



Association of Mediterranean Regulators
for Electricity and Gas
(MEDREG)

ACTION PLAN

2011-2012-2013



This project is co-financed by the European Union

INDEX

I. MEDREG Mission: Strengthening the Cooperation among Mediterranean Energy Regulators	3
II. MEDREG Communication Strategy	5
III. External Relations and Accountability	6
IV. Consolidating the Role of MEDREG Secretariat.....	7
V. MEDREG Structure and Organisation of Activities	8
a. Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues (INS AG).....	10
b. Ad-Hoc Group on Electricity (ELE AG)	11
c. Ad-Hoc Group on Gas (GAS AG).....	12
d. Ad-Hoc Group on the Environment, Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency (RES AG)	13
e. MEDREG Infrastructure Investment Task Force (INV TF)	14
f. MEDREG Integration of Electricity Markets of Maghreb Countries Task Force (IMME TF)	14
g. MEDREG ICER Task Force (ICER TF).....	15

I. MEDREG Mission: Strengthening the Cooperation among Mediterranean Energy Regulators

Background

MEDREG was established as a permanent “working group” in May 2006 and became a non-profit Association under Italian Law in November 2007. MEDREG brings together Energy Regulators for Electricity and Gas of the following countries: Albania, Algeria, the Palestinian Authority, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, Croatia, Egypt, France, Jordan, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Montenegro, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.

The Association is co-financed by the European Union, with the purpose of promoting clear, stable and harmonised legal and regulatory frameworks. The main objectives of MEDREG are to facilitate the development of investments, infrastructures and interconnections, in order to support greater efficiency and integration of energy markets based on secure, safe, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable energy systems in the Mediterranean basin.

MEDREG permanent Secretariat is based in Milan, hosted by the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity and Gas (AEEG).

Considering the strategic energy challenges of the Mediterranean region, Mediterranean Energy Regulators consider as their duty to constitute a strong institutional basis promoting a “bottom up” approach towards economic, social and cultural development, in order to conciliate a rising energy demand with sustainable development conditions. The essential role of Energy Regulators has been acknowledged by Euro-Med Energy Ministers on 17 December 2007 in Limassol (Cyprus) and again on 3-4 November 2008 in Marseilles (France), in order to implement the Priority Action Plan for 2008-2013 to guarantee greater harmonization of the energy markets and legislations and to seek progressive market integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region; to foster sustainable development in the energy sector and to develop initiatives of common interest in key areas such as infrastructure extension, investment financing, research and development.

These objectives require a long term vision designed at regional level. Continuous efforts are necessary to achieve a converging and coherent regulatory framework through a step-by-step approach. MEDREG is definitely positioned in this long-term perspective, notably by addressing the opportunity to provide support in terms of expertise and capacity building to the Integration of Electricity Markets of Maghreb Countries (IMME Action Plan) for the period 2010-2015.

The decisive partnership established since the beginning with the Florence School of Regulation (FSR, <http://www.iue.it/RSCAS/Research/FSR/>) allows MEDREG to implement its prominent task of promoting the exchange of know-how, expertise and capacity building through specialised training sessions and studies in the field of energy regulation. In this respect, **training sessions and seminars are considered as a key element** to create and share a common vision of energy regulation in the Mediterranean region. **Together with the FSR, Mediterranean Energy Regulators intend to develop and consolidate a strategic axis** and become the point of reference for and promoter of technical cooperation, data consolidation, research and scientific coordination, and general support to energy governance towards a final goal: preparing the establishment of a possible *Mediterranean Energy Community*.

MEDREG Network: towards a Mediterranean Energy Community

The main objective of MEDREG is to create the conditions for a further step in terms of regional cooperation in the energy sector, which could lead to the creation of a *Mediterranean Energy Community*. This shall be achieved through a progressive approach involving all stakeholders of the energy sector such as: industry associations, system operators, traders, consumer associations, think-tanks, financial institutions, investors and others.

