



ANNUAL REPORT 2019


MEDITERRANEAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATORS



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ABOUT US

Who is Med-TSO?

Med-TSO is the Association of the Mediterranean Transmission System Operators (TSOs) for electricity, operating the High Voltage Transmission Networks of 19 Mediterranean Countries.

It was established on 19 April 2012 in Rome as a technical platform that, using multilateral cooperation as a strategy of regional development, could facilitate the integration of the Mediterranean Power Systems and foster Security and Socio – economic Development in the Region.

Med-TSO by numbers



21 members from **19** Mediterranean countries, covering an area of **8.6 million km² ca**



More than **500 million** consumers served



More than **400,000 km** of transmission lines operated



Almost **550,000 MW** of installed capacity



More than **1600 TWh** of total electricity consumption

Med-TSO objective and activities

Med-TSO members share the primary objective of promoting the creation of a Mediterranean energy market, ensuring its optimal function through the definition of common methodologies, rules and practices that optimise the operation of the existing infrastructures and facilitate the development of new ones.

The three pillars of Med-TSO activities

1

COMMON TECHNICAL RULES

(Mediterranean grid code) for power systems interoperability: optimizing existing interconnections and support investments to favor new ones common technical rules

2

COORDINATED PLANNING

for the Mediterranean high voltage transmission system development

3

CAPACITY BUILDING

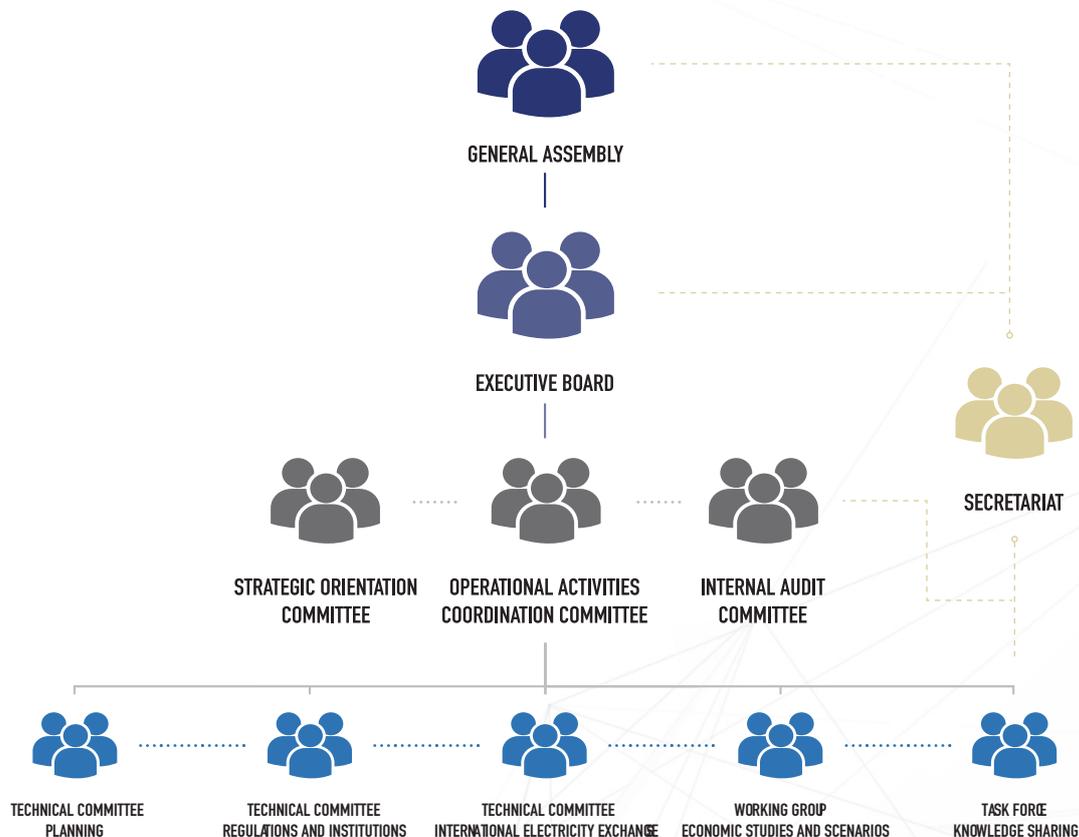
and knowledge sharing programs

BOTTOM-UP
APPROACH
BASED ON TSOS'
PERSPECTIVES

EU SUPPORT:

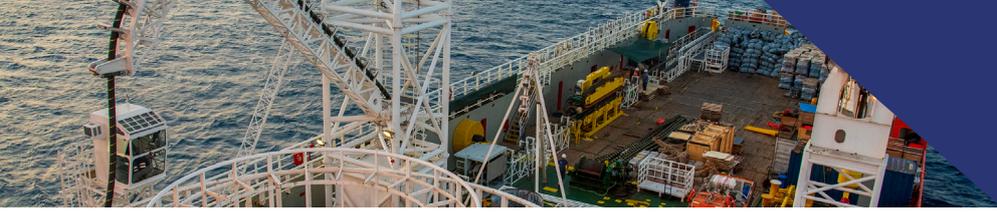
Mediterranean Project 1 and 2, for harmonization and strengthening of electricity markets in the Mediterranean region

OUR ORGANIZATION



Med-TSO contributes to the achievement of this objective by promoting:

- coordination among the Med-TSO Countries of their National Transmission Network Development Plans and of their Power System operation by studying the development of an integrated, secure and sustainable Mediterranean Power System and by promoting cross-border projects aiming at facilitating the integration of new energy sources (especially from RES), increasing security and quality of power supply;
- the use of common criteria and harmonized, transparent and non-discriminatory technical rules for guaranteeing the interoperability of the interconnected Power Systems;
- training, knowledge sharing and technical assistance in the Region, facilitating the exchange of information, analyses and experiences among the Associates, including the R & D sector;
- enhanced communication and consultation with stakeholders for improving TSOs operation transparency and facilitating the public acceptance of transmission infrastructures;
- cooperation among the Mediterranean TSOs and a coordinated approach towards the Institutions (in particular with the Association of the Mediterranean Regulators for energy, MEDREG, and the European Network of TSOs for electricity, ENTSO-E);
- the role of TSOs at regional level by analyzing and taking common positions on issues that can have an impact on the development and operation of transmission systems.



MISSION

Our mission is to support all the institutional initiatives aimed at facilitating the creation of a Mediterranean energy market by fostering the development of an integrated, secure and sustainable regional electricity transmission grid.

“Mediterranean Bridge”, a new perspective in enabling the Energy Transition

Med-TSO is the only Association representing the TSOs in the Mediterranean region. Its role is to be involved in the dialogue for planning and operating, adopting common technical rules for the Power Systems in the Mediterranean area.

In these years, the Association has shown uncommon capacities to foster dialogue and promote activities.

Med-TSO started the challenging initiative of setting up a framework of multilateral cooperation in the Mediterranean electricity sector for identifying and analysing potential new infrastructure projects and increasing the electricity exchanges around the Mediterranean basin for the benefit of the citizens and for the effective implementation of sustainable and efficient energy policies. After seven years since the establishment of the Association and after having gained consensus as a qualified and reliable stakeholder in the Mediterranean region, it is time to consolidate and strengthen the Med-TSO flagship position, calling for a new commitment and new activities to be developed.

