

**PRESS
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ERERA SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH TURKISH ENERGY REGULATOR

The ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Energy Markets Regulatory Authority (EMRA) of Turkey to deepen their cooperation.

The MOU was signed on Thursday, 27th October 2014 in Baku, Azerbaijan at the sidelines of the 13th ERERA Annual Investment Conference and Committee Meetings, which took place between 27th and 30th October 2014.

El Hadj Ibrahim Thiam and Mr. Mustafa Yilmaz, Chairmen of ERERA and EMRA, respectively, signed on behalf of their organizations in an event that was witnessed by a number of other regulators, including the Chairman of the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA), Mr. Alparsan Bayraktar and the Chairperson of the National Electricity Regulator of South Africa (Nersa) and the Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA), Mrs. Phindile Baleni.

Also present at the event was ERERA's Council Member (Legal), Mrs. Ifey Ikeonu.

Under the MOU, both organizations agreed to collaborate in the areas of information and knowledge sharing, capacity building as well as exchange of regulatory expertise.

In addition, it allows both parties to strengthen their partnership arrangements in relation to electricity regulation "in support of infrastructure development in West Africa and Turkey".

ERERA was established in 2008 as a specialized institution of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) with the primary aim of regulating cross-border power trading among ECOWAS Member States as well as the development of the regional power market.

Created in 2001 as an autonomous regulatory authority, EMRA was mandated to perform regulatory and supervisory functions in the energy markets to ensure the development of financially sound and transparent energy markets operating in a competitive environment for delivery of sufficient, good quality low cost and environment-friendly energy to consumers.