Minutes

Minutes of the 49th ECRB Meeting

14 September 2021, 10:00-15:00

RAE premises – Athens, Peiraios 132 and virtual

1. Opening

The ECRB President welcomed the regulatory authorities´ participants and confirmed the (virtual) presence quorum necessary for ECRB decision making.

2. Agenda of the 48th ECRB meeting (approval)

The President introduced the draft agenda and opened the floor for comments. Mrs Grall announced that the minutes of the last ECRB meeting as well as changes to the Gas Working Group's work program for 2021 will be circulated for written approval.

Conclusions / Action Points: The agenda has been approved including the suggested changes.

3. Minutes of the 47th ECRB meeting (approval)

See agenda item 2.

Conclusions / Action Points: The draft minutes will be circulated for written approval and afterwards upload to the Energy Community website (short version public; long version restricted).

4. ACER developments (information)

[Ref. presentation Mr Hesseling]

Mr Hesseling updated the participants on recent ACER developments (ref. presentation Mr Hesseling).

Conclusions / Action Points: no conclusion required; agenda item for information.

5. Recent regulatory developments in the Contracting Parties (information)

[Ref. presentations]

- Albania: the tender for establishment of an electricity PX has not been successful, complaints have been raised on the terms of reference (ToR) criteria and are under assessment of the public procurement committee – until a decision will be taken, the tender procedure is suspended. Mr

Kuen and Mrs Grall noted that a revision of the ToR might be recommendable, having in mind the lack of applicants in so-far executed tenders.

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: cf. presentation; a new market code has been prepared ~~grid code has been approved~~ to align with the EU System Operation and Electricity Balancing Guideline Regulations;
- Georgia: launch of the go live of the PX and electricity market operation has been postponed to Q1/2022; finalization of unbundling of the electricity TSO is in progress; GNERC approved rules for standard supply contracts; the DSO compliance program is under review by GNERC; new electricity connection rules entered into force in July 2021, related derogation criteria are expected to be approved on 15 September 2021 by the GNER Board; gas market design rules have been adopted by the GNERC Board; the application for certification of the gas TSO has not been approved by GNER;
- Kosovo*: cf. presentation;
- Moldova: certification of the gas TSO Vestmoldtransgaz has been approved by ANRE; penalties have been issued to Moldovatransgaz for not complying with unbundling rules; amendments to align connection rules with the electricity connection codes are work in progress; amendments to national legislation for transposing the REMIT Regulation are expected earliest 2022;
- Montenegro: cf. presentation; the selection process for replacement of a Board is still running; the annual report of REGAGEN has not been approved by the Parliament but this does not have consequences on the functioning of REGAGEN;
- North Macedonia: cf. presentation; the approval of an updated network code for MEPSO, aligning with the electricity connection code rules is expected within the next two weeks; serious impacts have been recently experienced following price hikes and cut of supply contracts from, in particular, Bulgaria – related under-supply has been has been covered via the electricity balancing market at a lower than the market-prices, suppliers are already stepping out of the market or offering energy at higher prices; increase of TS tariffs due to higher costs for procurement of losses is under consideration;
- Serbia: cf. presentation; serious impacts have been recently experienced following price hikes in July/August 2021 and cut of supply contracts from, in particular, Bulgaria and Romania – related under-supply has been has been covered via the electricity balancing market, AERS is evaluating potential anti-competitive behavior;
- Ukraine: cf. presentation.

Mr Kuen noted that it should be most important to have well-market based rules in place in the Contracting Parties, including efficient use of electricity interconnections. Price-hikes have been also experienced in EU Member States but market coupling between Contracting Parties and Member States and implementation of the REMIT Regulation should be necessary tools.

President Bislimoski suggested a discussion of the consequences of the price hikes in the Contracting Parties at the next ECRB Electricity Working Group and ECRB Plenary.

Mr Gachechiladze asked for sharing EU recommendations on how to tackle price-hikes. These are now available: t:

Energy prices Commission presents a toolbox of measures to tackle exceptional situation and its impacts .pdf

Field Code Changed

Conclusions / Action Points: discussion of the consequences of the price hikes in the Contracting Parties at the next ECRB Electricity Working Group.

6. Customers & Retail Markets Working Group (information)

[Ref. presentation Mr Zametica]

Mr Zametica provided an overview of the ongoing CRM WG activities (ref. presentation).

Conclusions / Action Points: no conclusion required; agenda item for information.

7. Electricity Working Group (information)

[Ref. presentation Mrs Knezevic]

Mrs Knezevic provided an overview of the ongoing EWG activities (ref. presentation).

Conclusions / Action Points: no conclusion required; agenda item for information.

8. Gas Working Group (information)

[Ref. presentation Mrs Stratulat]

Mrs Stratulat updated on recent GWG developments (ref. presentation). Cf agenda item 2 as regards the update of the GWG 2021 work program.

Conclusions / Action Points: no conclusion required; agenda item for information.

9. REMIT Working Group (information)

[Ref. presentation Mr Radheshi]

Mr Radheshi updated on ongoing REMIT working group developments (ref. presentation).

Conclusions / Action Points: ECRB approved the REMIT WG work programme 2021.

10. AOB

Mrs Vilic updated on the planned organisation of a next Eastern Partnership regulatory workshop in cooperation of ECRB, EC and CEER in 2022. Further details are to be still confirmed,

Conclusions / Action Points: ECRB in general agreed on organisation of a next Eastern Partnership regulatory workshop in cooperation of ECRB, EC and ~~ECRB~~ CEER in 2022. Further details are to be still confirmed.

Commented [ngr1]: E-Control

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 30 December 2021 in Athens (to be replaced by a virtual meeting, if needed in case of continuation of COVID-19 lockdowns).

Annex – List of Participants

Name	Institution
ANICIC, Jelena	REGAGEN
BERNATH, Georgina	HERA
BISLIMOSKI, Marko	ECRB President
BABII, Olga	NEURC
GACHECHILADZE, Zviad	GNERC
GALANTE, Maria Teresa	ARERA
GRALL, Nina	ECS
HESSELING, Dennis	ACER
IHNATENKO, Yaroslav	NEURC
KLLOKOQI, Arben	ECS
KNEZEVIC, Milica	EWG chair, REGAGEN
KOLEVSKA, Elena	ERC, EWG co-chair
KUEN, Nicolas	Vice Presidency
MARSENIC, Branislava	ECS
NASHI, Agim	ERE
NAVICKAITE, Jolanta	DG ENER
PRELEVIC, Branislav	REGAGEN
RADESHI, Elton	ERE
STEFANOVIC, Nenad	AERS
STRATULAT, Elena	GWG chair, ANRE
SUMBADZW, Nikoloz	GNERC
VELJANOVSKA, Natasha	ERC
VILIC, Daniela	E-Control
ZAMETICA, Edin	CRM WG chair, SERC