Thanks to activities carried out over the years, the Association has found a reliable working method among many different TSOs. This is the strength

of Med-TSO, which allows it to act as a bridge between the different parts of the Mediterranean region, combining knowledge, work and visibility.

In particular, the two ‘Mediterranean Projects’ have demonstrated the effectiveness of this method; therefore, we need to consolidate these achievements and preserve the cooperative attitude built so far among the Members, for the future as well.

VISION

We intend to be a professional and strategic reference body for every technical, market and policy issue related to the Mediterranean electricity system: a competent and proactive guide for European and Mediterranean institutions and stakeholders.

The voice of the Mediterranean TSOs

In the near future Med-TSO wants to consolidate as a “platform for multilateral cooperation”, i.e. an actual instrument for integrating and developing the Mediterranean Power Systems through the enhancement of the electricity interconnection level among its Members and by facilitating the integration of RES.

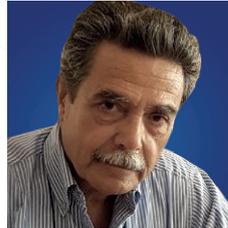
The ambitious objective is to have a growing regional “key role”, giving proactive support to the Members for their activities in planning and developing new interconnections, in promoting the creation of a harmonized regulatory framework, in representing the TSOs’ needs and requirements in the energy debates and in improving relationships with the other regional stakeholders. In a few words, acting as “the voice of the Mediterranean TSOs” towards all the relevant stakeholders.

SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is the structure of the Association which assists and provides support to the bodies of the Association. The Secretariat is chaired and directed by the Secretary General, who is responsible for its management.



ANGELO FERRANTE
SECRETARY GENERAL



ANTONIO MORETTI
*MEDITERRANEAN PROJECT 2
COORDINATOR*



SIMONA LA CIOPPA
CORPORATE AFFAIRS



GHERARDO ALFONSO VICHI
FINANCE & TREASURY



ANAS EL HRAIECH
TECHNICAL OFFICER



LUCA RUFFINO
PROGRAMME OFFICER



SERGIO NOTARI
COMMUNICATION



EMANUELA ERRICHI
EVENTS



ARIANNA ANDREOLETTI
ASSISTANT



MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members, Dear Readers,

2019 was a significant year in the development of the activities of the Association, establishing the basis of the work to implement our Mediterranean Project 2, which concludes at the end of 2020.

This ambitious project covers several aspects of the activity of our TSOs, such as infrastructure planning and optimisations, regulation of electricity system rules, market research scenarios, network development and market integration.

Each technical committee and working group, as well as all the members of our Association, carried out this very stimulating project, which was also successfully presented this year in the two workshops that we organised.

Med-TSO is now, more than ever, a professional and strategic organisation for all questions of the Mediterranean electrical system: a competent, proactive guide to which all the European institutions and Mediterranean networks' actors could refer.

With this message, I want to take the opportunity to thank my predecessor, Moncef Harrabi, whose presidency in

2019 brought the Association closer to the goal of effective energy integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region, and to thank all TSO members of Med-TSO, who confirmed their strong involvement by allowing their experts to share expertise, skills, knowledge and know-how.

My wish for our Association is to continue the work accomplished through the actions included in its agenda and to materialise its main objective of further strengthening the development of an integrated, safe and sustainable Mediterranean power system as a key development driver on the regional and even global scene.

Chaher Boulakhras

Med-TSO President



MESSAGE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

2019 has been an important year for Med-TSO, the Association of the Mediterranean Transmission System Operators. During this year, the implementation of the Mediterranean Project 2 consolidated the achievements of the first Project, thanks to the commitment of our technical committees. Each improved their own activities through 23 internal meetings organized by Med-TSO in Rome or hosted by the TSO members.

We continued to give high importance to our Knowledge Sharing program for our Members to increase the exchange of practices and know-how within the organisation and to increase the capacity building of the TSOs personnel. To this aim, the Association organized two workshops with the active involvement of external experts in the energy sector: the “HVDC” Workshop, held at TERNA’s Sapei Station located in Latina (Italy) and organized by the Technical Committee “Planning”, and the Joint Training on the Regulation of Infrastructure Investment, organized in Rome in collaboration with MEDREG, the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators, with whom we have tight the cooperation under the activities of the UfM Energy Platforms.

The cooperation with MEDREG was also highlighted by the participation in the training course “The Economics of Regulation - Moving from Monopolies to Competitive Wholesale Electricity Markets”, held in Jerusalem for the Israeli energy institutions.

The Association was also very active on the institutional side by participating

in several international meetings with stakeholders and conferences all around the Mediterranean region.

We can express our satisfaction for the activities carried out in 2019. However, we do not want to stop here.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has influenced ordinary life and our economies, our Work Programme has been in line with the schedule throughout 2020. We are finalising all the remaining activities foreseen for this year including the release of all the deliverables of the Mediterranean Project 2, which will conclude on 31 October 2020. In this respect, we are also engaged in the preparation of the Closing Conference of the MP2, held via live streaming.

Furthermore, 2020 will see our Association launch a new project co-financed by the EC/DG NEAR. It aims at promoting the progressive integration of the partner countries’ transmission networks, taking into account energy efficiency requirements, enhancement of cross-border electricity exchanges, as well as renewable energy source integrations in the Mediterranean region through the coordination of national development plans and rules for accessing the grids.

You can have a look at the activities that we are carrying out by following us on our website and social networks.

Enjoy!

Angelo Ferrante

Med-TSO Secretary General

HIGHLIGHTS



NUMBER OF MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY Med-TSO

INSTITUTIONAL: 9

TECHNICAL: 23

WORKSHOPS: 2



TOTAL PARTICIPANTS TO THE MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY Med-TSO

INSTITUTIONAL: 134

TECHNICAL: 386

WORKSHOPS: 114

NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

 Med-TSO ATTENDED: **14**



TIME LINE

2019

- **24 ROME, ITALY**
Operational Activities
Coordination Committee
& Strategic Orientation
Committee meeting
- **29-30 BARCELONA, SPAIN**
Med-TSO representatives
attend the UfM Energy
Platforms Annual Meeting

- **5-6 TUNIS, TUNISIA**
Economic Studies and
Scenarios Working Group
meeting
- **12 ROME, ITALY**
Technical Committee “International
Electricity Exchange” meeting
- **13 ROME, ITALY**
Technical Committee “Regulation and
Institutions” meeting

- **5 ROME, ITALY**
Technical Committee
“Planning” meeting
- **6 ROME, ITALY**
Economic Studies and Scenarios
Working Group meeting
- **7 ROME, ITALY**
Operational Activities
Coordination Committee meeting

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

14 ROME, ITALY
Task Force “Knowledge
Sharing” meeting

26-28 ALGIERS, ALGERIA
Participation in the 2nd CAGRÉ
Conference on “Electricity
Transmission Networks in
the Era of Energy Transition”,
organized by the ARELEC

20 AMMAN, JORDAN
The Secretary General
participates in the Workshop
“Business-To-Government
High level” organized by
RES4Med&Africa Association



- **2 TELECONFERENCE**
Technical Committee
“Regulation and Institutions”
meeting
- **8 BARCELONA, SPAIN**
Executive Board meeting
- **9 BARCELONA, SPAIN**
17th General Assembly

