



Press Release

“Towards an Interconnected Mediterranean Grid: Institutional Framework and Regulatory Perspectives”

Paris, May 28th, 2013 - **OME** (Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Énergie) and **MEDGRID** present their joint publication ***“Towards an Interconnected Mediterranean Grid: Institutional Framework and Regulatory Perspectives”*** at EDF headquarters in Paris.

This is the first OME-MEDGRID joint publication and the objective is to provide an up to date study to foster power exchanges and develop interconnections in the Mediterranean region.

The publication, oriented towards open and transparent cooperation in the field of electricity, makes twelve recommendations for a progressive reform process, along three main axes:

- Introducing a pre-market design for electricity in South and East Mediterranean Countries (SEMC),
- Fostering development of new interconnectors through more favourable regulations,
- Supporting cross-Mediterranean trading of electricity from renewable sources.

Progress in these directions will be achieved by working at different levels. At the regulatory level, national regulators should define new rules for third party access to the grid and to interconnections, in a harmonized way, with support of MEDREG. At the technical level, Transmission System Operators (TSOs) should cooperate to allow for integration of national grids and electricity markets, in the framework of MED-TSO. Above all, political consensus and impetus are necessary, brought by the UfM.

As many other institutions, MEDGRID and OME are ready to play a role in the implementation of the measures recommended. MEDGRID and OME are particularly functional for transfer of know-how and for catalyzing fundamental interests of private stakeholders, from industry and financing institutions operating in the Mediterranean area.

OME is a nonprofit Association created in 1988. The Association counts thirty two leading Mediterranean energy companies from fourteen countries. The main objective of the Association is to promote cooperation and collaboration with major energy companies operating in the Mediterranean region, making of energy an element for regional integration.

MEDGRID is an industrial initiative which was set up in 2010 to promote and facilitate the development of electrical interconnections between countries north, south and east Mediterranean. More than 20 companies have joined, from 8 Mediterranean countries. MEDGRID's goal is to analyze the feasibility of a trans-Mediterranean power grid, covering technical, economical, regulatory and finance issues.

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