



Association of the Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Gas

MEDREG receives 2010 ICER Award on energy regulation

Montreal, 16 September 2010

MEDREG, the **Association of Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Natural Gas**, has received an award from the International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER) for a 2010 report on the introduction of regulatory mechanisms to promote renewable energy sources and energy efficiency in developing countries.

The award was given today during a ceremony held in Montreal, Canada, in presence of top energy world leaders gathered at the World Energy Congress (12-16 September). The Association of Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Natural Gas received the “**ICER distinguished scholar award**” organised for the first time by the International Confederation of Energy Regulators.

Mr. Nadjib Otmane, President of MEDREG and of the Electricity and Gas Regulatory Commission of Algeria, was given the prize jointly with **Mr. Alessandro Ortis**, President of the Italian Authority for Electricity and Gas, from ICER Chair Lord Mogg. Mr. Otmane expressed his warmest thanks to Mr. Ortis, former MEDREG President for two mandates and currently Vice President, for strongly promoting, supporting and consolidating MEDREG since its foundation in 2006.

The award went to a MEDREG paper assessing the “*Effects of the Introduction of Successful Mechanisms to Promote RES/CHP and Energy Efficiency in Non-EU Countries*”. This report was completed in May 2010 by the MEDREG Ad Hoc Group on Renewable Energy Sources, Energy Efficiency and the Environment (RES AG), chaired by the Comisión Nacional de Energía, the Spanish regulatory authority. At stake is the successful introduction of regulatory mechanisms that guide investors to more efficient generation technologies from an energy and environmental standpoint.

This success underlines the quality of the work delivered and is a warm encouragement to carry on the efforts towards a more integrated energy market around the Mediterranean Basin. MEDREG President Nadjib Otmane declared that, “*this international distinction is a symbol of the commitment of MEDREG members to promote sustainable development principles and a long-term, responsible vision of global energy challenges*”.

MEDREG is a founding member of ICER, launched in 2009 with the aim of ensuring the continuity and visibility of energy regulators around the globe. The regulators have agreed to promote a new level of cooperation, through a permanent tool for dialogue and communication. ICER provides a voluntary framework for cooperation between energy regulators around the world. The activities of ICER virtual working groups allow regulators jointly to address regulatory issues of a global nature, as well as the exchange of mutually beneficial information, including an increased awareness of trends in market designs, regulatory models, customer protection and affordability, sustainability and security of supply. Its aim is to improve public and policy-maker awareness and understanding of energy regulation and its role in addressing a wide spectrum of socio-economic, environmental and market issues.