- **14-15 JERUSALEM, ISRAEL**
The Secretary General
participates in the MEDREG
training “The Economics
of Regulation Moving from
Monopolies to Competitive
Wholesale Electricity Markets”

- **10 ISTANBUL, TURKEY**
Technical Committee “International
Electricity Exchange” meeting
- **11 ISTANBUL, TURKEY**
Joint meeting between Technical
Committees “Regulation and
Institutions” & “International Electricity
Exchange”
- **12 ISTANBUL, TURKEY**
Technical Committee “Regulation
and Institutions” meeting
- **13 ISTANBUL, TURKEY**
Operational Activities
Coordination Committee meeting

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

- **18. AMMAN, JORDAN**
Economic Studies and
Scenarios Working Group
“Eastern Corridor” meeting
- **23-24 TUNIS, TUNISIA**
Economic Studies and
Scenarios Working Group
internal workshop and meeting

- **17 ROME, ITALY**
Technical Committee “Planning”
meeting
- **18-19 ROME, ITALY**
Economic Studies and Scenarios
Working Group meeting
- **19 ROME, ITALY**
Executive Board meeting



TIME LINE 2019

- **19 LISBON, PORTUGAL**
Participation in the 2nd UfM Energy and Climate Business Forum & Coordination meeting with UfM Energy Platforms' Stakeholders

- **9-12 ABU DHABI**
UAE - The Secretary General and Mr. Moncef Harrabi, president of Med-TSO, participate in the 24th World Energy Congress on "Pathways to regional energy transition in the Mediterranean area"

- **17 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**
Participation in MEDREG and EC meeting

- **24 TUNIS, TUNISIA**
Technical Committee "Planning" meeting

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

- **25 TUNIS, TUNISIA**
Joint meeting between Technical Committees "Planning" and Economic Studies and Scenarios Working Group

- **30 ROME, ITALY**
Technical Committee "International Electricity Exchange" meeting



1 ROME, ITALY

Technical Committee “International Electricity Exchange” meeting

2 ROME, ITALY

Technical Committee “Regulation and Institutions” meeting

10 BARCELONA, SPAIN

Participation in the “IV UfM Regional Forum”

17 MADRID, SPAIN

Operational Activities Coordination Committee meeting

6 ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Executive Board meeting

7 ISTANBUL, TURKEY

18th General Assembly

11 ALGIERS, ALGERIA

The Secretary General participates in “Energy Transition: Challenges and Opportunities. Strengthening Cooperation in the Mediterranean”, organized by IAI - Istituto Affari Internazionali and the Italian Embassy in Algeria

10-11-12 ROME, ITALY

Joint Training between Med-TSO and MEDREG on Regulation of Infrastructure Investment

11 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Meeting with EC DG NEAR

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

21-22 LATINA & ROME, ITALY

HVDC Workshop of Technical Committees “Planning”;

23 ROME, ITALY

Technical Committee “Planning” meeting;

24 ROME, ITALY

Economic Studies and Scenarios Working Group meeting

26 PARIS, FRANCE

Participation in the “Annual Conference of the French Association of Energy Economists”

27 ROME, ITALY

Technical Committee “International Electricity Exchange” meeting

28 ROME, ITALY

Technical Committee “Planning” meeting

12-13, TUNIS, TUNISIA

The Secretary General participates in “Renpower Maghreb 2019”, the Renewable Energy Power Infrastructure Investors Conference, invited as a speaker during the session “Maghreb Power infrastructure – Grid, Off-Grid, Cross-border Projects and Storage”

16, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Med-TSO representatives take part in the UfM Gas Platform Conference

Introduction

The Mediterranean Project 1 was the first step on the roadmap towards the integration of the regional power systems. After the positive results achieved in the framework of the Mediterranean Project 1, Med-TSO intends to continue, consolidate and improve the activities carried out so far with a new project: the Mediterranean Project 2.

The European Union has supported Med-TSO with a new grant contract to develop the action plan of this new project from 2018 to 2020.

Objectives

- increase energy security and reliability;
- favor greater RES penetration by facilitating their integration;
- increase the overall system efficiency;
- generate economies of scale in investments and operations;
- improve cooperation and exchange of experience among the Mediterranean TSOs.

Work Plan

- consolidating the activities already carried out in the frame of Mediterranean Project 1;
- extend the perimeter to other areas (e.g. Adequacy assessment and Operation).

The Action Plan of the Mediterranean Project 2 is structured along five streams of activity coming from the need for strengthening cooperation of both system operation and system development, whose expected results are the following.

1. PLANNING OF INFRASTRUCTURES

The delivery of an updated version of the Mediterranean Network Development Plan (MNDP), which should become a permanent outcome of Med-TSO on a periodical basis (every two years). This plan identifies the necessary investments in grid infrastructures, whose justification is based on:

- harmonized methodologies among Members, which are coherent with ENTSO-E practices and agreed upon procedures for updating similarly to the TYNDP in ENTSO-E, the MNDP;
- reference energy scenarios;
- market and grid studies;
- assessment of costs and benefits as a result of market and network studies.

The MNDP also includes the internal reinforcements of the existing grids that are necessary to accommodate reliably in the expected transit flows in the Med-TSO Region while maintaining security of operation at adequate levels.

2. REGULATION & POWER SYSTEM RULES

The progress in the harmonization of regulation in the Mediterranean region for power system rules (in the perimeter of the network codes) is carefully monitored. A “zonal approach” will be developed to allow a faster harmonization of a subset of rules in selected zones of the Mediterranean (pilot projects). To support these endeavors, expected results are:

- a proposal on harmonization of technical rules in the fields of management and sharing of system services to complete the work accomplished in the Mediterranean Project 1;
- a Zonal Target Regulatory Framework in selected priority areas;
- a Transparency proposal on a set of data to be published by all the Med-TSO Members.

3. SCENARIOS ADEQUACY AND MARKET STUDIES

The Association intends to draw some possible future scenarios for the Mediterranean Power System. To this aim, the following results are expected:

- a set of mid- and long-term scenarios for the Mediterranean Power System. The Market model is built to apply the Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) methodology for assessing interconnection transmission projects;
- aperiodic Adequacy Report, including Winter and/or Summer Outlook Reports, to complement a statistical approach by severe scenarios simulations, which are useful to prepare the crisis management tools.

4. GRID DEVELOPMENT & MARKET INTEGRATION

New complementary activities are foreseen according to Med-TSO’s Action Plan to cover relevant aspects of the TSO’s business hereby qualified as these results:

- grid integration in the Mediterranean and impact on climate change (increased energy efficiency as a result of electricity transmission network integration);
- allocation of costs and risks for new investments.

5. OPERATION

Med-TSO Members intend to increase the exchange of information related to the operation of their Power Systems. To this aim, the following results should be achieved:

- setup of a Common Web-Platform for TSOs members to gather information on cross-border interconnections;
- drafting of a periodical report on the behavior of the regional electricity system, including a variety of operation data collected from the Members in both normal (energy demand, power supply) and critical conditions (contingencies), as well as standard key performance indicators (KPIs) of the national power systems.

6. TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Capacity building and the dissemination of experience are one of the pillars of Med-TSO action plan. It is proposed to set up an intensive exchange of expertise between the Members of the Association and towards both the main stakeholders in the region (MEDREG, Arab Union for Electricity, ENTSO-E) and Academia throughout training, workshops and events for knowledge dissemination, both internal and external.

