ENTSO-E Transparency User Group (ETUG)
Third meeting

Date: 20 October 2015
Time: 10h00 – 14h00
Place: ENTSO-E premises, Brussels

MINUTES

Attendees

Zoltan	Gyulay	ENTSO-E
Cris	Cotino	TERNA (MIT Covenor)
Dalius	Dalius Sulga	ENTSO-E
Kees	De jong	ENTSO-E
Faidon	Dermesonoglou	TEI Energy
Eric	Devillers	ENTSO-E
Zaahir	Ghanti	ELEXON
Nguyen	Hoang	RTE (MIT member)
Ioannis	Ioannis Daoutidis	ENTSO-E
Alexander	Koistinen	ENTSO-E
Raymond	Kok	TennetNL (MIT member)
Iztok	Lapanja	GEN-I
Marcus	Mittendorf	EEX
Thomas	Negrel	RTE
Marco	Pincho	DG ENER
Ikram	Rabouche	ENTSO-E
Georgi	Stanchev	Vattenfall
Athanasios	Troupakis	ENTSO-E
Mirielle	Tshibwabwa	ENGIE
Tzvetelina	Tzankova	Elcom
Ralf	Uttich	RWE
Martin	Viscor	CEZ
Peter	Viveen	ENTSO-E
Stephen	Wilson	CZE
Wojceich	Wiza	ACER

Webconference

Paul-Frederic	Bach	MAIL

Pierre	Buisson	Energy Fundamentals
Albert	Codinach	CNR TM
Johan	de Ruijter	ACM
Maria Marthe	Kleiner	Agora Energiewende
Rafael	Muruais-Garcia	ACER
Lothar	Rausch	Oeko
Vasileios	Tselios	Priogen

1.   Welcome

Zoltan opened the meeting by thanking the participants for their attendance, both physically and remotely.

He outlined the importance of this group for ENTSO-E in providing user views and valuable recommendations on how to improve the usability of the platform. ENTSO-E does value the expertise and advice of the ETUG members.

Given that ETUG is user-focused consultative group, a clear and common positon from this group can foster the implementation of all developments. Nevertheless, the decision making remains with the involved bodies within the Association. We work our best in having a streamlined decision-making process to the maximum possible extent but some formalities need to be respected. All decisions taken have to take into account constraints of financial, technical and operational nature.

Zoltan informed the Group on the developments since the last ETUG meeting, namely the approval of the annual budget for the Transparency Platform. A big share of this budget will be allocated in operational expenditures but there is a significant remainder for additional software developments. Moreover, Zoltan presented briefly the features of the download solution proposed by the operational team of ENTSO-E which were also shared with the Group in the communication in advance of the meeting.

He also welcomed the participation of Working Group Market Information and Transparency (WG MIT) to the ETUG meeting and introduced the convenor Cris Cotino.

2.   Cooperation between WG Market Information and Transparency and ETUG

Cris Cotino introduced the WG MIT and its tasks. This working group is responsible to develop, support and promote the Transparency Platform. It should also provide direction, oversight and co-ordination of all transparency related projects.

The WG MIT was involved in the drafting of the Transparency Regulation 543/2013 and followed closely the development of ENTSO-E Platform. Following the GoLive, the WG MIT oversees all change requests to improve the usability of the platform. In that respect, the WG MIT welcomes the establishment of ETUG.
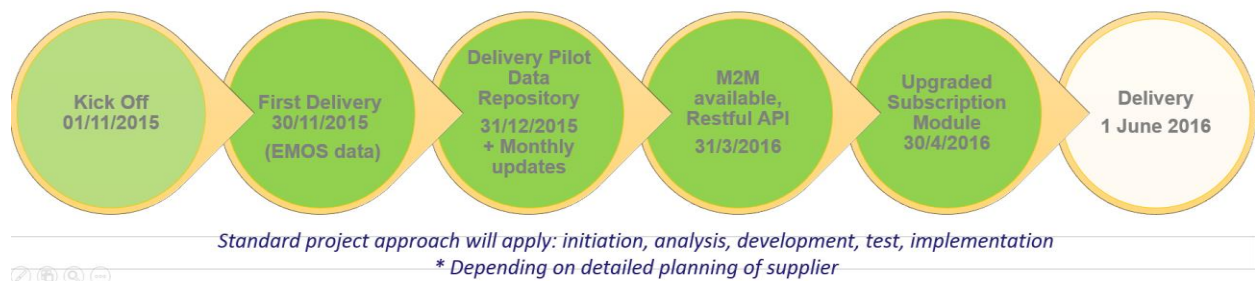
To strengthen and formalise the cooperation between WG MIT and ETUG, a subgroup was launched to assess ETUG recommendations, Raymond and Hoang are members of this subgroup. From now on, some WG MIT members will participate to the discussion and provide their expertise on ENTSO-E Transparency Platform to ETUG members.

