



**ENERGY AND WATER
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

**BETWEEN
AZERBAIJAN ENERGY REGULATORY AGENCY**

AND

ENERGY AND WATER REGULATORY COMMISSION OF BULGARIA

**AZERBAIJAN ENERGY REGULATORY AGENCY (AERA) AND
ENERGY AND WATER REGULATORY COMMISSION OF BULGARIA (EWRC)**

(further in the text collectively "the Parties" and separately "the Party"),

HAVING REGARD TO:

- the geographical location of the two countries and the relevant competencies of the Parties in the energy sector,
- the dynamic processes of development and integration of the electricity and natural gas markets increasing requirements to regulators,

Have decided that a certain form of cooperation between the Parties would contribute to their improvement as regulators, as well as to the harmonized development of the region in the field of energy regulation, and within a general development framework of long-term cooperation, have agreed on the following:

Article 1. Subject

The Parties shall cooperate whenever possible and appropriate in order to enhance the performance of the institutional and regulatory process.

Article 2. Forms of cooperation

The Parties shall cooperate, using cooperation forms such as meetings and exchange of information on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.



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Article 3. Meetings

- (1) The Parties shall hold meetings on topics that will be agreed in advance. Either Party may propose for a meeting to be held.
- (2) Meetings location will be agreed for each specific case and will be subject to the principle of equality and minimizing costs.
- (3) The working language of the meetings will be English. In case persons who do not speak English participate in the meetings, the Parties shall agree for each specific case on the language / languages used and the translation provision.
- (4) The Parties shall cover their own expenses related to travel and accommodation for meetings, unless otherwise agreed in each specific case.

Article 4. Information exchange

The Parties shall exchange documents and information that is not confidential or secret, in compliance with the laws and regulations applicable to both countries.

Article 5. Cooperation for capacity building

The Parties shall work for the capacity building and staff development and shall always, whenever possible and appropriate, support their staff to participate in:

- Specific activities and projects organized by the other Party;
- Training activities of the other Party;
- Conferences, seminars and workshops.

Article 6. Addendums and amendments hereto

- (1) Any other form of cooperation proposed by one of the Parties and accepted by the other Party in a written manner shall become a contract.
- (2) An amendment to this Agreement or to any other contract mentioned herein above shall be done in a written manner by mutual consent.
- (3) Any Party may propose amendments to this Agreement or contracts mentioned herein above.

Article 7. Implementation responsibility and operational communication

- (1) AERA Chairman and EWRC Chairman will be in charge of organizing this Cooperation Agreement implementation. This responsibility may be delegated to appropriate members of the relevant institutions in the areas of cooperation.
- (2) Operational communication will be performed by nominated by the relevant Party administration experts.



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Article 8. Non-expire date

This Agreement has no time limit and may be terminated at the request of either Party.

Article 9. Financial responsibilities

This Agreement DOES NOT entrust any party hereto with any financial responsibility. However, the Parties may determine their mutual rights and obligations, including financial obligations in separate document(s) to undertake the execution of specific activities or projects as a result of this Agreement.

Article 10. Issues settlement

Any issues that may arise in the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled by consultation and negotiation between the Parties or in other ways that the Parties will decide to apply.

Article 11. Non-privileged

No provision of this Agreement could be elucidated as giving any privilege, bonus, immunity or favor to any Party hereof or to its employees, agencies or consultants.

Signed in Baku, 27 August 2020

Signed in Sofia, 27 August 2020

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Dr. Samir Akhundov
Chairman
Azerbaijan Energy Regulatory Agency

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Assoc. prof. Ivan N. Ivanov, PhD
Chairman
*Energy and Water Regulatory Commission
of Bulgaria*