

**PRESS
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ECOWAS Parliamentarians Pledge Support for ERERA

A seven-member delegation from the ECOWAS Parliament has assured ERERA that the Parliament would continue its support to the institution to enable it carry out its cross-border electricity regulatory work in a responsible and creditable manner.

The assurance was made during a parliamentary oversight mission to the ERERA headquarters on Monday, 8th October 2018 in Accra, Ghana. The delegation, led by Mr. Christophe Padumhekou Tchao of the Togolese National Assembly, was received by ERERA's Regulatory Council Member (Engineer), Mr. Aly Mar Ndiaye and some professional staff of the institution.

The delegation included members of the national parliaments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde and Sierra Leone, as well as staff of the ECOWAS Parliament.

Members of the delegation described the visit as a familiarization tour designed to improve their knowledge of ERERA, including its successes and challenges, and to better inform Community citizens in Member States of the programmes and activities of ECOWAS institutions that are being carried out on behalf of the citizens.

Following the enhanced powers granted the Parliament by ECOWAS leaders in 2017, the regional parliament now has oversight functions, including those relating to budgetary matters involving ERERA and other institutions.

In this regard, the Parliament will now monitor the activities of the institutions and agencies responsible for the implementation of ECOWAS Community programmes and adopt appropriate resolutions to improve their performances.

The delegation was treated to a presentation on ERERA by Mr. Aly Mar Ndiaye.

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While answering questions by the delegation, Mr. Ndiaye explained the key areas of focus of, and the collaboration between ERERA, the West African Power Pool (WAPP) and the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), the three energy institutions of ECOWAS.

He also explained the relationships between ERERA and the national regulatory authorities of Member States as well as the Consultative Committees of Regulators and Operators set up by ERERA, to assist in its decision-making processes.