



Brussels, 16.12.2009

**TO THE MEMBERS OF STEERING COMMITTEE  
OF THE TASK FORCE FOR SMART GRIDS**

**Subject: Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the Task Force for Smart Grids**

The second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Task Force on smart grids took place on 16 November 2009 in Brussels. The Steering Committee will guide the work of the Task Force and consists of representatives of the Commission, ERGEG, market stakeholders, industry associations and organisations representing the consumers. The list of participants is in Annex 1.

**Main conclusions:**

1. The Steering Committee has approved the MISSION for the Task Force.
2. Participants agreed on the draft Work Programme proposed by the Commission as the starting point to launch the Expert Groups (EGs) in January 2010. They were invited to send their final comments to the Commission before 08.01.2010.
3. The Steering Committee adopted the tasks proposed for the three Expert Groups and agreed on the chairmanship for each group. DSO Club is to chair the EG 1 (Functionalities for Smart Grids and Meters), ESMIG was chosen as the chair for EG 2 (Regulatory recommendations for data safety, data handling and data protection) and ERGEG is to head WG 3 (Roles and responsibilities of actors involved in Smart Grids deployment). Detailed composition and the name of each EG chairman should be communicated to the Commission before 08.01.2010.
4. The next Steering Committee meeting was set to take place in Brussels on 01.03.2010, starting at 14:30. Following meetings will take place in Brussels on 21.04.2010 and 22.06.2010, starting at 14:30.

## **1. Approval of the agenda for the 2<sup>nd</sup> SC meeting of the Task Force**

The Commission introduced the three new members of the Steering Committee:

- Mr. Paolo Falcioni. Vice Director General CECED, European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers.
- Mr. Patrick Clerens. Secretary General EPPSA, Power Plant Suppliers. Association
- Mr. Martin Spät. Director ESIA, European Semiconductor Industry Association.

All the participants welcomed them as new members of the Steering Committee.

The present composition of the Steering Committee has been updated accordingly (see Annex 2).

## **2. Approval of the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and Mission for the Task Force**

The minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting were accepted by all the participants. BEUC's delegate will propose, no later than 08.01.2010, an additional remark related to transparency of costs.

The revised version of the Mission for the Task Force was adopted by all the participants (see Annex 3).

## **3. Adoption of the Work Programme and composition of the Expert Groups**

### **3.1. Adoption of the Work Programme**

The participants welcomed the draft Work Programme proposed by the Commission and expressed their full support to the overall approach and distribution of the work into the three Expert Groups (EGs). The Commission stated that it would accept further comments and remarks, but no later than 08.01.2010.

There was a short discussion on the scope of the Task Force and the difference between Smart Meters and Smart Grids re-emerged. There seems to be a broad understanding that while the Smart Meters are one of the underlying elements for the Smart Grid development, the ultimate task of the Task Force is to create regulatory framework for the Smart Grids.

Participants asked for inclusion of the "optimisation aspects of the electricity generation" among the list of expected services of Smart Grid.

Certain participants expressed concerns about possible overlaps of this list with the performance indicators proposed in the Position Paper on Smart Grids currently developed by the ERGEG. However, ERGEG stated that it is comfortable with the discussion and sees minimal risks of overlap. The Position Paper is now being in the process of public consultation and the final outcomes are not yet available. The discussion on the ERGEG's Position Paper could therefore neatly fit into the overall discussion at the level of the Expert Groups as well as at the level of the Steering Committee.

Organisations representing the consumers urged the Commission to include a reference to vulnerable consumers in the Work Programme.

Stakeholders underlined the need to communicate the work and the results of the Expert Groups and the Task Force to the broader public, including the European Parliament. It was suggested to invite either the chairmen or vice-chairmen of relevant EP committees to one of the meetings and possibly also invite future DG Energy commissioner to a meeting. The Commission agreed that it would facilitate the communication process of expected results of the Task Force, but reminded that the Task Force should advise the Commission and deliver high quality material and results. It was agreed that any communication approach and targeted audience should be discussed once concrete results are available.

### **3.2. Composition of the Expert Groups**

The Commission initiated the debate on the composition of the EGs, offering a flexible approach to the suggestions of the participants. Stakeholders were offered extra time to submit their interest to participate in individual EG. Requests should be submitted before 08.01.2010.

There was a full and open discussion on the chairmanship of the EGs. Impartiality and expertise were quoted as the main predispositions for the chairmanship. The Commission assured its continuous presence in all three EGs and contribute to the work as well as guarantee transparency in the decision process inside each group.

DSO Club was chosen as the chairman for the EG on *Functionalities of Smart Grids and Meters*. The participants agreed that at the end of the day, it will be the network operators who share the main (administrative and financial) burden to implement the Smart Grids and roll-out of the Smart Meters.

ESMIG will be chairing the EG on *Regulatory recommendations for data safety, data handling and data protection*. Stakeholders representing the consumer organisations expressed concerns about this choice with regard to impartiality. The Commission reminded that the DG JLS and DG SANCO will actively participate in this EG; the Commission expects that consumer organisations play also an active role in this EG.

ERGEG is to head the EG defining the *Roles and responsibilities of actors involved in the Smart Grids deployment*. There were no objections as to this outcome.

The Commission underlined the need of the EG chairmen to be impartial, driving the work of the EG forward and presenting the results in a timely manner. Some of the stakeholders asked for the needs of agreeing on uniform set of procedures and documents so that EG activities are more or less coordinated and comparable. It was agreed that the chairmen should stimulate, coordinate and agree with the experts in his group the procedures and the implementation of the work. The Steering Committee should follow the building process and results of the three groups and limit its intervention to critical cases only.

Participants were called upon to identify the EG in which to participate and send to the Commission the details of their participation before 08.01.2010 (e.g. name of expert, full address, position in his/her organisation and short description of the expertise

accumulated). Likewise, the name of each EG-chairman should be send to the Commission before 08.01.2010.

Each EG should meet during January 2010 to agree on the tasks and the relevant work plan. Its is expected that the three EGs will be effectively launched before the end of January 2010.

#### **4. Next SC meetings**

The dates for the next meetings of the Steering Committee of the Task Force were set as:

- 1 March,
- 21 April and
- 22 June 2010.

These meetings will be held in Brussels, starting at 14:30.

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