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MEDREG 20th GENERAL ASSEMBLY PAVES THE WAY FOR STABLE AND INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN ENERGY MARKETS

Tirana, 3 December 2015

The Albanian Energy Regulator (ERE) kindly hosted today the 20th General Assembly (GA) meeting of the Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG) in Tirana that approved 6 working groups reports.

The GA approved a comprehensive review that describes the results performed by the Association in the last 2 years in the overall framework of the evolution of the Mediterranean energy sector. Regulatory achievements at national level from both the Southern and the Northern shore of the Mediterranean represent a consistent step forward towards regulatory harmonization in the region. Progress made by Southern shore regulators is **in line with the recommendations issued by the Association**. Fact-findings from the document include several steps forward made at national level:

- the **process of establishment of the Moroccan electricity regulator and the Egyptian gas regulator is advancing**;
- the reinforcement of **institutional cooperation** with Euro-Mediterranean energy stakeholders;
- the enhancement of **knowledge about good regulatory principles** and practice among Southern shore members as well as intensified **exchange and publication of data** on Mediterranean gas and electricity markets.

During the Assembly MEDREG also presented and discussed two important results that will shape the future activities of the Association.

1. Cooperation between MEDREG and Med-TSO in the framework of the Euro-Med Platforms: in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Regional Electricity Market (REM) Platform, Mediterranean Energy Regulators, in collaboration with the Association of Mediterranean Transmission System Operators (Med-TSO), is intensively working on a **roadmap proposing 4 steps to promote the progressive integration of power systems and markets** in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Further discussions will take place in Brussels with the UfM, the European Commission and the REM Platform participants by the end of 2015.

2. Mediterranean Financial Sounding Panel for Energy Regulation (Med-FPE): MEDREG GA approved the creation of a **Mediterranean Financial Sounding Panel for Energy Regulation (Med-FPE)** with the aim to increase interactions with international financial institutions (IFIs) active in the Mediterranean energy sector. This activity follows the work initiated by MEDREG in June 2015 with the publication of the report: "Interconnection Infrastructures in the Mediterranean: A Challenging Environment for Investments", testifying for the strong commitment of the Association on investment issues.

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MEDREG is an Association that brings together energy regulators from 21 countries around the Mediterranean in order to promote a clear, stable and harmonized legal and regulatory framework through continuous cooperation among the Northern, Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean basin. The MEDREG Secretariat is located in Milan, Italy, hosted by the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity, Gas and Water (AEEGSI). www.medreg-regulators.org

For further information, interviews and related material please contact:

MEDREG Press Office: Tiziana Tronci

Mob: (+39) 347 45 32 482

ttronci@medreg-regulators.org