Planning

In 2019, Med-TSO launched the work for the edition of its second Mediterranean Master Plan, updating the first edition issued in 2018. Fifteen interconnection projects have been identified and will be assessed in the plan according to three different energy scenarios, which will be elaborated on at the year horizon 2030 (target year).

The new edition will be issued in 2020 as a key result of the Second Mediterranean Project (MP2).

Guidelines for the Mediterranean Grid Code

In 2019, building on the conclusion of the Mediterranean Project 1, the Association continued the development of a shared set of technical rules and procedures as the basis for a future Mediterranean power system and transmission grid code.

The overall objective of these Med-TSO regulatory proposals is to develop and share a common set of basic rules for the interoperability of the Mediterranean power systems aiming at facilitating electricity exchanges and the development of infrastructures and institutional cooperation, among other things. Particularly, the proposals aim to provide a shared view between all Med-TSO members of what is understood to be the common regulatory framework regarding the identified areas of interest. In general, the regulatory proposals apply to TSOs and generation facilities connected (or willing to connect) to the transmission grid. In some cases, the proposed regulatory models also apply to generation facilities connected to the distribution grid and to distribution system operators (DSOs). Demand and distribution facilities are out of the scope of this proposal.

It is important to note that the regulatory proposals promoted by Med-TSO are not binding but rather of an indicative nature since they do not have a legal basis. It is not the intention of Med-TSO Members to act as a legislator.

The potential binding application of the referred proposals should be subject, where relevant, to the transposition into national law by the corresponding national competent regulatory authorities. Alternatively, they could be considered as “Guidelines of Good Practice” (GGP) and could be applied on a voluntary basis by the corresponding Med-TSO members.

These guidelines will be issued in 2020 by completing the body of rules with proposals of:

- *Common Rules about the provision of system services;*
- *Mediterranean Grid Code on Connection and Operation;*
- *Common process for the connection procedure with main harmonization functions and responsibilities of TSOs.*

Increasing Transparency and Data Exchange

In 2019, Med-TSO defined the Terms of Reference for the following activities:

- setup of a Common Web-Platform for TSOs members to gather information on cross-border interconnections;
- drafting of a periodical report on the behavior of the regional electricity system including a variety of operation data collected from the Members in both normal (energy demand, power supply) and critical conditions (contingencies), as well as standard key performance indicators (KPIs) of the national power systems.

This workstream aims to build the prerequisites for enhancing the collaboration in the operation of the Power Systems by increasing the exchange of information related to the operation of the Med-TSO Members' Power Systems. The activities will be completed in 2020.

In 2019, Med-TSO continued to put particular attention on the dissemination and knowledge sharing activities. This was done with the objective of establishing a forum among the relevant professionals from the Members working in the technical activities carried out by the Association through its Technical bodies (Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces) and by making the main results available for the external stakeholders.

HVDC workshop

Latina-Fiumicino (Rome) 21-22 October 2019

Med-TSO organized a Workshop for its Members in Rome, Italy, gathering over 50 participants from 14 TSOs from 13 countries. During the two-day event organized by Med-TSO and hosted by TERNA, participants shared valuable knowledge and experiences, strengthening cooperation among TSOs in Association member countries. For two intense days, representatives from all over the Mediterranean region came together to discuss the SAPEI, the world's deepest up-to-date power submarine cable that connects Sardinia and the mainland of Italy.

On the first day in Latina, TERNA presented the SAPEI station and its related operations and explained the process and intricacies of the HVDC cable. An intensive workshop session was held in the morning, giving participants the opportunity to ask questions and share knowledge on the cable. In the afternoon, the whole group participated in a visit through the substation to see the HVDC cable in action in the control room and discuss its inner workings with TERNA engineers and operators. The visit presented a prime opportunity for participants to interact with experts and each other in order to strengthen regional ties.

On the second day in Fiumicino, participants learned valuable insights on the design, stability control and environmental implications of the HVDC cable through an interactive workshop hosted by experts from the TSOs RTE (France) and REE (Spain).

Training on Regulating Electricity Infrastructure Investment

Rome 10-12 December 2019

MEDREG the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators and Med-TSO partnered together to offer a three-day training on Regulating Electricity Infrastructure Investment for more productive long-term planning from the 10 to 12 of December in Rome.

The training, open to members of both organizations, focused on conversations of planning, feasibility, and incentives when designing a market-based power system; one that will help to create a harmonized regional system in the future.

With this training, participants were given the proper planning tools for making productive investment decisions that take into account the assessment of the state of any given nation and its priorities.

Moreover, the course provided participants with a comprehensive view of planning options for a market-based power system, demonstrating the pros and cons of each possibility including costs. Thus, participants had a more holistic view of how to build an investment infrastructure, including a review of all incentive models used in Europe and the steps towards integrating wholesale and balanced markets in the future.



European Commission – DG NEAR



The European Commission is the main institutional partner of the Association. Since 2015, the Commission, through its Directorate General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), has supported the actions delivered by the Association by co-financing Med-TSO through two Grants: the Mediterranean Project 1 and its follow up, the ongoing Mediterranean Project 2.

ENTSO-E

Med-TSO and the European Network of Transmission System Operators (ENTSO-E) are natural counterparts and partners as the two organizations share the membership of 13 TSOs.

Med-TSO has cooperated with ENTSO-E since 2016 with two non-disclosure agreements for providing Med-TSO an extract of the Ten Years National Development Plan (TYNDP) data and market study results, furthered in 2017 when the Secretaries General of the two organizations signed the first memorandum of understanding.

MEDREG

Med-TSO has cooperated with the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators (MEDREG) since 2014 when the two organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the auspices of the Directorate-General for Energy of the European Commission.

During 2019, the two Associations mainly worked in the framework of the activities developed within the action plan of the Regional Energy Market (REM) Platform promoted by the Union for the Mediterranean, an intergovernmental institution bringing together 43 countries to promote dialogue and cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Med-TSO and MEDREG cooperation in 2019 has been further strengthened by collaborating to offer a three-day training on Regulating Electricity Infrastructure Investment for more productive long-term planning. Held December 10 to 12 in Rome, the training, open to members of both organizations, focused on conversations of planning, feasibility, and incentives when designing a market-based power system, as described in the previous chapter.



2019 news by news



Antonio Moretti is the Project Coordinator of Med-TSO's Mediterranean Project 2

03/01/2019

After a selection among many candidates, **Antonio Moretti** was chosen as Project Coordinator for the implementation of Med-TSO's "Mediterranean Project 2".

Moretti is an Italian engineer with more than 40 years of experience in the energy sector, especially in managing international projects in Europe, Africa and Asia.

We interviewed him, asking his point of view (feelings, first ideas ...) about the project and his role in the Association.

Q: *You have a huge experience in managing projects, especially in the Mediterranean region: how do you consider the objectives of the Mediterranean Project 2?*

A: The Security and Socio-economic Development in the Mediterranean region are strongly dependent on the development of a more integrated Mediterranean Power System. I consider the current phase of Med-TSO initiatives - the implementation of the Mediterranean Project 2 - a very important piece of this strategy.

Q: *What do you think is the most important result achieved by Med-TSO so far?*

A: Beyond the technical results, already reported and certainly valuable, I think that the most important thing is that people in this sector have developed the habit of talking together and sharing a vision and a goal. This is key for building a mutual trust that I believe is the basis of any common project success.

