



ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES
ECOWAS REGIONAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

FIRST FORUM ON REGIONAL REGULATION OF THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR OF ECOWAS

RECOMMENDATIONS

The participants at the First Forum on Regional Regulation of the Electricity Sector of ECOWAS, held in Accra from 9 to 10 November 2010:

Considering the completion of Phase 1, on activities relating to the establishment of ERERA;

Considering the conclusions of the various studies conducted during the process for the establishment of ERERA;

Considering the 2009-2013 activity programme of ERERA, and the balancing of its three-year budget;

Recommend

A. That ERERA should:

1. Speed up the setting up of the Regulation Board by recruiting professional and support staff needed to ensure its smooth running;
2. Take the following points into account in carrying out its activities:
 - (a) Formulate a shared plan of action for the development of the regional market;
 - (b) Raise awareness among government authorities and other stakeholders of the regional electricity sector (regulation authorities and electricity companies, etc.) and institute a communication and information sharing mechanism among regional electricity market stakeholders;

- (c) Develop a participatory process to ensure ownership by all, of the standards, rules and decisions to be adopted and implemented by ERERA;
- (d) Support member States to establish regulatory bodies and assist national regulators in their activities;
- (e) Pool experiences and skills of the region, in terms of providing support to national regulators and capacity building;
- (f) Give special attention to implementation of capacity building programmes, by decentralizing training and taking them to the region;
- (g) Institute permanent consultation among various regional community jurisdictions, to harmonize their responsibilities.

B. ECOWAS should

Adopt guidelines on:

1. Financing for ERERA by sector stakeholders, following the start-up period;
2. Institutional harmonization;
3. Organizing the regional electricity market.

Done in Accra, on 10 November 2010