UCTE Multilateral Agreement

Luigi de Francisci, UCTE Working Group “Legal Issues”
Why a legal enforcement in UCTE

- To support the definition of comprehensive common reliability and security standards to be complied with by TSOs
- To solve the problem arising from the lack of harmonisation of different TSOs national laws
- To give a legally enforceable basis to UCTE activities
A Multilateral Agreement (MLA) was chosen as first step to make the Operation Handbook binding and enforceable first for all TSOs of the UCTE zone.

In a second step and in close co-operation with Regulators, Operation Handbook should be made binding to both TSOs and grid users of the UCTE zone.
**What happens with or without MLA**

**WITH MLA**

**BASE PRINCIPLE**

Voluntary compliance with OH and peer pressure based on common spirit of responsibility

Transparency and certainty to TSOs relationships

Mutual obligations legally enforced

**WITHOUT MLA**
Infringement resolution

IN CASE OF INFRINGEMENT

WITHOUT DAMAGES

Sanctions applied by Steering Committee
(Blackboard, max 1 year)

WITH DAMAGES

ICC

Damages Panel
The Operation Handbook, which gathers UCTE technical rules and standards, is an annex to the MLA. This enables its updating (including incorporation of new Policies) without changing the legal construction of the Agreement.
Addenda to MLA

- TSOs’ declarations ("MLA-Addenda") about temporary non compliance with OH standards include:
  - A commitment on how/when compliance will be reached
  - Which measures are accepted by the other TSOs to ensure safe operation till compliance is reached

- Addenda will be approved by UCTE Steering Committee and will be integral part of MLA as Annex
Schedule of actions

- Approval of Addenda by the Steering Committee on September 23rd, 2004 in Sarajevo
- Beginning of formal signing procedure on September 30th, 2004
- Entire MLA signed by all Parties by November 25th, 2004