Q: *How do you see the activities of Med-TSO in the frame of EU energy policies in the Mediterranean Region?*

A: Med TSO activity introduces in the EU practices a quite new approach that synthetically we can call as bottom-up approach. This can give a higher voice to the Mediterranean southern shore Countries, making them more active and leading actors of the process.

Q: *Do you want to say few words to the members and the people involved in Med-TSO activities?*

A: I am happy to have been welcomed into a very valuable team. I make available my experience and I hope we will have a fruitful way together, never forgetting that we are committed to a project “porteur d’avenir” for all the people of the Mediterranean: it is an opportunity not to be wasted. Good luck to all of us.

Action Plan 2020-2025: an internal workshop to define Med-TSO strategy for the next years

25/01/2019

A joint internal workshop between the **Operational Activities Coordination Committee** (OACC) and the **Strategic Orientation Committee** (SOC) of Med-TSO, the Association of the Mediterranean Transmission System Operators took place in Rome on 24 January 2019.

The workshop focused on the future of Med-TSO, aiming at defining the role of the Association for the next years, and drafting the guidelines for the Action Plan 2020-2025, beyond the conclusion, on May 2020, of the ongoing “Mediterranean Project 2”, financed by the European Union.

The meeting, coordinated by Med-TSO Secretary General, Mr. **Angelo Ferrante**, ran along three main tasks: define strategic role and positioning of the Association, decline strategies into real activities and implementing the Action Plan 2020-2025 (funding, resources and organization). The outcomes of these three round tables will contribute to draw up the new Action Plan 2020-2025 of the Association, which will be approved in the next months by the General Assembly of Med-TSO.

The OACC is the body of Med-TSO that ensures the coordination of the operational activities developed by the technical committees and working groups. It is chaired by Mr. **Hervé Laffaye** (RTE, France), attending to the meeting together with Mr. **Juan Francisco Alonso Llorente** (REE, Spain), chairman of the Technical Committee “Regulations and Institutions”, Mr. **Modesto Gabrieli Francescato** (TERNNA, Italy), chairman of the Technical Committee “Planning”, Mr. **Ameyoud Aziz** (OS, Algeria), chairman of the Technical Committee “International Electricity Exchanges”, Mr. **Brahim Oumounah** (ONEE, Morocco) chairman of the Regional Working Group West and Mr. **Emmanuel Bué** (RTE, France), convener of the Working Group “Economic Studies and Scenarios”.

The role of the SOC, chaired by Mr. **Carlo Crea** (TERNNA, Italy), is to give a comprehensive analysis of strategic decisions to be taken by the Executive Board of Med-TSO, especially in defining and monitoring the strategies of the Association. Attending to this workshop, Ms. **Rime Bouarudje** (SONELGAZ, Algeria) with Ms. **Fatma Sule Sanal** (TEIAS, Turkey).

Med-TSO at 2019 UfM Energy Platforms Annual Meeting

30/01/2019

The first day of the UfM Energy Platforms Annual Meeting took place on 29 January, at the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) premises in Barcelona (Spain).

The Secretary General of Med-TSO, **Angelo Ferrante**, opened the session dedicated to the UfM Regional Electricity Market (REM) Platform, presenting the recently delivered Med-TSO's "Mediterranean Masterplan for the development of the transmission grid".

The Mediterranean Masterplan of Interconnections defines the feasibility of 14 main interconnection projects between regional electric systems and the necessary internal reinforcements to guarantee proper security standards. It is one of the most important deliverables of Med-TSO's "Mediterranean Project 1", a three-year project funded by the European Union and concluded last April 2018, whose outcomes are available here.

Med-TSO is one of the main stakeholders of the UfM REM Platform, working together with MEDREG, the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators. This platform aims at the progressive integration of energy systems and energy markets in the UfM region and, in particular, at the enhancement of electricity exchanges and interconnections.

The REM platform was established in March 2015, in parallel with the "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) Platform" and the "Gas Platform": through these initiatives, the UfM, recognizing the importance of addressing energy challenges, decided to strengthen its role as a platform for UfM Members, financial institutions, regional organizations, industrial enterprises and experts working towards the enhancement of synergies in the fields of renewable energies and energy efficiency, integration of electricity markets and gas in the Mediterranean region.

Secretary General in Algiers to the 2nd CAGRÉ conference organized by ARELEC

28/02/2019

The ARELEC, the "Association des Réseaux Electriques haute tension en Algérie", organized the second CAGRÉ Conference on "Electricity Transmission Networks in the Era of Energy Transition", in Algiers on 26-28 February 2019.

The conference carried out within three days, with five plenary sessions and several oral sessions and workshops on different issues, mainly related to the integration of renewables, the system operations and transmissions.

Secretary General **Angelo Ferrante**, participated to a special workshop focused on Med-TSO activities, held on 27 February. The workshop was chaired by Mr. **Aziz Ameyoud**, President of the Algerian System Operator and Chairman of Med-TSO Technical Committee "International Electricity Exchange", and by Mr. **Bruno Cova**, Head of Power Systems, Markets & Regulatory Studies at CESI, Milan.

Mr. Ferrante presented Med-TSO Association, its role in the Mediterranean region and the activities carried out in the frame of the Mediterranean Project 1 (completed in 2018) and the Mediterranean Project 2 (ongoing),



with a special emphasis on the “Mediterranean Masterplan of the electricity interconnections”, available on Med-TSO website.

ARELEC was created in 1994 by Sonelgaz (the Algerian utility in gas and power sector), universities and industry. The objective of the technical and scientific meetings organized by the Association is to gather electrical industry and universities for networking, knowledge and best practices exchanges.

CAGRE is the Algerian Committee of the CIGRÉ, the International Council on Large Electric Systems (Conseil International des Grands Réseaux *Électrique*) which works as a global community committed to the collaborative development and sharing of power system expertise. The community features thousands of professionals from over 90 countries and 1250 member organizations, including some of the world’s leading experts. Med-TSO is member of CIGRÉ and participated to the last CIGRÉ Plenary Session in Paris on August 2018 with two papers, available here.

Res4Med’s High-level Workshop in Amman

25/03/2019

The Secretary General of Med-TSO, **Angelo Ferrante**, participated to the Business-To-Government High level Workshop “**Accelerating the renewable energy transition in Jordan**” organized by RES4Med&Africa in Amman, on 20 March.

The workshop was focused on the long-term energy strategies and the grid solutions for integrating the renewable energy systems, attracting investments and exploiting the socio-economic benefits of renewables in Jordan.

The first part of the workshop was dedicated to the institutional speeches, which set the general context of the day. Then, during the second part, it was held a panel discussion on long-term energy strategies as mechanisms for exploiting new business models for an effective integration of RES, to which our Secretary General took part together with other local and Mediterranean stakeholders.

Mr. Ferrante highlighted the importance for Jordan to strengthen the transmission grid and develop new interconnections with the neighboring countries for tackling the expected huge amount of new RES to be connected to the grid. Mr. Ferrante confirmed also that in the ongoing Mediterranean Project 2 also interconnections with countries out of the Mediterranean perimeter will be considered: in particular, he said, a tighter cooperation with GCCIA, the Gulf Cooperation Council Interconnection Authority, should be put in place for studying the regional impact of a Jordan-Saudi Arabia interconnection. GCCIA has already expressed strong interest to promote the cooperation with Med-TSO.