3. Download services

Peter Vieveen gave a presentation on the download solutions to be implemented.

ENTSO-E plans to gradually implement the download solution in the following steps:

- ❑ Data Repositories 4 areas: load, generation , transmision, balancing

    - ❑ First data repository based on ACER reports

    - ❑ Incemental approach for next data repositories

- ❑ Deliver most popular data

- ❑ Ad hoc Access to data repository through API, e.g. Pentaho

- ❑ Subscription module

- ❑ Restful API with access to subscribers

The implementation of both solutions is foreseen to be completed by 1st June 2015.

Wojciech asked if the two other categories not listed in data repository will be also available for download via data repository an REST API.

ENTSO-E decided to go for gradual implementation of data repository, the data base will be fed by the most popular data and ACER needs for their reports. Outage and congestion will be gradually available. According to the estimated planning, it will be possible to download these data by the 1 June.

Zaahir asked ENTSO-E on the subscription module chosen for these implementations. The same module will be used for the subscription (i.e. open source). Marco highlighted the potential impact of REST API on the performance of the platform. Peter stressed that REST API is an internal standard, in case of delay, some other option can be proposed such as FTP on top of the data repository. Wojciech asked for a confirmation of FTP as solution for download. Peter considers FTP as a backup solution in case of technical problems in using REST API.

Wojceich asked on whether data related to generation, load, transmission and balancing would be available for external user in end march foreseen in the presentation. Peter explained that end of March is the deadline by when service provider will give ENTSO-E the access to this data repository. Some tests will be needed before granting access to external user.

Marco raised concerns on the timing for the refresh. For Peter, the refresh depends on the subscription model it can be daily and weekly.

Marco wondered if it is possible for Peter to share a mock up data repository with ETUG member. For ENTSO-E, this is not necessarily a good idea, the data will not interest ETUG member (historical data, refresh,).

Zaahir advised to cap the access to data base at the beginning to avoid technical issues. Peter welcomed this idea and confirmed that this option will be also assessed.

4. User interface

Ioannis presented the quick wins proposed by the SG dedicated to user interface for 2015.

ID	Category	Description
SG1-1	General	System does not remember the user's country and time settings.
SG1-3	General	Make the platform more compatible to other browsers
SG1-4	General	Not possible to find the TP through data specific searches on Google. a) Include more key words in the current static content pages so that these pages will at least come up in search engine results. b) What other workarounds could be implemented?
SG1-5	General	Optimize the screen display.
SG1-10,15	Navigation	Improve information access to users
SG1-12	Navigation	Review and improve first and second level navigation.
SG1-17	Data, time filters & aggregation	Bounded year filtering of Installed generation capacity per unit [14.1.B] to the three following year.
SG1-20	Data information	Implement timestamps alongside data values

Based on this list quick wins, five of them were selected to be implemented within 2015

ID	Category	Description
SG1-1	General	Remembering country and time-settings
SG1-3	General	Browser compatibility
SG1-5	General	Optimize the screen display.
SG1-10	Navigation	Improve information access for Users
SG1-15	User communication	Complete user information and make it easier to find as described in SG1-10.

Ioannis informed that ENTSO-E is already assessing the opportunity to rebuild user interface based on suggestion made. Unicorn sent a prototype taking into account feedback from ETUG such as better

navigation panel, multiple layers on maps, easier filtering capabilities, personalisation (add favourites, recent views, …) easier download options. In the process of rebuilding the interface completely, ENTSO-E is also evaluating other similar platforms such as eco2mix, Bloomberg website, Fraunhofer and others.