MEDREG is already actively involved into strategic cooperation at both regional and international level: The Association intends to be at the heart of an active cooperation network in order to ensure the accountability and visibility of its activities notably via its role of:

- permanent partner of CEER (Council of European Energy Regulators), IERN (International Energy Regulatory Network), ERA (Energy Regulators regional Association), and of the European Commission (DG ENER, DG DEVCO);
- founding member of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER), of which MEDREG Chairs Virtual Working Group 1 on Security of Supply, and from which MEDREG received the 2010 Award for its report on "Incentive mechanisms to support RES and Energy efficiency"; the Association is also directly involved in the preparation of the Fifth World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER V) to be held in Quebec city in May 2012.
- observer to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), from which former MEDREG President Alessandro Ortis received the PAM Prize 2010 for his role in the development of economic and social cooperation in the Mediterranean region; MEDREG is also member of the Energy Commission within the "PAM Panel on External Trade and Investment in the Mediterranean", in charge of coordinating the input of Energy Regulators;
- driving force of dialogue and collaboration with all relevant partners and institutions (European Commission, Union for the Mediterranean, MEDELEC (getting together electricity companies and operators associations which have interests in the Mediterranean region), MEDEMIP (financed by the European Commission for the reinforcement of energy cooperation in the Mediterranean), MEDENER (Mediterranean Association of the National Agencies for Energy Conservation and the Environment), OME (Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Énergie), the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP), IPEMED (Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen), Plan Bleu; RCREEE (Regional Centre for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency), EFET (European Federation of Energy Traders), European Investment Bank, InfraMed, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Bank, others).

MEDREG Secretariat will play an increasing role in initiating and coordinating the activities of the Association in terms of communication and external relations, **starting with the drafting of a Communication Strategy.**

II. MEDREG Communication Strategy

MEDREG Website, a powerful Communication tool

MEDREG website (www.medreg-regulators.org) is conceived as a comprehensive information platform designed for members and stakeholders. The web portal includes a general internet access (public access), as well as a members area (restricted access for MEDREG members). The purpose of the website is twofold: to increase the overall visibility of the Association and to provide informational support to the activities carried out under Adhoc Groups, Task Forces, training sessions, and international networking.

The type of information services provided by the MEDREG website will be the following:

- Information on the Association **activities**: overview of all project's activities will be displayed on the MEDREG activities webpage and provide a summary on the past, current and planned activities such as studies and reports, training sessions and courses, relations with external institutions, etc.;
- Relevant **documents**: the relevant documents will be uploaded in the Documents database and include such documents as Reports, Training materials, etc;
- Information on the **members and stakeholders**: the members and stakeholders webpages will include the key project members and stakeholder information and contacts;
- **Images** related to major MEDREG events will be covered by a professional photographer; all the images related to the Association will be listed in a database, including photos of the Adhoc Groups and General Assembly meetings, photos of training sessions, etc.;
- Relevant resource **links** related to MEDREG activities and partners, including such links as local EU Delegations, DEVCO Cooperation Office, ENPI Info Centre, etc.

MEDREG Leaflet and Brochure

A MEDREG Leaflet and Brochure will be developed for improved marketing and communication of the MEDREG organisation and activities. These documents will incorporate the basic elements of the EU visual identity and a definition of the EU as element of context of the EU-funded project.

The Leaflet will provide general basic information on MEDREG organisation and structure, as well as the website address where further updated information will be available. The Brochure will present in greater details the context and objectives of the project, including a description of MEDREG members, stakeholders and focusing on the main achievements and future actions.

The Leaflet and Brochure will be distributed to all MEDREG members and stakeholders. They will be both available in English, French and Arabic.

Network of MEDREG Communication Officers

Communications Officers from all MEDREG members will be able to develop direct and regular exchanges with each other. This will allow the development of common understanding and practices on how to work together and better share the information. Mutual knowledge could be fostered through annual meetings of Communication Officers.

III. External Relations and Accountability

MEDREG external relations aim at raising the public visibility of its activities, initiating new opportunities in terms of cooperation and possible joint projects, as well as ensuring the accountability of its actions through a permanent and transparent exchange of views with all energy stakeholders.

