ad Hoc Group on Institutional issues' Terms of Reference* were presented by the Group's Chair (Mr. Jacques-André Troesch) and discussed by the General Assembly particularly for some remarks expressed by Algeria and Morocco. The European Commission's representative, with reference to the possible EC long term financial support, recommended the four Ad Hoc Groups to take into account all documents already existing (i.e. made by the World Bank) dealing with subjects concerning their tasks. The European Commission's representative asked some clarifications regarding the proposed calendar for the outputs 2007/2009. Mr Ortis asked Mr Troesch to circulate by e-mail the last (6 December 2005) CEER Regulatory Benchmarking Report among all MEDREG members. The General Assembly approved the Terms of Reference ([see Doc Med 06-07 GA](#)) and appointed Mr Fatih Bilgic (Energy Expert, Energy Market Regulatory Authority – Turkey) as Chairperson for the Task Force dedicated to a benchmarking study. The General Assembly agreed to appoint the Chairperson for the second Task Force in charge of drafting a Memorandum of

Understanding on institutional issues. The Chairperson will be proposed by the Group's Chair and the person appointed must be confirmed by MEDREG members through electronic procedure.

5. *Ad Hoc Group on Electricity's Terms of Reference* were presented by the Group's Chair (Mr Hafez El-Salmawi) and discussed by the General Assembly. Algeria and France made some comments and the European Commission's representative suggested some amendments, agreed by all participants, concerning the calendar (see [Doc Med 07-07 GA](#)). It has been decided that the possible establishment of new Task Forces, on the basis of the AG Chair's proposal, will be approved by MEDREG members through electronic procedure.
6. *Ad Hoc Group on Gas' Terms of Reference* were presented by the Group's Chair (Mr Chedli Chakroun) and discussed by the General Assembly. Some specific suggestions concerning interconnections were made by Algeria, European Commission, France and Italy. The document (see [Doc Med 08-07 GA](#)) was approved by the General Assembly.
7. *Ad Hoc Group on Environment, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency' Terms of Reference* were presented by the Group's Chair (Mr Carlos Solé), discussed and approved by the General Assembly (see [Doc Med 09-07 GA](#)).
8. *Presentation of Florence School of Regulation* (see [Doc Med 10-07 GA](#)) and *IERN* (see [Doc Med 11-07 GA](#)). Professor Ranci, Director of the Florence School of Regulation, presented the Florence School's activities and the training programmes available for MEDREG members. Professor Ranci invited all participants to give suggestions to intensify the relationship between FSR and MEDREG as soon as possible due to the fact that the FSR Work Plan for the years 2007-2008 is being finalized. He also informed the Assembly on IERN's functioning and he underlined the importance of receiving updated information from all MEDREG members. Albania and Algeria made some comments on the specific courses proposed and emphasized the need of training not only for regulators but also for market's operators. Considering the specificity of subjects linked to the Energy Regulation, Jordan proposed to create an ad hoc University Degree on Regulation. Mr Ranci accepted the suggestions but underlined also the need of strong support and collaboration from all MEDREG Members.
9. *Country Reports* (see [Doc Med 12-07 GA](#)) of Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Portugal, Spain, Turkey were presented for information.
10. The Chairman informed the Assembly that all power point presentations made during the meeting will be circulated by e-mail. All participants agreed to report to their Government about MEDREG progress.
11. *Relations with other institutions*. Mr Crea, Secretary General of the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity and Gas (AEEG), informed all participants on the strong relations existing with CEER/ERGEG and UE and on the possible collaboration with the OME newsletter. Mr George Koutzoukos, Special Advisor of the Greek Regulatory Authority for Energy, informed the Assembly on the status of the South East Europe Energy Community. Mr Otmane informed the Assembly on the existing African energy associations (African Energy Commission; African Forum for Utility Regulators) and on the opportunity for MEDREG to be represented at the next OME General Assembly that will be held in Algiers the 27th of June. The General Assembly appointed Mr Otmane as MEDREG representative at the OME GA.
12. *Update on: Budget, available financial support and juridical status* (see [Doc Med 13-07 GA](#)). Mr Crea informed the General Assembly on the status of MEDREG financing and new related documents have been circulated during the meeting: a letter from Mr Crea to Mrs Carla Montesi; the Draft Budget for years 2008-2010; the Work Plan for years 2008-2010. The General Assembly approved all documents and agreed on the proposal of providing for MEDREG the juridical form of "non-profit association under the Italian Law" based in Rome.

13. *Any other business*: the Chairman proposed the draft press release (see Doc Med 14-07 GA) and the General Assembly approved it for publication and for dissemination by MEDREG Members.
14. MEDREG members agreed to hold **the 4th General Assembly on 15th November 2007 in Rome**. The place and the location of the 5th General Assembly will be decided later on the basis of the availability shown by MEDREG members.

Actions Needed

Action	Who	When Due	Status
To update and circulate by e-mail the list of representatives in the Ad Hoc Groups among MEDREG Members	Mr. Alessandro Ortis	asap	done
To update the WG's ToR	- Mr. Chedli Chakroun - Mr. Hafez A El Salmawi - Mr. Carlos Solé - Mr. Jacques-André Troesch	asap	done
To circulate by e-mail the last (6 December 2005) CEER Regulatory Benchmarking Report among MEDREG Members	Mr. Jacques-André Troesch	asap	
To propose the name of the Chairperson for the second WG on institutional issues' TF for GA's approval by electronic procedure	Mr. Jacques-André Troesch	asap	
To propose the establishment of new TFs for the WG on Electricity for the GA's approval by electronic procedure	Mr. Hafez A El Salmawi	asap	
To give suggestions to FSR for increasing the relationship with MEDREG	All MEDREG Members	asap	
To circulate all power point presentations made during the last GA	Mr. Alessandro Ortis	asap	done
To report on the conclusions of the OME Round Table (Algiers, 27 June 2007)	Mr. Nadjib Otmane	asap	
To prepare and circulate the MEDREG draft Statutes for the GA's approval by electronic procedure	Mr. Alessandro Ortis	asap	The MEDREG draft Statutes is under preparation and will be circulated among MEDREG Members shortly