



PRESS RELEASE

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A step closer to bridging electricity markets in Africa



A Strategy and Action plan for African electricity markets at the continental level are being elaborated through a joint AU-EU initiative.

Aiming for "the Development of a Harmonized Regulatory Framework for Electrical Energy in Africa", a Stakeholder Dialogue workshop was held in Praia, Cape Verde, from June 1 to 3, 2016. The workshop viewed to build on the findings of previous consultations for cooperation of African stakeholders held earlier this year at the AUC premises, in Addis Ababa. The meeting proposed to validate the elaborated Strategy and Action Plan for the necessary reforms, with the ultimate goal of creating an enabling regulatory environment for electricity energy markets development in Africa.

The workshop brought together high-level officials from stakeholders strongly engaged in the energy arena of the African continent, including the representatives of continental and regional organizations. Existing regulations and best practices at national, regional and continental levels were discussed, and a common approach towards harmonisation of electricity energy regulatory frameworks was developed.

The action is carried out by the African Union Commission with support from the European Union (EU) through its Technical Assistance Facility for the "Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL)" initiative.

Continental and regional integration, in particular through the development of regional infrastructure and markets, is one of the key components in the vision of the African Union Commission (AUC), of an *'integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a driving force in the global arena.'*

Further information

Formulation of continental strategy and action plan of proposals - Stakeholders Dialogue Workshop Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 23- 24 February 2016 - See more at: <u>http://www.au.int/en/newsevents/21043/formulation-continental-strategy-and-action-plan-proposals-stakeholders-dialogue</u>

Delegation of the European Union to the African Union: http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african_union/index_en.htm

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