

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDREG shares its experience to support an empowered energy regulator in Morocco

Rabat, 30 October 2017

On 30 October, Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG)* joined the German Corporation for International Cooperation GmbH (GIZ)** in discussing the evolution of the Moroccan energy market with the Moroccan Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, in a conference entitled “Energy Market transformation: challenges and implication”. Held today in Rabat, the event aimed at presenting international experiences that are in line with the efforts to reform Morocco’s legislative and regulatory framework and support its ambitious low carbon energy objectives.

Opening the discussions, Mr. Karim Choukri, Head of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Department at the Moroccan Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, recalled the structural and institutional reforms adopted by the country for the deployment of the RES market, addressing tariff, interconnexion and access to network. These reforms have already attracted private investors and should enable, in the long term, the convergence towards a Euro-Mediterranean market.

Attended by officials of the Moroccan Energy Ministry and local energy stakeholders, the conference introduced the benefits of well-functioning markets towards sustainable policy goals, affordability and security of supply. It preceded a two-day training on the basic principles of electricity regulation and the integration of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in the grid.

Representatives from GIZ, MEDREG, the energy industry and academia shared their experience and touched upon market design, RES support instruments, consumer issues and regulators’ rules and tasks. MEDREG contributed to the event with two speakers. Presenting the methods used and lessons learned from MEDREG’s shared experience, the Moroccan energy stakeholders have learned about how to monitor the quality of supply.

This exchange of international practices provided insights and inspiration for Moroccan policy makers, energy industry and consumers. Throughout the discussions, the importance of setting a stable and transparent regulatory framework, as well as ensuring that the regulatory authority is established with competences and powers, was emphasized as a pre-requisite for successful market development.

Presenting the characteristics that make a regulator successful in performing its tasks, MEDREG President Mr. Alexandre Santos (ERSE, Portugal) stated:

“MEDREG’s Good Regulatory Principles provide the key prerequisites for an independent, empowered and well-functioning regulator that carries out its mission in a transparent and accountable manner”. He added that “these principles can help regulators to self-assess how close or how far they are in respecting and applying them and to define what they wish to achieve in the future.”

This high level event on energy regulation followed the joint side event on climate change held by MEDREG and GIZ during the 2016 COP22 in Marrakech, which marked the beginning of MEDREG’s support to the Moroccan Energy Ministry towards the establishment of the Moroccan National Authority for the Regulation of Electricity (ANRE).

*** MEDREG**

MEDREG is the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators, which brings together 25 regulators from 21 countries, spanning the European Union (EU), the Balkans and North Africa. MEDREG benefits from the European Union's financial support. Mediterranean regulators work together to promote greater harmonization of the regional energy markets and legislations, seeking progressive market integration in the Euro-Mediterranean basin. Through constant cooperation and information exchange among members, MEDREG aims at fostering consumer rights, energy efficiency, infrastructure investment and development, based on secure, safe, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable energy systems. MEDREG acts as a platform providing information exchange and assistance to its members as well as capacity development activities through webinars, training sessions and workshops as well as personalised hands-on initiatives. The MEDREG Secretariat is located in Milan, Italy. For more information, visit www.medreg-regulators.org

**** GIZ**

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a federal enterprise with worldwide operations. We support the German Government in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. We are also engaged in international education activities around the globe. Through our work, we assist people and societies in shaping their own future and improving living conditions. GIZ offers demand-driven, tailor-made and effective services for sustainable development. The agency has activities in over 90 countries.

To learn more about GIZ, please visit: www.giz.de

For further information, interviews and related material please contact:

MEDREG Press Office: Daphné Lacroix

Tel: (+39) 026 55 65 553

Mob: (+39) 389 69 11 797

dlacroix@medreg-regulators.org

XXXX