

**ENERGY CHARTER  
SECRETARIAT**

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CCDEC 2013

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Brussels, 2 December 2013

Related documents: CC 482, Mess 1094/13
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**DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE**

**Subject: Adoption by written procedure of the Policy Conclusions and Recommendations of the In-depth Review on the Investment Climate and Market Structure (ICMS) in the Energy Sector of Morocco**

By CC document 482, dated 12 November 2013, delegations were invited to approve the Policy Conclusions and Recommendations of the In-depth Review on the Investment Climate and Market Structure (ICMS) in the Energy Sector of Morocco. As specified by Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure (CC 53 corr. 2) concerning the adoption of decisions by correspondence, members of the Energy Charter Conference were informed that any delegation that wished to object to this proposal should notify the Secretariat of its position in writing not later than 2 December 2013.

Having received no objections within the specified time limit (as confirmed by Message 1094), on 2 December 2013, the Energy Charter Conference

Taking into account the decision by the Investment Group that convened on 22 October 2013 in Brussels regarding the policy conclusions and recommendations arising from the In-depth Review on the Investment Climate and Market Structure in the Energy Sector of Morocco and from the Main Findings of the Secretariat (ICMS-63 and ICMS-64),

**HAVING NOTED**

- a) that Morocco has provided an investment climate which is favourable to foreign investments and that implements market principles in the energy sector in accordance with the principles of the Charter; and that Morocco has created non-

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discriminatory conditions for foreign investments in accordance with the principles of the Energy Charter Treaty;

## **INVITED**

- b) the government of Morocco to consider accession to the Energy Charter Treaty and to the Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects, in order to strengthen conditions for trade, transit and investments in the energy sector and in order to promote and develop energy efficiency programs and cooperation schemes at the international level within the constituency of the Energy Charter;
- c) the government of Morocco to include the accession to the Energy Charter Treaty as a central element of its national energy strategy under the chapter dedicated to 'regional and international integration' and to initiate the procedure for the accession to the Energy Charter Treaty;

## **TAKING FURTHER NOTE**

- d) in particular
  - that Morocco has defined clear priorities in the national energy strategy and has identified concrete action plans for achieving ambitious targets of diversifying the energy mix and reducing energy dependency;
  - that Morocco has identified solid investment opportunities in the renewable energy sector and has planned a viable financing system through public and private funds at the national and at the international level, without recourse to specific incentives;
  - that the investment climate is overall favourable and non-discriminatory against foreign investment and invited the government to consider improvements in relation to general conditions of transparency and governance;
  - that the electricity system is undergoing a full-scale transition towards a competitive market for the production and the transmission at the high and medium voltage; in this respect, the Conference encourages the government to implement in a timely manner the planned regulation especially in relation to electricity tariffs and the establishment of a regulatory authority for electricity;
  - that the diversification of the energy mix through the development of production capacity from renewable energy sources may put additional stress on the limited transmission capacity and on the available base load; in this respect, encourages the government to consider the use of alternative primary sources such as coal or natural gas;
  - that the recent reform of the fossil-fuel subsidies through the indexation to the international oil prices is an appropriate instrument to reduce public debt and to reduce fossil fuel subsidies which may cause distortions to competition in the energy sector; in this respect, encourages the government to continue its efforts to balance budget constraints and access to energy products and is invited to consider subsidy options which directly target beneficiaries;

- that the national energy strategy places strong emphasis on energy efficiency as a contribution towards energy security and reducing energy dependency; in this respect encourages the government to proceed in the implementation of the existing action plans and in the development of new opportunities;
- that Morocco is in a strategic position for energy integration with neighbouring countries and within the Mediterranean region; in this respect, the Conference encourages the government to support all initiatives in relation to the interconnection of electricity and natural gas markets