

MEDREG's support to energy regulatory reforms in the Southern Mediterranean: What have we achieved?

Thursday 19 September 2019, 10:00 – 16:00

Brussels NH Berlaymont Hotel (Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, Brussels), Room De Gasperi III.

CONCEPT

In 2018, MEDREG launched a new initiative which aimed at facilitating ongoing and forthcoming energy reforms in the Southern and Eastern countries of the Mediterranean region. Based on a joint assessment of needs by MEDREG and its beneficiary members, the support provided took several forms such as exchange of information and best practices, high-level trainings for regulatory staff, study visits to peer regulators, and identification and discussion of new regulatory measures.

As this initiative has already shown some positive results, this event proposes to **share some of the successes achieved in the last two years, through the voice and testimonies of MEDREG's regulatory members** which benefitted from it in Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Palestine.

The primary audience will be the EU and national media of the Mediterranean countries, the EU decision-makers and the wider Mediterranean energy stakeholders, including the private sector.

This event will tell the stories of:

- ✓ How **Algeria** successfully launched its tender on auctioning systems to determine renewable energy prices and confidently evaluated the best price option;
- ✓ The reinforcement of the **Egyptian** energy regulator's powers on consumer protection, tariff setting and the adoption of a code of ethics;
- ✓ The opening in **Israel** of wholesale **electricity** markets, moving from monopolies to competitive markets;
- ✓ The progress achieved by the **Israeli gas** regulator in connecting its household consumers to gas;
- ✓ **Jordan's** strengthened capacity to correctly give, monitor and withdraw licences;
- ✓ The establishment of **Morocco's** new independent energy regulatory authority and how it is becoming operational; and
- ✓ **Palestine's** projects to establish a net metering system in the country.

Some of the Members' presentations and testimonies on the concrete achievements and improved regulatory capacity that resulted from MEDREG's support activities will be completed by a couple of case studies and success stories, that could be distributed at the event and shared digitally before and after.

MEDREG continuously assesses the progress and development of regulatory authorities in the region. Thanks to the tailor-made and detailed implementation support plans that were developed

and carried out for energy regulators of the Southern Mediterranean, MEDREG saw a reinforcement of their competences, expertise, effectiveness and role in the oversight of energy markets.

OBJECTIVE

- Raise the interest of the media on the MEDREG's project and generated benefits in Southern shore countries
- Generate positive EU visibility, media understanding and support of MEDREG's mission
- Explain and inform the audience of the benefits that a stronger regulation and improved electricity and gas markets have on consumers and energy players.

KEY AUDIENCE

- EU media
- Foreign press agencies
- MEPs, EC officials (DG NEAR, DG ENER), Representations of Mediterranean countries to the EU
- MEDREG members
- EU and Mediterranean energy stakeholders, including the private sector

Draft agenda

Time	Session	Speaker
10:00 – 10:30	Opening and welcoming word	European Commission - DG NEAR & ENER MEDREG President
10:30 – 11:00	Algeria: Determining renewable energy prices through auctioning system	Ms. Karima Mededjel (TBC) <i>Director of Communication and External Relations</i> Algerian Regulatory Commission of Electricity and Gas (CREG)
11:00 – 11:30	Egypt: How the Egyptian energy regulator reinforced its powers on consumer protection, tariff setting and adopted a code of ethics.	Ms Sahimaa AbdelAzim <i>Senior Economist</i> Egyptian Electric Utility and Consumer Protection Regulatory Agency (EgyptERA)
11:30	Coffee Break	

12:00 – 12:30	Jordan: Strengthening EMRC's capacity to correctly give, monitor and withdraw licences.	Ms. Budour Alhyari <i>Legal Advisor</i> Energy & Minerals Regulatory Commission (EMRC)
12:30 – 13:00	Morocco's new Electricity Regulatory Authority: The establishment of an independent and operational energy regulatory authority.	Mr. Abdellatif Bardach <i>President of the Moroccan</i> Electricity Regulatory Authority (ANRE)
13:00 -14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:30	Palestine: Project of establishing a net metering system in the country.	Eng. Hamdi Tahboub <i>Chief Executive Officer</i> Palestinian Electricity Regulatory Council (PERC)
14:30 – 15:00	Israel electricity: Opening of wholesale electricity markets, moving from monopolies to competitive markets.	Ms. Nurit Felter-Eitan <i>Authority Secretary and Spokeswoman</i> Public Utilities Authority – Electricity (PUA)
15:00 – 15:30	Israel gas: Connecting household consumers to gas.	Mr Constantine Blyuz <i>Chief Economist</i> Natural Gas Authority (NGA)
15:30 – 16:00	Conclusions of the testimonies	MEDREG's Representatives