

Inside this Issue

p1 Message from Secretariat

p1 UfM Energy Platforms
Annual meeting

p2 Meeting WG on institutional
framework

p2 Stakeholders Coordination
meeting

p2 Upcoming events

Launch of two new thematic
studies in 2019

Message from the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat

To start 2019, the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) organised its Annual Meeting of the three UfM Energy Platforms in Barcelona **on 29 and 30 January**. The UfM Energy Platforms are the only existing dialogue forum gathering all Euro-Mediterranean countries and key stakeholders dealing with electricity markets, renewable energy, energy efficiency and natural gas in the Mediterranean region. The meeting aimed at discussing the status of activities of the three platforms.

Back-to-back with the UfM Annual Meeting, members of the working group on institutional and regulatory framework met on 28 January; and key stakeholders of the different platforms participated, on 29 January, in a Stakeholders Coordination meeting to exchange views on the implementation of each Energy platform's programme of work.

In line with the approved work programme, the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat will pursue its efforts in 2019 in developing research and study activities; production of several reports and launch of the last two working groups that will study respectively *the potential and benefits of common Euro-Mediterranean gas infrastructures*, and *whether and how TSOs in the Mediterranean region could beneficially cooperate*.

The UfM Gas Platform Secretariat will also (co-)organise a series of workshops and side events to support the work programme of the platform. A side event on small scale LNG in the Euro-Mediterranean region in May 2019 and a first UfM Gas Platform Conference in the second quarter are already planned.

UfM Energy Platforms Annual meeting

On 29 and 30 January 2019, the UfM Secretariat organised its Annual Meeting of the three UfM Energy Platforms in Barcelona to discuss the status of activities of the three platforms.

The UfM Gas Platform is a concrete outcome of the will of the UfM members and major stakeholders to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and South and East Mediterranean countries.

More information available at: ufmgasplatform.org



The UfM Gas Platform Quarterly Newsletter was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

UfM Gas Platform website
online at

<https://www.ufmgasplatform.org/>

In the opening session, OME General Director, Houda Ben Jannet Allal, presented the 2018 edition of OME flagship publication; Mediterranean Energy Perspectives. Later on, she updated participants on the state of play of the UfM Gas Platform and presented a calendar of activities for 2019 that includes: the organization of workshops and training sessions; the launch of two thematic studies in the first half of 2019 and dedicated working groups; finalisation of the studies (of the approved work programme) already in progress; the improvement of the communication and information between stakeholders through the launch of the Member area of the UfM Gas Platform website.

Meeting of the UfM Gas Platform Working Group on institutional and regulatory framework

On 28 January 2019, the second meeting of the UfM Gas Platform WG on institutional and regulatory framework took place in Barcelona.

The working group, that will analyse *the role of a suitable institutional and regulatory framework in the Mediterranean region*, agreed on the final terms of reference of the study. The plan is to have a first draft report to be ready by April 2019.

UfM Energy Platform Stakeholders Coordination meeting

On 29 January 2019, the second UfM Energy Platform Stakeholders' coordination meeting was held in Barcelona. The meeting aimed at discussing on the state of play of the implementation of each UfM Energy Platforms' programme of work and future activities planned.

The meeting was also an opportunity for debating the coordination among the different existing initiatives in order to connect the dots and ensure synergies are well seized.

Upcoming events

On 29 April 2019, next working group meeting on institutional and regulatory framework, hosted by the Turkish Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EMRA), in Istanbul.

On 16 May, the OME, as Secretariat of the UfM Gas Platform, agreed with WEC-Italy and ConferenzaGNL to jointly organise two sessions on *Small Scale LNG in the Euro-Mediterranean region*, on the occasion of the 5th edition of the Small Scale LNG Use, Euro-Mediterranean Conference & Expo.

In the second quarter of 2019, the Secretariat of the UfM Gas Platform, in cooperation with the European Commission, will organize a first UfM Gas Platform Conference. The event will give, to all actors of the gas chain, an opportunity to hear from policy makers and industry on key challenges in today's Euro-Mediterranean gas market.

Contact Us

Gas Platform Secretariat:
Dr. Houda Ben Jannet Allal
houda.allal@ome.org

Newsletter:
M. Bruno Castellano
bruno.castellano@ome.org