



Press Release

GME-ASSOLOMBARDA: Workshop on renewables in Milan

Milan – 3 April 2008 – A workshop on renewables was held today at the Headquarters of Assolombarda (Association of industrial and service-sector companies of the Milan area). The workshop (*Renewables, Energy Efficiency and CO₂ – Market Instruments to Promote Investments and Innovation*) was organised by Gestore del Mercato Elettrico (GME) SpA jointly with Assolombarda.

The one-day workshop, which was inaugurated by **Salvatore Zecchini** (GME's President) and **Roberto Testore** (Assolombarda's Executive Committee Member in charge of environment and energy), aroused keen interest in the sector and was attended by a large audience. The event offered the opportunity to compare alternative schemes for incentivising renewables and energy efficiency in the light of EU's latest initiatives, as well as to analyse and exchange views on one of the themes which has become a central focus of public attention.

*"Today's workshop – pointed out GME's President **Salvatore Zecchini** – is an important opportunity for the entire system. GME has long been active in this field through its environmental markets of Energy Efficiency, Green Certificates and CO₂. However, our goal is to strengthen our commitment and promote the role of the market in the process of achievement of EU's ambitious targets by 2020".*

Roberto Testore, Assolombarda's Executive Committee Member in charge of environment and energy, stated: *"Assolombarda deems it necessary, first of all, to build awareness of sustainable development, renewables and energy efficiency. Economic growth potential exists in our country, but it is imperative to pursue energy policies supporting research on new technologies and streamlining the authorisation process, which now hinders investments."*

The meeting (two technical sessions and one round table) relied on the participation of delegates from institutions, the business world, the academic community, as well as from authorities and associations involved in the electricity sector.

The technical sessions dealt with the following topics: structure of costs of renewable-energy technologies and incentivising policies; operation of incentive schemes in Italy; development of markets for fostering energy efficiency; opportunities of power generation from renewables; risk management strategies in the market of CO₂ emission units.



Participants in the round table (*The future of environmental markets in the light of recent developments in EU's policies*) were: **Tullio Fanelli**, Commissioner of AEEG (Italian electricity & gas regulator); **Salvatore Zecchini**, GME's President; **Valeria Termini**, G8 Energy and Environment Representative, Presidency of the Council of Ministers; **Francesco De Luca**, Director General of Assoelettrica (National Association of Electricity Enterprises); **Clara Poletti**, Director of IEFE (Centre for Research on Environmental Economics and Policy) - Università Bocconi; **Gianni Silvestrini**, Director of Kyoto Club; **Massimo Beccarello**, University of Milan Bicocca - Confindustria (Confederation of Italian industry); **Alberto Ponti**, Director of City Investment Research; **Fabio Romani**, Ministry of Environment. The round table addressed market mechanisms and their use to attain environmental targets, while holding down costs. Then, the focus was shifted to possible improvements of current instruments and to the impact that EU's new proposals will have on the economic, electric and productive sectors. Emphasis was also placed on the role of technological research in the environmental field and on the need for creating a full industrial cycle fostering economic development and job opportunities.

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