

CEOs Declaration

The world of energy is rapidly changing, at high speed and in various impulses related to national energy policies in different countries, markets and technological change, particularly digital.

Production patterns are changing, but also, and more radically, consumption patterns are changing, the Power Grid Operators must take into account all these new technologies and behaviors.

At the heart of the power supply system, the power grid operators manage the electricity transmission network, which not only links generation plants and the load centers at the regional level, but also interconnects the regional and national power grids. The electricity superhighway is the backbone of all generation and consumption activities, and must adapt to the drastic evolution of the power ecosystem.

The nineteen GO15 Power Grid Operators, who today deliver electricity to over half the world's population, accounting for more than two-thirds of the global electricity consumption, represent the backbone that connects electricity producers and consumers.

The GO15 grid operators must continue to deliver cost effective, reliable electricity to customers demanding improved power quality, while integrating renewable generation consistent with ambitious clean energy policies. In a world increasingly complex, grid operators must deal with uncertainty and volatility and thus need new tools and the financial means to accomplish their mission. Moreover, reliability impacts of a changing power generation mix require a special emphasis to be placed on further development and adoption of the regulatory framework. In order for power grid operations to define technical specifications and to ensure grid sustainability as well as resources efficiency.

The unprecedented evolution of the power supply systems require substantial investments not only in the electricity infrastructure, but also in the increasingly sophisticated IT technologies required for their management. Such investments in the power grids of the GO15 members are estimated to exceed \$1 trillion dollars over the next 15 years.

The transformation of the power grids and the evolution of the role of the grid operators toward the grids of the future cannot be achieved without an in-depth cooperation between the main actors of the electricity domain, including distribution system operators, and the suppliers of critical technologies and equipment. Coordinated efforts are also essential for the grid operators understanding of valuable initiatives of creating unified and transparent technical requirements for equipment performance, control systems, and personnel training to lead successfully a secure and competitive energy sector.

To enable this transformation, it is necessary that grid operators be afforded all the instruments necessary, such as demand response and storage, to accommodate the variability of the new energy sources, and that the regulatory frameworks and technology solutions take into account the changing roles of the grid operators.

We, the presidents of 19 of the largest grid operators in the world, are committed to build the power grids of the future, and to develop the grid infrastructures and leverage the advanced technology solutions to support the energy policies of our governments.

We want to meet the expectations of consumers and of our governments by continuously evolving the management of our power grids and the technical tools necessary to accommodate the proliferation of clean energy resources, while continuing to provide a reliable and resilient power system necessary to the development of our economies.

In order to achieve this goal, we need the support from policy makers and the regulators to develop a regulatory environment that fosters the necessary investments in infrastructure and advanced technologies.