



COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

No .017 – November 12, 2022 – Banjul, Ghana

Niger to Host 8th ERERA Electricity Regulatory Forum in 2023

Niger has received a great applause to host the eighth edition of ERERA's Electricity Regulatory Forum in 2023 by participants at the just-concluded 7th ERERA Regulatory Forum which took place in Banjul, The Gambia from November 9 to 10, 2022.

It will be Niger's first attempt at hosting the flagship event since 2010 when ERERA launched the maiden edition in Accra, Ghana. Thereafter, Member States were invited to host subsequent editions: Cote d'Ivoire (2011), Senegal (2012), The Gambia (2013), Burkina Faso (2016), Benin (2018) and The Gambia (2022).

At the close of the two-day forum in Banjul, the Director General of Niger's national regulatory body, Mr. Ibrahim Nomao, expressed delight at the hosting right for Niger as he received the baton from the Director General of The Gambia Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), Mr. Yusupha Jobe.

Mr. Nomao promised to uphold the standard of the Forum and ensure a successful event in Niamey next year.

ERERA Forums generally provide a platform for all stakeholders in the energy sector to consider means of moving the sector forward and improving the standard of living of ECOWAS citizens. Participants also seek to generate fresh ideas, innovations, and strategies to address the challenges of energy security for West Africa.

The Forums bring together representatives of the Ministries in charge of Energy and Finance, national regulatory authorities, utility companies, parliamentarians, academics, researchers, consumer groups, civil society organizations, banks, regional and international development partners, to share ideas and discuss issues related to chosen themes for the Forums and the development of the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Market.

The theme for the seventh Regulatory Forum which ended on November 10, 2022 in Banjul was "Energy Security of supply in the ECOWAS Region through Interdependence". According to the Forum's documents,

Published by: Department of Communication, ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority
Publié par: Le Département de la Communication, Autorité de Régulation Régionale du Secteur de l'Électricité de la CEDEAO

Energy Commission Building – Ghana Airways Avenue, Airport Residential Area, PMB 76 Ministries Post Office, Accra, Ghana

Tel: (233) 0302 817 049 Fax: (233) 0302 817 050 E-mail: info@erera.arrec.org

the theme was chosen to deepen “our awareness of our need for one another, and more specially, to satisfy our increasing quest for reliable and low-cost electricity”.

Sessions at the Forum included such areas as improving the security of electricity supply by developing the Regional Electricity Market infrastructure, energy security and regional energy connectivity, promoting cross-border electricity connectivity for sustainable development, addressing global economic challenges and consumer protection as well the role of women in energy conservation for the development of the power market.

The second phase of the electricity market is expected to be launched in 2023 following the fulfilment of the conditions precedent for its launch.