



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Amman, 4 June 2014** - The 17<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the **Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG)** was held today in Amman, Jordan, kindly hosted by the Energy and Mineral Regulatory Commission (EMRC).

During this meeting, MEDREG presented and discussed in particular two important issues that will shape the future activities of the Association.

Being the only association representing independent public authorities in the Mediterranean energy sector, **MEDREG is developing a strategy for 2020-2030** to define the role that regulators can play in the establishment of a Mediterranean Energy Community. *"MEDREG has made a meaningful step forward to lay down the foundations of our future work"* said **Michel Thiollière, President of MEDREG**. *"We are developing an ambitious and concrete strategy, focused on a sound institutional regulatory framework, the creation of optimal conditions for infrastructure investments, the intensification of regional cooperation, and the support to competitive and transparent electricity and gas markets. All these long term objectives will help improve consumer protection"*.

In this framework MEDREG, supported by the European Commission, is organising a **Mediterranean Forum on Energy Regulation**, to be held in Barcelona on 26 November 2014. The MEDREG Forum is conceived as an institutional tool to strengthen dialogue with public and private organisations. *"The Forum will rely on high-level speakers and audience including Associations of energy regulators such as CEER and ECRB. For this first edition, MEDREG will promote an active exchange of views on the relation between regulation and investments in the Mediterranean energy sector, which are essential to enhance the economic, social and environmental development of the region"*, stated President Thiollière.

*"MEDREG helps us better understanding regulatory processes, improve the transparency and encourage harmonization of the Mediterranean markets"*, said **Eng. Farouk Hiyari, Chairman of EMRC**. *"The Association organizes training and capacity building activities that **enhance our employees' expertise and increase the degree of cooperation** among MEDREG countries."*

*"We believe that energy markets integration is key to face the increasing energy demand, and to do so there is a clear need to use alternative energy sources and renewables in particular. Yet to reach such integration level, regulatory schemes and institutions are the main entry point"* said **H E Ms. Wronecka, Head of the EU Delegation in Jordan** *"The EU sees MEDREG as a chance of mutual and sustainable harmonised development of regulatory and legal frameworks in all partner countries"*.

*MEDREG is supported by the European Union*

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

Visit [www.medreg-regulators.org](http://www.medreg-regulators.org)

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Note to the editors:

- Council of European Energy Regulators of the European Union (CEER)
- Energy Community Regulatory Board (ECRB)