

## Newsletter

March 2020

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the first edition of the 2020 Clean Energy Ministerial RGEI Initiative quarterly newsletter. The RGEI Initiative was established in 2018 as a work stream under the Clean Energy Ministerial.

The objective of the RGEI Initiative, quite simply, is to “Accelerate RGEI Together”. Our membership encompasses key countries in the RGEI domain and we offer a platform for governments, industry and the financial sector to come together to jointly advance RGEI.

Our plan is to inform you regarding our activities in these brief email newsletters in September, December, March and June. This first newsletter features events that have taken place in the past months.

We have handpicked you to receive our information, based on earlier direct contacts, or because we know you are involved in RGEI and clean energy issues. Please feel free to forward this to your interested colleagues and contacts.

Best regards,

Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO)

Operating Agent of CEM RGEI Initiative

Beijing, China

## RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE INITIATIVE

### RGEI WORK STREAM MEETING

CEM11 Preparatory meeting (Prep meeting) was hosted in Saudi Arabia from 3 – 5 February. It was very unfortunate that RGEI had to cancel the side meeting scheduled on 3 February, as all delegations from both China National Energy Administration and GEIDCO Head Office were not able to attend the Prep meeting due to the flight cancellation during COVID-19 outbreak.

On 25 February 2020, RGEI Initiative organized a conference call to provide an update of RGEI work since CEM10, share recent challenges, discuss potential solutions on how to move RGEI forward. The meeting reviewed the past work on RGEI initiative and the working plan in the next four months till CEM11.

RGEI propose to work together with all the member countries to improve the working level and propose to optimize and adjust the content of the research to attract more attention. RGEI wish to collect the concerned topics from our member countries and focus on the most important and concerned issues in the report. Members may also try to carry out the joint research with the participation of the third parties; meanwhile, GEIDCO as the operating agent is seeking to cooperate with the external partners to jointly facilitate RGEI.

The priority work for the next four months is to host the monthly webinar from February to May. We strongly encourage each member could lead a webinar, inviting your country/regional experts to present at RGEI webinars. RGEI will keep seeking the cooperation with the external organizations or independent experts who are interested in RGEI initiative, and organize the RGEI working group meeting in CEM11 which will be in Chile this year. Our member countries are also encouraged to take RGEI side meeting into consideration when planning to organize some other important events. RGEI could attract more CEM countries' interests through all kinds of international events, simultaneously, it will foster the RGEI itself with more countries' participation. Our member countries are also encouraged to invite experts from your country to participate the RGEI event activities.

Based on most member countries' intention, the Case Study Report of Regional Integration of Power Systems including the Experiences and Lessons learnt from the RGEI Initiative member countries may be postponed for lacking either supporting data or enough time from now to CEM 11. However, the details will be discussed further on this issue in working group meeting during CEM11.

### THE FIRST OF A 2020 SERIES OF RGEI WEBINARS: BUILDING STAKEHOLDER CONSENSUS IN CROSS-BORDER POWER TRADE

On 26 February 2020, RGEI Initiative hosted the first of a series of RGEI 2020 Webinars: Building Stakeholder Consensus in Cross-Border Power Trade. The speaker was Mr. Edmund Downie, the researcher from USA. Edmund discussed his work as a Fulbright Scholar in China (2017-2018) and an energy markets analyst at Analysis Group (USA) today on the politics of cross-border power trade initiatives, describing how initiatives in Southeast Asia and North America have succeeded and failed in securing support across diverse stakeholder groups.

More than 30 representatives from CEM Secretariat, RGEI member countries, international organizations, enterprises, research institute, etc. participated this webinar. It reached the conclusion about the key factors of building cross border power trade: cross-border infrastructure and intergovernmental institution building. Political assessment, multi-stakeholder engagement, regional political forums and “issue linkage” strategies for creating the conditions for institutionalization may play an important role during this process.

### UPCOMING WEBINAR

### THE SECOND OF A 2020 SERIES OF RGEI WEBINARS: CHINA'S PERSPECTIVE ON NORTHEAST ASIA ELECTRICITY INTERCONNECTION

**March 24, 2020 1200(GMT)/2000(GMT+8, Beijing Time)**

**Event Link: <https://zoom.com.cn/j/4215436495>**

**Speaker: Mr. Lei Xiaomeng (China Electricity Council)**

Mr. Lei Xiaomeng is the senior advisor of China Electricity Council (CEC) on regional international power interconnection since 2016. He has made an important contribution to establishment of Northeast Regional Power Interconnection and Cooperation (NEARPIC) Forum and he is NEARPIC steering committee member representing CEC. He worked for China Yangtze Power Co. Ltd (CYPC) as a vice chief engineer from 2003 to 2016. He worked in National Power Dispatching Center in State Grid Corporation of China for many years before working in CYPC. He was a member of Power System Operation and Control (C2) study committee of CIGRE and has been working in some working groups until now. He is also a working group member of Regional Power Trading Committee of Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).

### MORE WEBINARS WAITING FOR YOU

If you have any interest or would like to share your sparkling ideas with us in the following serious webinars, please do not hesitate to contact us. Some topics below are for your reference:

- International Grid Integration;

- The experiences of Southeast Asia Energy Integration;
- The Implementation on Technical Standards in Regional Energy Interconnection;
- Integrating Renewable Energy within Cross-Border Power Trade;
- Energy Transition and power grid interconnection in Middle East and Gulf Countries;
- The Practices and Experiences in South Africa Power Pool;
- The Technology of Cross Margin Interconnection: Electricity Storage and Electric Vehicle;
- China's UHV Practices;
- Financing Models for Cross-Border Infrastructure;
- Market Designs for Cross-Border Electricity Trade;
- Cross-Border Interconnection in Developing Countries: Opportunities and Challenges;
- Technical Challenges in Cross-Border Interconnection, etc.

### About the Regional and Global Energy Interconnection (RGEI) Initiative

The RGEI Initiative was established at the 9th Clean Energy Ministerial meeting in Copenhagen/Malmö in May 2018. RGEI's objectives are to:

- \* Discuss conducive policy and regulatory framework regarding regional and global power system integration
- \* Build consensus on facilitating energy transition via increased proportion of renewable energy in energy consumption and enhanced grid interconnection
- \* Encourage CEM member countries to engage in the process of RGEI and seize collaborative opportunities

CEM Members: China, Chile, Finland, Korea, South Africa, United Arab Emirates. RGEI works with other regional and national technical organizations in the field of power system integration including State Grid Corporation of China, the Korea Electric Power Corporation, and others.

Operating Agent: Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO).

We also have a section on the Clean Energy Ministerial Secretariat website:

<https://www.cleanenergyministerial.org/initiatives-cleanenergyministerial>