RES4Med is a leading platform for public-private dialogue in light of the renewable energy potential and growing energy demand of Southern-Mediterranean countries. Since its inception, RES4Med promotes renewable energy in Southern-Mediterranean countries as a cost-effective, sustainable, and reliable energy strategy to meet growing energy demand. Its mission is to promote the deployment of large-scale and decentralized renewable energy (RE) solutions in Southern-Mediterranean markets to meet local energy needs for growth.

The 17th General Assembly of Med-TSO in Barcelona

09/04/2019

The 17th General Assembly of Med-TSO took place in Barcelona last Tuesday 9th April 2019, hosted by Red Electrica de España.

The President of Med-TSO **M. Harrabi**, (Steg, Tunisia) welcomed all the participants and opened the meeting, supported by the Secretary General **A. Ferrante** (Terna, Italy).

The main theme discussed during the Assembly was the proposal for a new Action Plan 2020-2025 for Med-TSO, also following the joint internal workshop between the Operational Activities Coordination Committee (OACC) and the Strategic Orientation Committee (SOC) of Med-TSO, held in Rome last 24 January 2019 (read the news).

The previous General Assembly gave mandate to these two committees to define the lines of the activities of the Association in the period 2020-2025, coherent with the overall strategy and in line with the Members' expectations. The outcome of that internal workshop was a preliminary analysis that will be the base of the future Action Plan. This document was discussed and approved by the Members of the General Assembly, who gave mandate again to OACC and SOC to prepare a detailed Action Plan to be endorsed by the next assembly scheduled in November 2019.

Other important topics in the meeting agenda were the approval of the financial statements for the year 2018 and the reporting on the technical activities carried out in the frame of the ongoing Mediterranean Project 2.

Med-TSO representatives at RGI Conference “Leading practices in RES integration”

10/04/2019

Med-TSO representatives participated to the Conference “Leading practices in RES integration” organized by Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI) on 9-10 April, hosted by Red Electrica de España in Barcelona, back to back to the General Assembly of the Association.

The conference aimed to display best practices of RES integration from different regions of the world: the three main topics were regulation, technical integration and societal engagement.

The President of Med-TSO and CEO of STEG (Tunisia), **Moncef Harrabi**, presented the situation of the renewables integration in Tunisia, stressing on the importance of the development of interconnections in the Mediterranean region.

The Secretary General of Med-TSO, **Angelo Ferrante**, illustrated the lesson learned by the Association on the integration of renewable energies, showing the outcomes of the Mediterranean Project 1. This project was carried out by Med-TSO from 2015 to 2018 and it has in the ongoing Mediterranean Project 2 its natural continuation.



The Renewables Grid Initiative is a non-profit organization with 21 Members from 12 European countries. It promotes transparent, environmentally sensitive grid development to enable the further steady growth of renewable energy and the energy transition, through the collaboration of environmental NGOs and transmission system operators.

Seventh anniversary of the Association of Mediterranean Transmission System Operators

19/04/2019

Dear readers,

our Association has been set up on 19 April 2012 with the long-term vision of promoting the integration of the Mediterranean Power System, by reinforcing the multilateral cooperation among the Members and increasing the electricity exchanges across our countries.

Companies from twelve countries signed the funding act in Rome and, within the next seven years, TSOs from other seven countries joined the Association that now almost covers the entire Mediterranean basin, gathering 21 TSOs from 19 countries.

After a pioneering phase where we had to demonstrate at first the attitude of TSOs to cooperate in a fruitful manner, the Association is now entering into a more mature phase of its history.

The Mediterranean Project 1 (carried out from 2015 to 2018) and its deliverables have gained a lot of positive comments and evaluations, both from the European Commission, which co-funded our work, and from the regional stakeholders. The new project that we are running since June 2018 - the Mediterranean Project 2 - represents a new challenge but also a new opportunity to reinforce our position as a reference in the Mediterranean region.

Our role, recognized by all the regional actors, is of paramount importance. We strongly believe that the development of a more integrated and efficient electricity transmission infrastructure in the Mediterranean is a strategic driver for facilitating the energy transition in the region. The role of the transmission companies is changing everywhere: in many cases the energy transition has determined, or is going to determine, a full unbundling of the grid operation from the other activities in the power sector, with a consequent shift of paradigm for our companies. Integration is no more an opportunity but a real necessity for tackling efficiently and effectively this challenge and managing the relevant risks.

In this dramatically changing scenario, Med-TSO plays a crucial role, as an incubator of new practices and experiences in the region and as a catalyst of innovation and new technologies.

Med-TSO Secretary General at MEDREG training for the Israeli Electricity Regulator

16/05/2019

MEDREG, the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulator, organized a training for the staff of Israeli Electricity Regulator (Public Utility Authority) in Jerusalem, on 14-15 May 2019, titled “The Economics of Regulation Moving from Monopolies to Competitive Wholesale Electricity Markets”.

The objective of the training was to enhance the knowledge of Israeli PUA’s staff on the framework for electricity market design in Europe that can provide guidance on how to address the market

reform currently taking place in Israel. The major issue addressed was what market rules, market structures, and legal and regulatory institutions would be necessary to establish a competitive wholesale market that would provide the maximum possible benefits to consumers consistent with the long-term financial viability of the industry.

Med-TSO was invited to contribute to the training by providing the point of view of TSOs, in light of the intense cooperation program put in place by the two Associations.

The training was divided in two sessions, one per day: on 14 May, the session topic was “Market Design - Wholesale and Retail Markets”, during which it was discussed about the fundamental concepts of economics of wholesale power markets necessary to successful design, monitor electricity markets, and achieve different policy objectives. On 15 May, the topic was “Introducing Competition in National Electricity Markets: Examples” where they were provided concrete examples of regulators that managed the passage from a monopolistic to a competitive electricity market, focusing on the wholesale segment.

The Secretary General of Med-TSO, **Angelo Ferrante**, was invited to intervene in both sessions.

During the session “How to evaluate price formation to balance demand and supply” of the first day, Mr. Ferrante described the position of a modern TSO in a liberalized context and its role as a market facilitator. He also focused on the role of TSOs in ensuring stability and efficiency of the system, highlighting the main changes in the passage from a vertically integrated to a liberalized system. He concluded highlighting future developments in market design for supporting the energy transition.

On the second day, the Secretary General of Med-TSO intervened in the session “Models of organization of the transmission network” depicting the most used organizational models for the management of the Electricity Transmission Grid, based on the EU experience, namely the Ownership Unbundling, the Independent Transmission Operators and the Independent System Operators models. He concluded his contribution illustrating how this process has been implemented in some European countries, highlighting the lessons learnt.

MEDREG is an Association born in 2007 under the Italian law and it currently gathers 27 energy regulators from the Mediterranean basin. This Association promotes a transparent, stable and compatible regulatory framework in the Mediterranean Region, fostering market integration and infrastructure investments, as well as consumer protection and enhanced energy cooperation with the objective to implement the conditions for the establishment of a future Mediterranean Energy Community, based on a bottom-up approach.



Representatives of Palestinian Electricity Transmission Company and of Palestinian Energy & Natural Resources Authority met the Secretary General of Med-TSO in Ramallah

17/05/2019

The Secretary General of Med-TSO, **Angelo Ferrante**, met representatives of Palestinian Electricity Transmission Company (PETL) and of Palestinian Energy & Natural Resources Authority (PENRA), at the end of his participation at MEDREG's training in Jerusalem last Thursday 16 May (read the news).

