Background

Task Force on Regional Electricity Cooperation in Asia (RECA) was established in Bishkek on 26 April 2007 where all Central Asian states as well as Afghanistan and Pakistan agreed to use the Energy Charter framework as a means of intensifying and developing cross-border electricity trade. Later on in 2010 Task Force delegates enlarged the scope of their interests to energy and included East Asian countries such as Mongolia. The Task Force today consists of delegates from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

The objectives of the Task Force are as follows:

- Promoting political dialogue for the development of sustainable energy resources and the development of transport corridors and the trade in electricity and gas;
- Developing a legal and technical framework for facilitating energy trade based on ECT;
- Enhancing cooperation through systematic channel for sharing knowledge, information and know-how.

Since the establishment of the Task Force ten regional meetings have been organized: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (April 2007), Kabul, Afghanistan (November 2007), Dushanbe, Tajikistan (April 2008), Almaty, Kazakhstan (April 2009), Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (November 2009), Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (July 2010), Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan (June 2011), Dushanbe, Tajikistan (July 2012), Astana, Kazakhstan (October 2013) and Ashgabat, Turkmenistan (December 2014).

It is proposed to organise the next meeting of the Task Force on Regional Energy Cooperation on 25 September 2015 at Issyk-Kul lake in Kyrgyzstan upon the invitation of the Ministry of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Objective of the meeting

The general objective of the meeting is to provide forum for participating countries to exchange of views and information on current developments in order to promote regional energy cooperation. The aim is to identify specific cross-border issues and encourage open discussions.

Specific objective of the meeting is to seek inputs and position of the participating countries on the following items:

- Role of cross-border electricity trade in ensuring national and regional energy security;
Implementation of regional and inter-regional infrastructure projects;
Best practices and lessons learnt on power sector reforms;
Enhancing cooperation through systematic channel for sharing knowledge, information and know-how.

**Participation**

This meeting forum will bring together representatives of the member states as well as observers and regional organisations (target audience 30-35 participants):

- Representatives of the responsible Ministry/Industry of the Task Force members, namely Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- Representatives of the observer states to the Task Force, namely Norway, Austria, China, and EU.
- Representatives from the regional organisations and IFIs, including Coordination and Dispatch Center “Energiya”, Executive Committee of CIS Power Council, Energy Centre of SAARC, USAID, WB, ADB and JICA.

**Languages:**
The meeting will in English and Russian with a simultaneous interpretation provided.
Preliminary Programme

Arrival of the participants to Bishkek on September 24 (am) and departure to Issyk-Kul lake (pm)

25 September 2015

08.30 – 9.00  Registration of participants

09.00 – 9.30  Opening Session

- Welcoming Remarks:
  - Kubanynchbek Turdubaev, Minister of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic;
  - Ambassador Cesare De Montis, Head of EU Delegation in the Kyrgyz Republic;
  - Amb. Urban Rusnák, Secretary General, Energy Charter Secretariat.

9.30 – 11.00  Session 1: Fostering Regional Cooperation through Electricity Trade

Chair: Aybek Kaliev, Deputy Minister of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic

- Modernisation of Energy Charter Process: Implications for Regional Cooperation,
  Kanat Botbaev, Expert, Energy Charter Secretariat;
- One Road, One Belt Strategy: Energy Transit Risks,
  Han Wang, Deputy Adviser, National Energy Administration of China;
- Opportunities for Energy Trade in South Asia,
  Durga Raina, President of Entecsol International, India;
- Discussion.

11.00 – 11.30  Coffee-break

11.30 – 13.00  Session 2: Integrating Power Markets in Central Asia

Chair: Representative of JSC National Grid of Kyrgyzstan / JSC Electric Power Plants

- Challenges of Regional Electricity Trade in Central Asia,
  Michael Bekker, Deputy Chief of Party, Energy Links;
- Pricing of Electricity Transit in UPC Central Asia,
  Khamidulla Shamsiev, Director, CDC Energiya;
- Upcoming changes in Kazakhstan power market and perspectives of EAEU common energy market,
- Representative of Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan (tbc);
- Discussion.

13.00 – 14.30  Lunch

14.30– 16.00  Session 3: Update on developments and best practices

Chair: Kanat Botbaev, Expert, Energy Charter Secretariat

- Implementation of Datka-Kemin Transmission Project,
  Representative of JSC “National Grid of Kyrgyzstan” (tbc);
- Regional Energy Cooperation in North-East Asia – Gobitec and Asian SuperGrid,
  Ganbaatar Enkhtuvshin, Director for Foreign Cooperation, Ministry of Energy of Mongolia,
- Best Regulatory Practices in Addressing Non-Payment in the Central Asian Energy Sector,
- Anatole Boute, Associate Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong;
- Discussion.

16.00 – 16.30  Coffee-break

16.30 – 17.00  Concluding Session

- Concluding Remarks;
- Adoption of declaration.

18.30  Reception on behalf of the Ministry of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic

Departure to Bishkek on 26 September (am)
# 11th Meeting of the Task Force on Regional Energy Cooperation in Central and South Asia (RECA)

Issyk-Kul lake, Kyrgyzstan
Raduga Resort, Sary-Oy village
25 September 2015

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I will need visa for Kyrgyzstan: [] [YES] [NO]

Completed forms should be sent to
[ julia.boegaeva@encharter.org](mailto:julia.boegaeva@encharter.org)
Fax: +32 2 775 9801
as soon as possible, and at the latest by
4 September 2015