



## ELECTRIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN KNYSNA, SOUTH AFRICA ON 6/7 NOV 2017

#### Member

Mr Chabeli Ramaisa	Member, LEC (Chairman)	Present
Mr Gibson Kasipo	Member, ZESA	Present
Mr Gyavira Bwalya	Convenor, ZESCO	Apology
Dr Hendri Geldenhuys	Deputy, ESKOM	Apology
Ms Jacqueline Chauke	Secretary, AMEU	Apology
Mr David M Mbewe	Member, ESCOM	Present
Mr Robert Semsella	Member, TANESCO	Apology
Mr David Bavin	Member, TE Connectivity	Apology
Mr Francis H. Nyikayaramba	Member, REA Zimbabwe	Apology
Mrs Patricia A Ocan	Member, UMEME LTD	Apology
Mr Timothy N. Mathenge	Member, TE Connectivity	Apology
Mr Uresh Singh	Member, Reinhausen	Apology
Eng Benson b. Oungo	Member, REA Kenya	Apology
Mr Alastair Gerrard	Member, ZEST WEG	Apology
Isaac Serwadda	Member, UMME	Present
Mr Vally Padayachee	Secretariat	Present

#### 1. MATTERS NOTED:

- a. It was proposed that :
  - i. Mr Chabeli Ramaisa takeover as the new Chairman/Convener (LEC, Lesotho)
  - ii. Chabeli Ramaisa (LEC) takeover as the new Deputy Chairman/Convener)
  
- b. The poor attendance of members was also **noted**. Some redress was required to improve future attendance
  
- c. The list of Advisory Group members to be reviewed – the respective member countries to reconfirm their representatives

[Action: Secretariat]

- d. The PIESA member Utilities are encouraged to implement the electrification projects in their respective countries, which have been tried and tested by the other PIESA countries
- e. The Advisory Group noted the new definition for access to electrical energy that was approved by the PIESA Board at its meeting in Cape Town in May 2017. It was also noted that member countries would report their future electrification statistics against this new definition

**[Action: All]**

- f. The possible use of “blockchain technology” as a means to cost effectively fast track and expand electrification was discussed and the meeting agreed to avail itself to further information on block chain technology similar to the presentation that was done by Mr Padayachee at the plenary session

**[Action: Vally Padayachee]**

- g. The meeting agreed that the effort to pursue a possible collaboration and/or cooperation with Power Africa should be continued

**[Action: Vally Padayachee]**

- h. The meeting decided to continue to explore further evolving business models with a view to address and mitigate the risks associated with revenue erosion the change in the energy mix especially distributed energy e.g. the ingress of renewables, increasing non-technical losses, etc

- i. It was agreed to continue exploring the possible centralised procurement of long lead items e.g. transformers, cables, switchgear and services to mitigate against the delay in completing electrification projects

- j. The meeting agreed to recommend to the Board that field trips be organised at PIESA meeting venues i.e. in member countries. In this respect it was felt that the meeting venues should be carefully selected to ensure value add field trips could be arranged.

- k. Member utilities were encouraged to submit their electrification statistics reports timeously
- [Action: All]**
- l. It was agreed to also investigate the introduction of relevant training, development, e-learning (includes e-mobile), mentoring as a means to upskill manpower resources to ensure the successful execution of various electrification projects in member countries.
- m. It was agreed to explore other communication methodologies e.g. Skype, Zoom, etc. to enhance communication between members
- n. The meeting agreed to focus on the following strategies going forward:
- i. Align electrification strategies to Africa Agenda 2063 – 50 years agenda initiated in 2013
  - ii. Focus on further and accelerated training, developing, upskilling, mentoring of core and key competencies to include e-mobile knowledge mentoring, e-Learning, etc to execute on the electrification projects. Also target Power Africa for funding
  - iii. Procurement of cost effective funding and grant funding for electrification projects
  - iv. Increased incorporation of alternative energies in the respective member country energy mix to include renewable energies, energy storage
  - v. Explore alternative business models to mitigate against revenue erosion, increasing non-technical losses, increasing ingress of distributed generation by third parties eg ingress of renewables on the distributed network (i.e. “two-way- flow of electrons”) to ensure sustainability and viability of utility business
  - vi. Focus on grid electrification (SA 90%) and non-grid electrification (SA 10%)
  - vii. Explore electrification of so called “informal settlements” noting that South Africa has now formalised the electrification of the so called “informal settlements”
  - viii. Focus on “densification” (in an existing electrified areas) and “intensification” (expanding electrification geography)
  - ix. Focus on rural electrification – look at Zimbabwe, ZESA has a good rural electrification funding model and UMEME rural electrification model

- x. Explore the use of “blockchain technology” to fast track electrification, development of evolving business models, incorporation of alternative energies and energy storage in the energy mix
- xi. Focus on group procurement of long lead items e.g mini subs, transformers, cables, switchgear, services to fast track and avoid delays wrt electrification projects
- xii. Explore partnership with third parties e.g. DFI’s, private sector, etc to assist in fast tracking electrification

**3. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

May 2018 in Cape Town

The chairman thanked members and closed the meeting.

Thus read and confirmed.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**