The growing dimension of MEDREG external relations activities is directly linked to the development of a regional network of energy stakeholders, to be coordinated by regulators with the objective to create the conditions for a future Mediterranean Energy Community.

MEDREG external relations in the period 2011-2013 will notably include:

- The participation as founding member in the activities of the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER), launched in October 2009 and gathering regional regulatory associations worldwide; MEDREG Chairs ICER Virtual Working Group 1 dedicated to Security of Supply issues;
- A permanent cooperation with international institutions and think tanks (The European Commission, IERN, PAM, OME, IPAMED, ...);
- A continuous dialogue with operators and market actors (MEDELEC, ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G, Consumer associations,...);
- An intensification of the contacts with financial institutions, in support of the creation of a future Mediterranean Investment Bank (World Bank, EBRD, InfraMed, EIB, ...);
- A growing cooperation with universities and research centres, starting from its close collaboration with the Florence School of Regulation (FSR).

Seminars and Conferences

MEDREG will organise information seminars on a thematic basis and open to various stakeholders of the energy sector in order to develop a continuous confrontation of ideas and improve its accountability.

In addition and to the same purposes, MEDREG members will regularly participate in external institutional events and conferences.

Press Releases and Relations with the Media

Press releases will be issued at the occasion of any MEDREG action relevant for stakeholders in order to foster its visibility. They will be launched in close link with the European Commission and ENPI Info Centre.

Moreover, MEDREG will develop its relations with international media on a relevant basis, with the aim to allow larger publicity to the role and influence of energy cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

MEDREG Annual Report

MEDREG will elaborate every year a Report presenting its vision of the Mediterranean energy sector and its main achievements in terms of regulatory cooperation. This Annual Report will contribute to providing MEDREG actions with visibility and continuity and strengthen the Association accountability.

IV. Consolidating the Role of MEDREG Secretariat

In order to match the growing activities of MEDREG Association, a permanent MEDREG Secretariat (as foreseen by art 13 of MEDREG Internal Rules) benefiting from continuous support and appropriate resources is necessary to guarantee the rotation principle of MEDREG Presidency and the accountability of the Association *vis à vis* the international Institutions and stakeholders of the energy sector in the Mediterranean Basin.

As of September 2010, a permanent MEDREG Secretariat based in Milan was set up (according to article 13.2 of MEDREG Internal Rules), with the logistical and technical support of AEEG. The activities of the Secretariat are covered by the EC-MEDREG contract and can also include self financing aspects based on MEDREG members contributions.

The tasks of the Secretariat cover the following responsibilities:

Organizational and Technological

- to provide support for the organization of General Assemblies (see art. 13.1 of MEDREG Internal Rules);
- to keep contact with the Florence School of regulation to plan and organize MEDREG training activities;
- to support, in collaboration with the FSR, the AGs Chairpersons for the organization of ad hoc training sessions on the occasion of AGs meeting;
- to manage the MEDREG website, including the implementation and use of advanced technologies in order to reinforce the attractiveness of the Association, as well as to strengthen the participation of all members to its activities (including meetings and seminars via video conference);
- to investigate the possibilities of new collaborations to be put in place with other international institutional organizations and keep contact with them;
- to keep contact with the European Commission in order to negotiate a new possible financing contract and, consequently, ensure its right implementation by providing all requested documentations (incidental expenditures, invoices, planned activities scheme, progress and financial reports, etc.).

Scientific

- to monitor the Association activities and performance indicators and the correspondence of objectives established by the GA and the ones achieved by the AGs;
- to coordinate the scientific work carried out by the four AGs;
- to prepare draft working documents following a specific request by the President, Vice-Presidents or Chairpersons of AGs/TFs.

Administrative

- to ensure administrative and operative assistance to the President, Vice-Presidents and Chairpersons of AGs/TFs;
- to collect the reimbursement forms received by MPC representatives;
- to keep the Association accounts;
- to manage all the Association administrative issues;
- to run the Association Budget, also in relation to the provisions established by the possible new EC-MEDREG contract and the activities previewed by this Action Plan.