Wojciech stressed the need to have the possibility to display and download several borders at the same time. Marco remarked that download button should be more accessible (e.g. for first user the button is not accessible). Indeed, Ioannis confirmed that ENTSO-E is aware of the issues regarding manual download and they are looking for solutions. Stephen stressed the need for time stamp system to allow user to know when the data are updated. Ioannis outlined that such a proposal will require the approval of data providers. Thomas Negrel expects from this assessment and quick wins in 2015 a real decrease of error messages. Dalius confirmed that quick wins and download implementations are going in the path to solve problems. In any case, the ongoing work and the outputs are valuable to the assessment on what is needed to improve the Transparency usability.

5.   Data quality

Athanasios presented the topic and the different points in the presentation. He informed the ETUG that ENTSO-E submitted to ACER two reports on data completeness, the first on aggregated basis in July and the second with information per data item and data provider in end of September. The Stakeholder Committee was informed about that during its meeting on 29 September.

On the second report, he explained that it is a detailed overview of data provision in August (report created in retrospect). Data providers had chance to provide explanation and comments on the results before the submission to ACER. Based on the latest check, the provision of data is estimated to more than 85%. This information refers to data items with regular reporting timeframes (monthly, weekly, daily). In addition, he informed the ETUG that the reporting to ACER under REMIT regulation already started and should run smoothly.

In improving data quality, recent developments include:

- Ongoing corrections of miss-configurations in platform (especially in generation data)

- With relation also to UI, a change request was raised to the IT provider to remove cases with n/e. This request is still under investigation but if implemented it should give a better overview of data items.

Athanasios remarked that there is a link between the data quality and the technical documentations of the TP. He informed that the current plan for the revision of the full set of technical documentation is to have it during Q1 2016. This planning would allow enough time for ACER to review it and for individual projects to be foreseen and implemented.

Iztok asked for clarification on why changing MoP is so complex that requires six months. Cris responded by explaining that the Manual of Procedures includes several layers with technical documentation, e.g. details and format of the submission of data, standardised ways and formats of data communication and exchange between primary owners of data, TSOs, data providers and ENTSO-E; technical and operational criteria which data providers would need to fulfil when providing data to the central information transparency platform.

All these documents need to be assessed for all possible change requests (raised by data providers but also users). Any changes may imply also consequences on IT systems for data providers and also for the ENTSO-E Transparency platform.

Zaahir remarked on the difficulties associated with the formatting of recurring outages. Alexander explained that this might be because the wording in the Detailed Data Descriptions and in the Business Requirements Specification allowed for different interpretations. Additional guidance is provided in the FAQ. When the MoP becomes subject to revision, the wording could be improved.

Due to technical problems with the webconf, Rafael sent an email to be read during the meeting. According to the email, ACER thanks warmly ENTSO-E for the report which provides an overview on data completeness. Rafael wanted to inform the ETUG members that the report was shared with NRAs, and the Agency is expecting to receive some feedback given the interest of NRAs to promote data completeness. Rafael acknowledged that improving the completeness and quality is challenging task for ENTSO-E and should be supported by the Agency and NRAs. The ETUG was informed of a letter from ACER to be sent to ENTSO-E with suggestions on improving data completeness and data quality.

Athanasios thanked Rafael for the input and mentioned that an official response will be provided to ACER. As discussed, a full-scale review of the Manual of Procedures is already foreseen and expected to take place in the beginning of 2016.

Marcus remarked that this task may be challenging given that no full data provision has been reached. Cris responded by saying that for the rest of the year the focus will be put on data completeness and from 2016 the review of documentation shall address issues with data quality.

Marcus responded that he would rather have ENTSO-E push into completeness and quality of data than to make changes to the platform and data provision. This last could lead to data providers focussing on new or changed data provisions as trying to complete and improve the current once. This was supported by several members.

6. AOB

Athanasios warmly thanked the attendances of the physical meeting. He apologised to those remotely connected for the technical issues faced. Athanasios proposed to set up a next meeting beginning 2016 A doodle poll will be sent to agree on date which best suits ETUG members.