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Approved Terms of Reference
Of
South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR)
Working Group
On
“Regulatory Cooperation to Facilitate Knowledge sharing, addressing Cross cutting Energy/Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia”

Terms of Reference

SAFIR Working Group

On

“Regulatory Cooperation to Facilitate Knowledge sharing, addressing Cross cutting Energy/Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia”

1. Objective:

The SAFIR Working Group will work towards enhancing Regulatory Cooperation to Facilitate Knowledge sharing, - addressing Cross cutting Energy/Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia-to -facilitate - transparent regulatory framework, -promoting investment in the South Asia Region.

2. Constitution of SAFIR Working Group:

SAFIR Working Group on Regulatory Cooperation to “facilitate Knowledge sharing, addressing Cross cutting Energy/Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia” shall have representation from each Member country of SAFIR. If a member country has more than one regulatory body as Member of SAFIR, such members will decide amongst themselves a representative who would be representative in the Working Group. In the absence/unavailability of the member, an alternative member from the same organisation is to be nominated who can participate in the Working Group.

3. Terms of Reference/Scope of Work:

The Terms of Reference/Scope of Work of the SAFIR Working group in brief is as follows:

- ✓ To facilitate regulatory capacity building among member countries at both national and regional levels through information knowledge sharing and skills training.
- ✓ To facilitate the development of -electricity/energy regulations by identifying and addressing cross cutting energy/electricity regulatory issues for advancing Exchange of Electricity/Energy in South Asia region
- ✓ To provide inputs on policy & regulations/regulatory opinions/regulatory guidelines and to develop model regulations.
- ✓ To undertake research work on issues relevant to electricity /energy sector regulation through in-house/ outsourcing.
- ✓ Prepare a detailed road map along with various regulatory interventions needed in South Asian countries for effective energy cooperation in the region to prepare annual status report and updates on regulatory cooperation in the South Asia Region
- ✓ Create data bank/knowledge repository on energy/electricity related issues.
- ✓ Prepare South Asia Energy/Electricity Regulatory Compendium.
- ✓ To develop web portal on “South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database”.
- ✓ SAFIR–Regulatory Monthly Newsletter to enhance regulatory knowledge sharing.
- ✓ Any other work assigned by SAFIR

4. Time Schedule:

- 4.1. The Working Group shall meet periodically at least twice in a year.
- 4.2. The Working Group shall prioritize various deliverables and deliver them on a timely basis.

5. IRADe -Technical and Knowledge Support Secretariat

A strong Technical and Knowledge support/assistance would be critical for the success and well-functioning of the Working Group under SAFIR. Integrated research and Action for development (IRADe) is an Advanced Research Institute and a regional think tank who has done pioneering work in the area of Electricity/Energy exchange and Energy Cooperation (EC) in South Asia Region. IRADe, the implementing partner of USAID for the SARI/EI Program will provide Technical/Knowledge through in-house /outsource as per the needs and financial support/assistance to the SAFIR Working Group under USAID's SARI/EI Program to facilitate electricity /energy cooperation to achieve the objective of the Working Group. Based on the above activities, IRADe will prepare the work plan- in consultation with SAFIR secretariat and shall take inputs/suggestion of working group members for finalisation. Presently, the Project Director and Program coordinator will be responsible from IRADe for all support to the SAFIR working group and shall strengthen the team based on need and requirements of future activities

6. Sub Groups:

The SAFIR working group may consider to constitute Sub working groups to carry out some of the functions and activities.

7. Brief Tentative Plan of Action for the 1st year:

- Organising two/three meetings of SAFIR Working Group.
- Study /Research on South Asia electricity/electricity regulations to develop regulatory pathway/Road Map for Electricity/Energy exchange and Energy Cooperation (EC) in South Asia.
- Organising "South Asia Energy Sector Training and Capacity Building program on energy regulation for Energy Cooperation and exchange of electricity in South Asia "
- South Asia Energy/Electricity Regulatory Compendium.
- SAFIR-Regulatory newsletter and web portal "South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database"