V. MEDREG Structure and Organisation of Activities

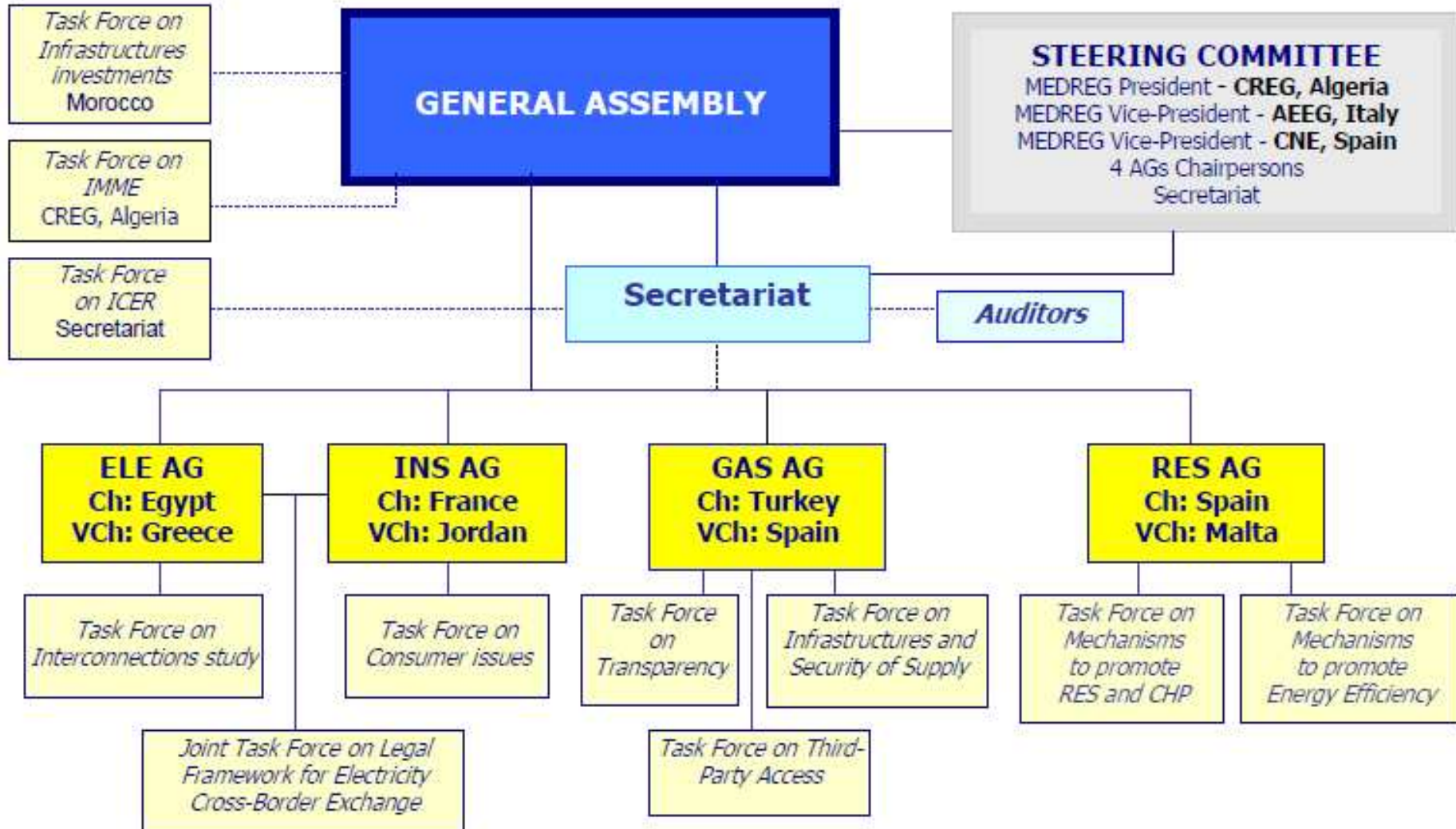
In order to deliver appropriate answers to evolving needs and activities for the period 2011-2013, the organization of MEDREG activities will be structured as follows:

- **General level:** MEDREG, in collaboration with the European Commission, tried to involve in the Association activities missing Mediterranean Energy Regulators (i.e. representatives from Lebanon, Libya and Syria) and it will continue to do so;
- **General Assembly (GA) meetings** will be held every 6 months, to discuss and approve high level developments, guidelines for operational work, administrative and financial issues, position papers submitted by ad hoc groups and task forces; in addition, GA meetings will be the occasion to open MEDREG activities to external participants from the MEDREG network (energy stakeholders, international and financial institutions interested in the Mediterranean region) in order to consolidate existing cooperation and foster new partnerships;
- **Steering Committee meetings** will be held before each General Assembly, and when needed (physically or by call conference), in order to coordinate activities and discuss possible MEDREG strategies or actions to be submitted to the GA;
- **Ad-Hoc Groups (AGs)** have been set up to analyse and hold specialised training sessions on institutional, technical and market aspects. They will particularly deal with aspects concerning markets development, energy exchanges, infrastructure, information and training, environmental issues, quality of service, price regulation and customer issues. AGs will be permanent and include representatives from all participating institutions. They will meet at least twice a year and work also by using electronic procedures. Following the implementation of the Association activities, new Ad Hoc Groups and Task Forces may be established if needed;
- **Task Forces** set up by the GA based on a proposal of AGs, have a temporary character and may meet as necessary, in addition to the existing Adhoc Groups and Task Forces, a specific Task Force is now dedicated to the integration of electricity markets of Maghreb countries (IMME TF).

Both ad hoc groups and task forces report directly to the MEDREG General Assembly, according to the following **Organisation Chart**.

MEDREG ORGANIZATION CHART

Approved by the General Assembly for the next two years (May 2010 – May 2012)



a. Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues (INS AG)

The Ad hoc Group on Institutional Issues (INS AG) has been set up with the aim to enhance closer coordination through mutual knowledge, information exchange and training tools between Mediterranean regulators. The INS Ad-hoc Group started its activities in 2007 working on the Benchmarking Study on the organisation and competencies of Mediterranean regulators.

Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues (INS AG)		
Main objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To continuously assess the current status of regulatory framework and institutions, their competencies, resources and expertise; ▪ To carry out thematic studies on specific areas such as: legal framework for settlement of disputes, interconnections, others; ▪ To assess the needs of know-how, training and experience exchanges, as tools of institutional building; ▪ To coordinate the dialogue on energy regulation with international institutions, regional organisations of regulators and other bodies; ▪ To participate in the activities of ICER, inter alia in the framework of Virtual Working Group 4 (education, training and best practices). 	
Expected outputs and deadlines	Benchmark on Consumer protection in the energy sector (carried out in 2010), followed by Recommendations	2011
	Comparative study on the legal framework for the management of interconnection (joint ELE-INS TF): Elaboration of questionnaire and report	2011-2012
	Comparative study on settlement of disputes mechanisms in the Mediterranean region	2012-2013
	Collaboration with RES AG on the Smart Metering topic	2012-2013
	Update of the Benchmarking Study on the organisation and competencies of the Mediterranean electricity and natural gas regulators.	2012-2013
	Assessment of the need for MEDREG to collaborate with other international institutions on various issues related to energy regulation	2011-2013
	Identification of new training needs and set up a knowledge and information exchange process (once a year).	2011-2013
Training activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organisational principles and activities of regulatory authorities: financing, jurisdiction, conflicts of interest (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Electricity) 	2011-2013
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific regulatory matters: settlement of disputes, licensing, market liberalisation, interconnections and third-party access (TPA), quality of service, public service obligations (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Electricity) 	2011-2012

b. Ad-Hoc Group on Electricity (ELE AG)

The objective of ELE Ad hoc Group is to promote the integration of member countries electricity markets.. Better regulation is needed to develop an integrated, competitive and functioning electricity market in the region. The aim of the ELE AG is to establish an investor friendly environment in MEDREG countries in the field of electricity generation, transmission, distribution and trade as well as to harmonize the legal and technical framework.

