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ERERA's Chairman, Professor Bogler, Meets Ghana's Foreign Minister

The Chairman of the Regulatory Council of the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA), Professor Honoré Bogler, led a six-member delegation on a courtesy visit to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Ms. Hanna Tetteh, on Wednesday, 28th June 2016 in Accra, Ghana.

The visit was in continuation of Professor Bogler's familiarization programme since his assumption of duty on 15th April 2016 to meet with key institutions, stakeholders and partners to strengthen ERERA's relations with them.

He expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration as well as the Government of the Republic of Ghana for hosting and supporting ERERA in the execution of its mandate.

Welcoming the delegation, the minister congratulated the chairman on his appointment, and wished him the best in his assignment, which she described as challenging, especially in the development of a central power market for West Africa.

She said ERERA's objectives were "consistent with our own aspirations for the development of electricity".

While stating that adequate power supply was a key concern to the Government of Ghana, Ms. Tetteh explained some steps being taken by the government to address the issue, including making and attracting more investments in, and restructuring of, the energy sector.

She specifically mentioned Ghana's millennium project which is running over a five-year period, and expressed the hope that the efficiency of the country's institutions would have been improved.

The minister further stated that Ghana is working towards increasing the number of independent power producers, and that it plans to eventually export electricity.

In a related development, Professor Bogler paid a courtesy visit on the Chief Executive of the Volta River Authority (VRA), Mr. Kirk Koffi, on 29th June 2016 in Accra.

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The VRA is a strong member of ERERA's Committee of Operators, which is part of the institutions governance structure.

Mr. Koffi acknowledged the challenge of adequate power supply in West Africa, but was affirmative that a steady and reliable supply of electricity is possible with all stakeholders working together.

While assuring the ERERA Chairman of the VRA's availability and continued support, he expressed optimism in the future of the regional electricity market, which is scheduled to take off towards the end of the year.