



PRESS RELEASE

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FRANCE, GERMANY, MOROCCO, PORTUGAL, AND SPAIN SIGN MOU TO INTEGRATE THEIR GREEN ELECTRICITY MARKETS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

The signing took place in the presence of : Mrs. Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Minister of Energy Transition of The French Republic, represented by Mr. Stéphane Crouzat, Ambassador in charge of negotiations on climate change, for renewable energies and the prevention of climate risks; Mr. Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action of The Federal Republic of Germany; Mrs. Leila Benali, Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of the Kingdom of Morocco; Mr. Duarte Cordeiro, Minister of Environment and Climate Action of the Portuguese Republic, represented by Her Excellency Manuela Franco, Ambassador of the Portuguese Republic to the Arab Republic of Egypt; Mrs. Teresa Ribera, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, represented by His Excellency Álvaro Iranzo Gutiérrez, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the Arab Republic of Egypt; Ambassador Christian Berger, Head of the European Union Delegation to Egypt for the European Commission; Mr. Nasser Kamel, Ambassador Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean; Mr. Paul Noumba Um, MENA Regional Director for Infrastructure of the World Bank.

The five countries have signed today in Sharm El Sheikh an Agreement stating the actions to be taken by each party to implement actions for electricity market integration, focusing in the short-term on cross-border renewable energy corporate Power Purchase Agreements (CPPA). This follows a commitment -known as the Sustainable Electricity Trade (SET) Roadmap –by the five countries at CoP22 in Marrakech in 2016, which aims to open their renewable energy markets to each other, and the signature of a Joint Declaration in Brussels in December 2018 laying out plans to remove market and physical barriers to CPPA. Today's agreement will enhance climate cooperation in the frame of COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. France, Germany, Portugal, and Spain will work with Morocco to implement cooperation mechanisms and advance progress towards the *acquis communautaire* in Morocco.

Specifically, the Signatories agree to remove unjustified barriers to cross-border renewable CPPAs between all Signatories within 2 years and adopt measures to facilitate the uptake of such PPAs, such as advisory, financial or technical cooperation.

Morocco commits to (i) work towards the convergence of its legislation and regulation with the *acquis communautaire*, (ii) to develop a certification system for renewable energy that is recognized by the European Union and (iii) to propose legislative amendments to support the development of cross-border CPPAs between the five countries (including granting the private sector access to the Moroccan electricity transmission grid).

The Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development of Morocco, through Masen, which has been in charge of the SET Roadmap since its creation, will continue to support this initiative in order to implement this agreement and to coordinate the different stakeholders for implementing the actions foreseen in the MoU.



Today's meeting in Sharm El Sheikh provided an opportunity for all five countries to exchange views on the requirements for greater integration of their renewable electricity sectors. They acknowledge that the EU-Morocco Green partnership in the frame of the EU Green Deal, the reform of the Emissions Trading System, the EU's increasing climate ambition, the COVID Economic Recovery Plans, and the current energy crisis are already affecting energy and electricity markets. Therefore, one of the tasks of the steering committee will be to formulate recommendations for medium and long-term actions for the integration of energy markets of the five countries, in line with the EU *acquis communautaire* and Green Deal.

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Link to websites for press release:

www.masen.ma/setroadmap