Ad-Hoc Group on Electricity (ELE AG)										
Main objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Present and future interconnections infrastructure needs (for the establishment of an integrated electricity market) from the technical, economic, and financial perspectives; ▪ Future of Smart Grids in MEDREG countries; ▪ Market design, including unbundling of sector activities; transparency of market information and services, non discriminatory TPA to infrastructure and services, tariff methodologies, price regulation; ▪ Operational issues concerning cross border exchange and congestion management practices: monitor electricity exchange activities among member countries, propose unified/general rules/guidelines for electricity exchanges among member countries, investigate the possibility of establishing a reliability council¹; ▪ Possible development of an electricity Master plan within MEDREG member countries; in connection with other projects and entities, in relation to the Mediterranean Electricity Ring (MEDRING) and other interconnections projects; ▪ Establish a recommended implementation plan to implement the recommended cross border trade guidelines; ▪ Establish a benchmarking process for both the internal market organization and cross border practices (including MEDRING implementation status). 									
Expected outputs and deadlines	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Master plan for energy and interconnection expansion that reflects the approach of Regulators, as agreed among MEDREG members</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2012-2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Report on the present and future needs on interconnections infrastructures investments necessary to integrate the Mediterranean electricity market;</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Report on the Smart Grids in MEDREG countries</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Proposals on common rules / guidelines for electricity exchanges among MEDREG member countries (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues)</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2012</td> </tr> </table>	Master plan for energy and interconnection expansion that reflects the approach of Regulators, as agreed among MEDREG members	2012-2013	Report on the present and future needs on interconnections infrastructures investments necessary to integrate the Mediterranean electricity market;	2012	Report on the Smart Grids in MEDREG countries	2011	Proposals on common rules / guidelines for electricity exchanges among MEDREG member countries (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues)	2012	
Master plan for energy and interconnection expansion that reflects the approach of Regulators, as agreed among MEDREG members	2012-2013									
Report on the present and future needs on interconnections infrastructures investments necessary to integrate the Mediterranean electricity market;	2012									
Report on the Smart Grids in MEDREG countries	2011									
Proposals on common rules / guidelines for electricity exchanges among MEDREG member countries (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues)	2012									
Training activities	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organisational principles and activities of regulatory authorities: financing, jurisdiction, conflicts of interest (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2011-2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific regulatory matters: settlement of disputes, licensing, market liberalisation, interconnections and third-party access (TPA), quality of service, public service obligations (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) </td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2011-2012</td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organisational principles and activities of regulatory authorities: financing, jurisdiction, conflicts of interest (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) 	2011-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific regulatory matters: settlement of disputes, licensing, market liberalisation, interconnections and third-party access (TPA), quality of service, public service obligations (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) 	2011-2012					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organisational principles and activities of regulatory authorities: financing, jurisdiction, conflicts of interest (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) 	2011-2013									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific regulatory matters: settlement of disputes, licensing, market liberalisation, interconnections and third-party access (TPA), quality of service, public service obligations (joint activity with Ad-Hoc Group on Institutional Issues) 	2011-2012									

¹ Control Centre to monitor the activities of TSOs in different countries.

c. Ad-Hoc Group on Gas (GAS AG)

Starting from the assessment of the current status of natural gas and LNG markets, of sector regulation in the MEDREG countries and its expected evolution, the GAS AG on gas will study possible recommendations and requirements that could lead to the development of an integrated, competitive, secure and functioning gas market in the MEDREG region.

