



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The future of TSO cooperation in the Continental Synchronous Area

The International Non-Profit Association "European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity ENTSO-E was established on 19.12.2008. At the same time, several Regional Groups of permanent character have already been established within the new body and have kicked-off their activities. Among these Regional Groups, the Regional Group "Continental Europe" will be the one to which the core activities of UCTE will be transferred.

The Regional Group "Continental Europe" will become operational following a positive decision of the Assembly of ENTSO-E regarding the proposed terms of reference upon assessment of the ENTSO-E System Operations Committee.

Since all stakeholders views converge on the fact that system reliability must be preserved with the highest priority in each existing synchronous system as a pillar for pan-European integration and further development of a pan-European Electricity market. The main purpose of the Regional Group "Continental Europe" is to promote the reliable and efficient operation of the Continental Synchronous Area. This includes the following activities:

- All operational issues (among others those related to frequency regulation, scheduling and accounting, coordination services).
- Regional Technical Network Codes for the Continental Synchronous Area.
- Implementation of codes and the procedures in case of potential infringements (Multilateral Agreement).
- Compliance monitoring for the Regional Technical Network Codes.
- Interoperability assessments (DC links, underground and submarine cables, integration of Renewable Energy Sources, requested extensions of the synchronous system) in close cooperation with ENTSO-E System Development Committee.

Thus, the transition from UCTE to ENTSO-E doubtlessly opens a new area of cooperation among all TSOs. One expects from the new structure a faster and more focused development towards the needs and goals set by the European Union. UCTE in the past has been developed through the initiative from TSOs and their dedicated individuals without laws and given rules by authorities. This spirit of initiative and responsibility should be preserved also in the future.

It means that the winding-up of UCTE as associative structure will definitely not screen off the numerous achievements of UCTE.

In the new framework of the 3rd Energy Package establishes new roles for all players. A very strong cooperation is foreseen between ACER and ENTSO-E. Only if this cooperation becomes trustworthy and is born of mutual understanding and respect great achievements will be possible.

The very ambitious goals of the European Union regarding generating electricity substantially from renewables, will demand substantial investments and much more resources to adapt the grid to the needs for consumers and generators.

The new area will challenge the TSO community even more than the past. Therefore the good old core virtue – a sound, reliable technical expertise and judgment as it was viable in UCTE – will be even more necessary than in the past.



Hans Peter Aebi

Chairman of the Steering Committee