

STATUTES OF IERN

Approved by the IERN STEERING COMMITTEE on **18 October 2009**

Article 1 – Name

The name of the web platform is “International Energy Regulators’ Network”, which shall be abbreviated as IERN.

Article 2 – Objectives

The IERN is a web platform that facilitates the exchange and analysis of information concerning energy regulation. Its objectives include:

- raising the profile and public awareness of the work of national energy regulators in monitoring energy markets and supporting consumer rights;
- providing an open platform for energy regulators to pursue joint values and goals; and
- serving as a permanent platform for international information exchange and dialogue on regulatory issues and best practices.
- serving also as a platform to facilitate the efficient operation of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER);

IERN depends on the participation and commitment of its members. It is open to all energy stakeholders and is based on open communication and sharing of information; professional excellence through training and education; and mutual respect and cooperation through continuous dialogue.

Article 3 – Activities

IERN will:

- provide information exchange on training courses, research, conferences and online resources on energy regulation;
- undertake benchmarking of regulatory activities;
- support the work of the ICER in promoting cooperation and joint analysis of issues of global interest by providing secretariat support according to the practical arrangements foreseen in Article 5;
- offer up to date information on regulatory issues, etc.;
- foster cooperation and assistance among members; and
- observe and assess the development of energy markets and global tendencies in energy regulation.

Article 4 – Membership

Regional associations of energy regulatory authorities from around the world are designated as ‘Members’.

Associate Members from other public institutions involved in the energy field (including individual national energy regulatory authorities) can be accepted, on application, at the discretion of the Steering Committee. In particular, Associate Members are admitted on condition of making a financial contribution to the budget.

Members and Associate Members commit to provide information (and periodic updates) on their activities and that of their members, where relevant. The Members and Associate Members will be responsible for the accuracy and timeliness of this information.

There is no limit to the number of Members or Associate Members.

Article 5 – Organisation

IERN’s governing body is the Steering Committee. Only Members are eligible to serve given the close links to the Steering Committee of regional regulatory associations involved in the World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER).

The IERN General Assembly comprises the Members and the Associate Members. The Steering Committee shall report to the General Assembly on its activities, priorities and accounts.

The IERN bodies are supported by a Management Team.

Further practical arrangements, including support services for ICER, will be adopted following approval by the Steering Committee.

Article 6 – President

The President is elected for a term of 3 years, from among the IERN Steering Committee Members. This term shall be renewable. The term of office of the President shall expire when he/she ceases to be a member of the IERN Steering Committee.

Article 7 – Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shall oversee the strategy, finances, and operation of IERN’s web platform and operational rules.

- a. It comprises Regional Energy Regulatory Associations.
- b. Each Member shall have one vote except those Steering Committee Members providing financial support to the IERN amounting to more than 10% of the annual budget, who will have two votes.
- c. The Steering Committee shall elect its President from among its Members.
- d. The Steering Committee will hold at least one meeting a year convened by its President at least one month in advance.
- e. The meetings may take the form of telephone and/or audio visual connections through the internet/or video conferencing facilities.
- f. The President shall establish an agenda including any proposed item from any member.
- g. The Steering Committee shall have the power to take all decisions relevant to IERN; admit and exclude Members including Associate Members; determine the minimum annual contribution by Members, Associate Members and Sponsors; amend the Statutes; and oversee the management team's support the for IERN and the ICER.
- h. The list of Members and Associate Members is annexed. It, and a list of sponsors, shall be updated once a year.

Article 8 – General Assembly

The General Assembly of IERN comprises the Members and Associate Members. It shall be convened by the President of the Steering Committee at least once every three years.

Article 9 – Management Team

The Management Team shall provide the secretarial and IT support to IERN. The team is provided by the European University Institute's Florence School of Regulation (FSR). The Management Team shall comply with the obligations laid out in the internal governance arrangements proposed by the FSR and will follow the guidance of the Steering Committee.

It shall also assist the Steering Committee and the General Assembly in the preparation of their meetings and maintain the minutes.

Article 10 - IERN Sponsors

Sponsors of IERN are companies, organisations or associations of stakeholders that contribute financially to the budget. Sponsors shall be invited to participate in the presentation of any of the public and/or scientific activities of IERN; shall

have a special access to IERN and may have their logo published on IERN website.

Article 11 – IERN Budget and Accounts

The Management Team will present a three year budget proposal, including the forecast costs for the activities in Article 9, for approval to the Steering Committee no later than two months prior to the new budget period, and accounts after the end of each year. Accounts will be submitted to the Steering Committee each semester for review and information.

IERN is financed through annual contributions from Members, Associate Members and Sponsors (according to Article 7, point g) and from any other contributions (also in kind) and donations accepted by the Steering Committee.

Article 12 – Work Programme and Annual Report

The Management Team will submit an Annual Work Programme and Annual Report for approval by the Steering Committee for publication and the consideration of the General Assembly.

Article 13 – Working language

The working language of the Steering Committee and General Assembly shall be English.