Mr. Ferrante was received at PETL headquarter in Ramallah by the President of the Energy Authority, Mr. **Zafer Melhem**, by the General Manager of PETL, Mr. **Nashat Abubakar** and Mr. **Bilal Hamad**, Operation Manager of the Palestinian TSO.

Among the topics discussed during the meeting, the situation of the electrical power sector in Palestine, with its possible developments and the obstacles it might face. In particular, the discussion focused on the importance to develop a transmission grid in Western Bank territories and the need to enhance the cooperation between the two sides.

The visit of the Secretary General of Med-TSO in Palestine was also the occasion to foster the engagement and the cooperation of the Palestinian Transmission System Operator in the activities of Med-TSO, especially regarding the participation of Palestinian technical experts to the work carried out by the Technical Committees and Working Group of the Association in the frame of the ongoing Mediterranean Project 2.

Palestinian Electricity Transmission Company is the first national government company of Palestine overseeing the construction and the operation of the system and of the national transport of electric power, representing the only authority to purchase and transfer electricity to Palestinian market.

The Company was founded on 1 October 2013, after the Palestinian Cabinet approved the registration of the National Transport Electricity Company as a general government decision.

Med-TSO representatives at Coordination meeting with UfM Energy Platforms' Stakeholders

23/07/2019

Last Friday 19 July, the Secretary General of Med-TSO, Mr. **Angelo Ferrante**, and the Convener of the Working Group "Economic Studies & Scenarios", Mr. **Emmanuel Bué**, took part to the "Coordination meeting with UfM Energy Platforms' Stakeholders", held in Lisbon, Portugal.

After the welcome speeches by Mr. **M. Sales Dias** (ADENE Board Member) and Mr. **J. Bernardo** (Portuguese Director General for Energy and Geology), the coordination meeting proceeded with a first session focused on the preparation of the UfM Energy Ministerial Declaration, foreseen for June 2021.

It was analyzed the previous UfM Energy Declaration of 2016, its strength and weakness and, in particular, the discussion dealt with the identification of the new priorities to promote and the eventual bottlenecks to anticipate.

The second session of the meeting concerned the state of play and the work plan for 2019-2022 of the three UfM platforms: Regional Electricity Market (REM), Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) and Gas.

These platforms were established by the UfM in March 2015 as the only existing dialogue *fora* gathering all Euro-Mediterranean countries as well as key stakeholders, including financial institutions, regional organizations, industrial enterprises, energy experts.

During this session, Mr. Ferrante presented a concept note on the possible implementation of Projects of Common Interest at a Mediterranean level, highlighting, based on the experience carried out at EU and Energy Community level, the need to implement a sound framework of rules, criteria and methodologies to make the process working effectively.

Instead, Mr. Bué presented Med-TSO electricity long-term scenarios, illustrating several possible evolutions of the Euro-Mediterranean Power System at 2030 horizon. He also showed some simulation tools used by the Working Group he convenes for the implementation of the scenarios: these tools are used to identify and assess the opportunities for electricity exchanges through the Mediterranean corridors.

Med-TSO is one of the main stakeholders of REM Platform, together with MEDREG, the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators. This platform aims at the progressive integration of energy systems and energy markets in the UfM region and, in particular, at the enhancement of electricity exchanges and interconnections.

Pathways to Regional Energy Transition in the Mediterranean Area

10/09/2019

Last Monday 9 September, our President **Moncef Harrabi** and our Secretary General **Angelo Ferrante** participated to the conference “Pathways to Regional Energy Transition in the Mediterranean Area”, a side event of the 24th World Energy Council Congress, held from 9 to 12 September in Abu Dhabi.

The seminar was organized by the Observatoire Méditerranéen de l’Energie and the Italian Committee of the World Energy Council, with the aim to deepen the energy transition process undergoing in the Mediterranean Area and to highlight the paths that needs to be embarked by countries in the region in order to launch a structured regional cooperation on a sustainable Mediterranean energy framework.

Mr. Harrabi welcomed the participants in his capacity of President of the Observatoire Méditerranéen de l’Energie, while Mr. Ferrante took part as discussant at the roundtable that followed the keynote speeches of the seminar.

The discussion focused on the energy transition in the Mediterranean Region, its peculiarities, risks and opportunities.

Mr. Ferrante highlighted the importance of reinforcing interconnections, to facilitate the integration of the Mediterranean electricity grids and guarantee the necessary flexibility and resilience requested to modern Power Systems by the energy transition.

Since 1924, the World Energy Council organizes a triennial Congress aiming at enabling the dialogue amongst Ministers, CEOs, policy-makers and industry practitioners on critical developments in the energy sector, offering to the participants the opportunity to better understand energy issues and solutions from a global perspective.

For more information www.wec24.org/home

Rome: Med-TSO HVDC workshop builds stronger synergies for Transmission Service Operators in the Mediterranean region

28/10/2019

The Med-TSO “HVDC workshop” ran from 21-22 October 2019 in Rome, Italy, gathering over 50 participants from 14 TSOs from 13 countries. During the two-day event organized by Med-TSO and hosted by TERNA, participants shared valuable knowledge and experiences, strengthening cooperation among TSOs in Association member countries.

For two intense days, representatives from all over the Mediterranean region came together to discuss the world’s deepest up-to-date power submarine cable that connects Sardinia and the mainland of Italy. This valuable workshop was part of the Med-TSO’s Mediterranean Project 2, which will run until May 2020 and aims to promote the progressive integration and interconnection of Power Systems and the enhancement of cross-border electricity exchanges in the Mediterranean region.

“This is an example of how we intend knowledge sharing to be within the Association: a real exchange of views and experiences aiming at improving knowledge and technical capabilities among our members.” – said **Angelo Ferrante** (TERNA, Italy), Secretary General of Med-TSO.

On the first day, TERNA presented the SAPEI station and its related operations, and explained the process and intricacies of the HVDC cable. An intensive workshop session was held in the morning, giving participants the opportunity to ask questions and share knowledge on the cable.

“We brought to the table important aspects of the decision-making process when it comes to building systems. We all have a different points of view and it is very important to share different perspectives.” – said **Massimo Marzinotto**, Engineering Division at Terna, Italy.

In the afternoon, the whole group participated in a visit through the substation, to see the HVDC cable in action in the control room and discuss its inner workings with TERNA engineers and operators. The visit presented a prime opportunity for participants to interact with experts and each other, in order to strengthen regional ties.

“Med-TSO was created in order to share experience and today is a good example of knowledge sharing. The engineers could show the other colleagues the entire HVDC substation project.” – explained **Modesto Gabrieli Francescato**, (TERNA, Italy) Chairman of Med-TSO Technical Committee Planning.

On the second day, participants learned valuable insights on the design, stability control and environmental implications of the HVDC cable through an interactive workshop hosted by experts from the TSOs RTE (France) and REE (Spain).

Participants gave highly positive feedback on the two-day event for strengthening cooperation and deepening mutual understanding among TSOs in different countries.

“This event was very important as it covered the evolution of technology. We know that globally it is the alternating current, for the transmission, but there are cases where we are forced to switch to continuous current so we must get to know the technology and studies to truly understand how to do this.” – Mme. **Bergad Samia**, Connection and Network Access Department at OS, Algeria.