Ad-Hoc Group on Gas (GAS AG)		
Main objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Present and future infrastructure needs from the technical, economic and financial perspectives, to reach a double objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the establishment of a regional integrated gas market; ○ the improvement of the security of supply within the region; ▪ Unbundling of supply, transmission, storage and distribution; ▪ Transparency of market information and services; ▪ Non discriminatory TPA to gas infrastructure (including definition of gas transport/transit services, congestion management, UIOLI provisions, operational issues, role, responsibilities and rights of the shippers and system operators); ▪ Tariff methodologies; ▪ Increased cooperation among member countries on the price regulation; ▪ Security of supply 	
Expected outputs and deadlines	Assessment of the current status of gas markets, of sector regulation in the MEDREG countries, and its expected evolution ("benchmarking report"): to be continuously updated according to the needs and evolution of gas (and more broadly energy) regulation in the member countries.	2011-2013
	Study on infrastructures needs including the way to improve both security of supply in the region and the level of interconnection within and between countries.	2011 (1 st half)
	Investigate the transparency status in the region through a possible monitoring of the guidelines/recommendations on Transparency (GGP already approved by the Group).	2011 (1 st half)
	Set up a specific task force in order to carry out an in depth study on TPA status in the region and future needs in order to develop an integrated Mediterranean market.	2011
	Carry out a document of Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) on TPA for gas in MEDREG countries, and a possible monitoring of compliance with these GGP in the Mediterranean region.	2012-2013
	Status review study on gas capacity allocation in the Mediterranean countries. As a further step, develop Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) on Capacity allocation for MEDREG countries.	2012-2013
Training activities	Non discriminatory TPA to gas infrastructure	2011-2013
	Market design	2011-2013
	Tariff principles and methodologies	2011-2013
	Security of supply and consumer protection in liberalized context	2011-2013
	Development of new gas infrastructure and interconnection capacity among countries	2011-2013

d. Ad-Hoc Group on the Environment, Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency (RES AG)

The RES AG will explore the issues related with environment, Kyoto commitment, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, focusing on the opportunities arising from existing and future partnerships in the Mediterranean Basin.

Ad-Hoc Group on the Environment (RES AG)		
Main objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences; ▪ Analyze main regulatory mechanisms on: environment protection; promotion of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and Combined Heat and Power (CHP); energy efficiency promotion including smart metering issues; ▪ Evaluate the results of the different mechanisms in the national contexts, analyzing success factors and critical issues; ▪ Analyze the possible effects of the introduction at a national level of successful mechanisms adopted in other countries; ▪ Assess the possibility of extending the functioning of national mechanisms to a supra-national level (green certificates market, markets for energy efficiency); ▪ Assess the possibility of collaboration as regards the flexible mechanisms introduced by the Kyoto Protocol; ▪ Study the effects of linking the European Emission Trading Scheme with schemes introduced in non-EU countries; ▪ Participate in the ICER Virtual Working Group 2 (Climate Change). 	
Expected outputs and deadlines	Update of the environment, RES and energy efficiency benchmarking exercise: Analyse the status, the structure and organization of the electricity system, the trend of national emissions of greenhouse gases, the legislative and regulatory framework concerning renewable sources support schemes and energy efficiency promotion (every year).	2011-2013
	Assess of the possible effects of extending the functioning of national mechanisms to a supra-national level. (2 documents)	2011
	Case study of application of the article 9 on flexibility mechanisms in the EU Directive 2009/28/CE	2011-2012
	Paper to analyze collaboration as regards flexible mechanisms and possibility of linking the ETS Scheme with schemes in non-EU countries	2012-2013
Training activities	▪ Tariff regulation to promote generation from renewable sources	2011-2013
	▪ Regulation to promote and support energy efficiency (e.g. experiences on white certificates, others)	2011-2013
	▪ Emission trading mechanisms	2011-2013
	▪ European legislation and regulation	2011-2013
	▪ Seminar for technical staff about conclusions in the introduction of successful mechanisms to promote RES, CHP and Energy Efficiency in non-EU countries	2011-2013

e. MEDREG Infrastructure Investment Task Force (INV TF)

The Infrastructures Investments TF (INV TF) was set up during 9th General Assembly meeting held on 28 May 2010 in Malta. Its primary goal is to assess the planned infrastructure projects in MEDREG countries in both electricity and gas sectors, then define possible actions for MEDREG, in interaction with governments and financial institutional organisations. This TF can be considered as an “observatory of infrastructure projects”, corresponding to the key role of regulators in financing infrastructures and encouraging investments.

