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## **ERERA Chairman Assures on Non-Discriminatory Access to Electricity by Market Players**

As part of its commitment to safeguard the interests of all its stakeholders, the Chairman of ERERA, Professor Honoré Bogler, has assured that the institution will ensure non-discriminatory access to all players in the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Market when the second phase is launched.

Professor Bogler was addressing ERERA personnel, including five newly recruited members of staff for whom an orientation programme was being concluded on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 in Accra.

“In fact, ERERA is a critical institution when it comes to the Regional Electricity Market”, the Chairman said, adding: “We are moving towards the competitive stage”.

Intended to add a competitive market to existing bilateral agreements, the second phase will be launched when sufficient transmission infrastructure has been developed to interconnect the 14 mainland countries. The first phase which has been described as transitional, was launched in Cotonou in June 2018.

In this regard, ERERA has approved, among others, the West African Power Pool (WAPP) Transmission Service Access and Use Procedures (WTSaup), which describes the conditions and procedures for access as well as use and payment of transmission services in the Regional Electricity Market.

The document is in response to the 2013 ECOWAS Directive on the Organization of the Regional Electricity Market, which provides for the development of a standard connection and use of network agreement for access to the Regional Transmission Network.

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Earlier, Professor Bogler had described as enormous the task of regulating the regional trans-border trade in electricity, with a small team. He however expressed confidence that “this small team will make things happen for the launch of the second phase of the Regional Electricity Market”.

He said ERERA was “working to make all the 14 mainland Member States integrate electrically and set up the electricity market with a view to ending the shortage of power in our region”.

“We are counting on you and your hard work and fighting spirit to get the good results we envisage”, the ERERA Chairman told the newly recruited five members of staff.

The main orientation programme for the new staff was held from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 in Aburi, near Accra.