Med-TSO holds its General Assembly in Turkey

08/11/2019

On 6-7 November 2019, Med-TSO, the Association of Mediterranean Transmission System Operators (TSO) for electricity, held its 18th General Assembly in Istanbul, welcoming 22 representatives from 13 TSOs in 12 countries. For the first time after some time, Egypt, a key player for the near future, joined the discussions.

The event was dedicated to reviewing progress made with Med-TSOs ambitious projects and goals, including the current Mediterranean Project 2 to promote the progressive integration and interconnection of Power Systems and the enhancement of cross-border electricity exchanges in the Mediterranean region.

“Med-TSO has entered a new phase in its history” said **Moncef Harrabi**, President of Med-TSO and CEO of STEG Tunisia *“We are increasingly perceived as a reference and dominant technical force in the Mediterranean region. The seeds we planted in 2012 are flourishing and the time has come to strengthen our roots”*, he continued.

The opening day was dedicated to the Executive Board, which encapsulated the planning for the end of 2019 and for coming years, including the New EC Grant 2020-2022 and the Action Plan 2020-2025. Proposals by the Executive Board were scheduled to be presented by the entire Assembly for approval on the following day. On November 7, participants attended the General Assembly, which focused on the New Grant 2020-2022, assigned by the European Commission to develop a new project.

Hervè Laffaye, Vice-President of Med-TSO and Deputy Chief Executive Officer of RTE (France) highlighted how the Med-TSO’s projects are in line with the enlarged scope of the European Commission’s objectives on energy transition in close connection with the Paris Agreement. *“Our infrastructure is a tool to make a link between the objectives of the EU and in our case, the Mediterranean. One of the issues we must tackle is the penetration of the renewables also in that part of the world.”* – he asserted.

The Assembly also showcased the new Action Plan 2020-2025, adapted following the renewed interest shown by the European Commission in the Association’s technical activities.

Another important element of the agenda was the Knowledge Sharing Program. In the view of the Assembly, this activity should become one of the qualifying points of the Association’s development, allowing the transfer of core knowledge from the North to South Mediterranean area, the exchange of the best practices among all countries, and the establishment of knowledge networks in order to retain the acquired knowledge, which will be made available to all members at any given time.

The two-day event was hosted by the Turkish Electricity Transmission Corporation, Teias,. Its Head of Planning and Investment Management Department Serhat Metin, also Vice-President of Med-TSO, has declared the Corporation’s intention to continue supporting all activities for the coming years.



Message of the President on Albanian Earthquake

03/12/2019

We have followed with great sadness the tragic evolution of the events caused by the violent earthquake that hit Albania last week, causing serious damages in terms of human lives and considerable destruction of the country's infrastructure.

In this painful circumstance, on behalf of all Med-TSO members, I wish to express my heartfelt condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones and those who suffer as a result of this terrible tragedy.

We are confident that Albania will be able to overcome this disaster thanks to the combined efforts of the Government and all the parties involved in the rescue operations, including the OST teams, who have spared no effort in providing assistance and that have been forefront in helping the population and in bringing electricity to devastated areas.

Our solidarity and support is assured for Albania and its people in this painful ordeal.

President of Med-TSO

Moncef Harrabi

Med-TSO's Technical Committees Planning and International Electricity Exchange met in Rome

09/12/2019

On November 27th and 28th, the Technical Committees of Planning and International Electricity Exchange met in Rome to implement Med-TSO's ongoing Mediterranean Project 2, with the objective to promote the progressive integration and interconnection of Power Systems and the enhancement of cross-border electricity exchanges for the TSOs across the 19 Mediterranean countries that are members of the Association.

On the first day of meetings between the International Electricity Exchange - who focus on tools for sharing electricity internationally through an equal exchange - the agenda was set to discuss reports of the criteria for the allocation of costs and risks concerning the grid and market integration. This would be followed by a presentation of the analysis of the survey launched on the key performance indicators of a transmission system within operations.

Mr. **Aziz Ameyoud**, Chairman of the TC International Electricity Exchange, interviewed during the General Assembly in Istanbul, spoke to the activities of the meetings in Rome, *"This first axis of activity is a cost analysis at the interconnection level. This is a new concept for us who come from the southern Mediterranean area. The aim is to define the sharing of costs between interconnected countries, or rather to answer the question of 'how to manage the costs of an interconnection between countries'".*

Following these actions was the approval of templates for collecting data from members within the operations activities of the same MP2 action plan, including the updated draft of the terms of reference for implementing a web platform for gathering information on cross-border interconnections.

On the second day of meetings between TC of Planning - who has among its main objectives to design, develop, maintain and operate a planning process including the identification and sharing of criteria for planning grid interconnections, the collection and integration of the National Development Plans and the identification of potential infrastructure projects operational in the short-term – the work focused on selecting the Points in Time needed to carry out the Network studies in the frame of the Mediterranean Project 2.

Mr. **Modesto Gabrieli Francescato**, Chairman of the TC Planning, interviewed in Latina stated, *“The scope of the plan is to draw a sort of scenario and development of the grid on the Mediterranean level. In particular, my scope is to work on the network simulation to plan the transmission grid in 2030. I think the scenarios are a crucial point because the energy transition is a reality that could be carried out in the future.”*

Thanks to technical committee meetings of this nature, the Association is set to publish several deliverables before the conclusion of the Mediterranean Project 2 in May 2020. Such deliverables will form part of a set of guidelines for harmonizing power systems across the Mediterranean region.

Regulating Electricity Infrastructure Investment - Med-TSO and MEDREG together for a three-day training in Rome

13/12/2019

In light of their common interest in strengthening the harmonization of regulatory frameworks and in speeding up operative integration of Mediterranean electricity markets, MEDREG the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators and Med-TSO the Association of the Mediterranean Transmission System Operators, partnered together to offer a three-day training on Regulating Electricity Infrastructure Investment for more productive long-term planning.

Held December 10th-12th in Rome, the training, open to members of both organizations, focused on conversations of planning, feasibility, and incentives when designing a market-based power system; one that will help to create a harmonized regional system in the future.

For this reason, it’s crucial to appropriately assess and formulate priorities at both national and regional levels, ensuring that system demands are met and a fluidity between the two can be established. With this training, participants were given the proper planning tools for making productive investment decisions that take into account the assessment of the state of any given nation and their priorities.

Moreover, the course provided participants with a comprehensive view of planning options for a market-based power system, demonstrating the pros and cons of each possibility including costs. Thus, participants will leave with a more holistic view of how to build an investment infrastructure, including a review of all incentive models used in Europe and the steps towards integrating wholesale and balanced markets in the future.

To ensure the success of members, the course was presented by current decision-makers involved in the process of electricity infrastructure investment today with various profiles like energy regulators, academics, and working professionals from energy companies. Together, they offered a theoretical snapshot of investment regulation,



alongside practical case studies that help to create a complete understanding of not only the relevance of investment planning - but the steps towards implementing it.

Within the training, a focus has been put on long-term regulation planning, as there's a clear advantage for creating more coherent intentions in regard to the assessment of needs and possible solutions over-time. This calls for a deeper look into articulating the development of energy supplies, power generation, transmission and distribution networks, and interconnections. All of which require a broader, more long-term focus to ensure stability and transparency for both national and foreign investors.





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