The 9th MEDREG GA underlined this activity as of strategic importance for MEDREG, due to the impact of this issue on the development of energy markets.

The Terms of Reference shall be proposed by the TF Chair and could be structure by organizing the relevant projects.

- 1) by sector, based on the different types of energy sources;
- 2) distinguishing between projects with national/regional dimension.

A cooperation process with the European Investment Bank was launched in 2008 within the EIB Task Force (EIB TF), in order to develop a possible study with the EIB on the regulatory models for international energy infrastructural investments in the Mediterranean region. Regular meetings and discussions with the EIB and with the European Commission took place in Luxemburg, Brussels and at the occasion of other meetings / conferences.

However, as of October 2010, the priorities of the EIB focus on the Implementation of another EU funded project, the preparatory study to the implementation of the Mediterranean Solar Plan (“Paving the way to the MSP” project). Therefore, the EIB cooperation project has been put on hold under the INV TF as one of the possible aspects for future investigation on infrastructure study.

f. MEDREG Integration of Electricity Markets of Maghreb Countries Task Force (IMME TF)

The project for the Integration of Electricity Markets of Maghreb countries (IMME) entered into an implementation phase through the “Déclaration d’Alger”, a joint statement signed on 20 June 2010 by the Ministers in charge of Energy of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. This project aims at strengthening regional and sub-regional cooperation within the Mediterranean Basin, as already announced as a priority by the EuroMed conference of Naples on December 2003, the Rome agreement of 2 December 2003 and the Ministerial Declaration of Limassol of 17 December 2007. The “Déclaration d’Alger” is also composed of an Action Plan for 2010-2015, developing the main commitments into objectives and concrete measures structured in 5 chapters.

The principle of MEDREG participation to IMME Action Plan has been approved on the occasion of the 10th MEDREG General Assembly meeting held in Rabat on 29 October 2010. The setting-up a high level “IMME Task Force” (IMME TF) was decided in order to coordinate MEDREG activities in this respect. A first meeting of the IMME TF was held via call conference on 14 December 2010 to elaborate on the general approach to be followed by MEDREG as one of the key-institutions to take part in the IMME Action Plan. This approach is based on the core activities of the Association in terms of experience sharing, information exchange and training sessions.

The ambition of MEDREG in supporting the implementation of the IMME Action Plan is to concretely enhance energy cooperation at regional level, allowing progressively a wider integration process throughout the Mediterranean area, following a step-by-step approach.

g. MEDREG ICER Task Force (ICER TF)

The International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER) is a networking tool launched in October 2009 during the World Forum on Energy Regulation (WFER IV) in Athens, aiming at facilitating the dialogue and coordination between Energy Regulators worldwide. It is based on the current IERN platform, which is essentially a database, but with a more dynamic approach. The activities of ICER enhance information sharing and the exchange of best practices among regional associations of regulators, through their participation in specific working groups.

Four thematic “Virtual Working Groups” (VWG) cover the following issues:

1. Security of supply (Chaired by MEDREG)
2. Climate change
3. Competitiveness and affordability
4. Education, training and best practices

MEDREG is a founding member of the ICER project and actively participates in ICER’s four VWGs and chairs VWG1 on Security of Supply, whose responsibility has been assigned to Mr. Carlo Crea (AEEG).

The success of this European initiative is based on the involvement of several associations of energy regulators (NARUC, CAMPUT, ERRA, MEDREG; etc...), as well as on coordination work ensured by the FSR.

Considering the huge work that MEDREG will carry out within ICER, the MEDREG Presidency proposed during the 8th General Assembly meeting held in Cyprus on 13 November 2009 to set up an ad hoc Task Force with the aim of ensuring the right coordination among MEDREG representatives in the ICER VWGs.

The TF is managed by MEDREG Secretariat, and open to all interested MEDREG members.