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Elia Group and Malaysian electric utility company Tenaga renew cooperation agreement for exchange of best practice

Elia Group and Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) are celebrating the signing of a second Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The renewed agreement confirms their joint ambitions and secures their increased cooperation on issues such as grid development, asset management, renewable energy integration and market operations. Dubbed the 'MoU 2.0', it seeks to streamline collaboration between both parties, enhance the exchange of best practice to accelerate the energy transition, and further commercialise their joint experience.

Elia Group, which owns transmission system operators Elia (in Belgium) and 50Hertz (in Germany), and TNB, the largest electric utility company in Malaysia, signed their first MoU in 2017. Elia Grid International (EGI), the Group's consultancy, acted as a knowledge connector between both companies, facilitating the exchange of best practice between them. The agreement initially covered a period of two years, although both parties decided to continue working together until 2020, in line with an extension clause included in the MoU.

During this period, Elia Group and TNB shared best practice on capacity building, participated in over 10 joint knowledge sharing sessions, and presented a number of research papers at different conferences together, including the Conference of the Electric Power Supply Industry in Malaysia. They worked in close collaboration on 15 different topics overall, which ranged from cross-border power trading and market operations through to grid development, network studies, and the integration of renewable energy sources, in line with their commitment to speed up the energy transition.



Elia Group and Tenaga are partners who face similar challenges. We are both fully committed to the energy transition and are working on our respective international growth strategies. By learning from each other, we can progress towards our goals. It is therefore logical that we continue to cooperate via the sharing best of practice.

– Chris Peeters, CEO of Elia Group



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The second MoU was signed by Chris Peeters, CEO of Elia Group, and Datuk Baharin Din, CEO of TNB, at a virtual ceremony. Whilst this second agreement builds on the first, with EGI still acting as a conduit between both companies, it will additionally streamline interaction between them over the next two years through the establishment of specific clusters of collaboration. The second MoU will continue to facilitate joint learning opportunities and information exchange, with a focus on areas including operational excellence, optimising system operations, and responding to evolving regulatory frameworks. As was the case under the first MoU, staff from both companies will be able to continue taking part in secondments and training assignments based at the other company's offices or project sites.



As one of Europe's top five transmission systems operators with a reliability level of 99.999%, I believe there is a wealth of wisdom that Elia Group can share with TNB, especially with regards to a successful energy transition where integrating large volumes of RE into the Grid will be critical.



– Datuk Baharin Din, CEO of TNB

TNB and Elia Group share common ambitions with regard to achieving sustainability and the growth of their respective activities at an international level, helping to accelerate the energy transition worldwide. Accordingly, they also share strong interests and expertise in operational excellence, digitalisation, and customer centricity. Whilst TNB has subsidiaries operating in countries including Turkey, India and the United Kingdom, Elia Group operates in Belgium and the northeast of Germany. Based on the knowledge and expertise gained in both these countries, Elia Grid International supports energy clients in the United Arab Emirates, Albania, Vietnam, and Australia.

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About Elia Group

One of Europe's top five TSOs

Elia Group is a key player in electricity transmission. We ensure that production and consumption are balanced around the clock, supplying 30 million end users with electricity. Through our subsidiaries in Belgium (Elia) and northeastern Germany (50Hertz), we operate 19,276 km of high-voltage connections, meaning that we are one of Europe's top 5 transmission system operators. With a reliability level of 99.99%, we provide society with a robust power grid, which is important for socioeconomic prosperity. We also aspire to be a catalyst for a successful energy transition, helping to establish a reliable, sustainable and affordable energy system.

We are making the energy transition happen

By expanding international high-voltage connections and incorporating ever-increasing amounts of renewable energy into our grid, we are promoting both the integration of the European energy market and the decarbonisation of society. We also continuously optimise our operational systems and develop new market products so that new technologies and market parties can access our grid, thus further facilitating the energy transition.

In the interest of society

As a key player in the energy system, Elia Group is committed to working in the interest of society. We are responding to the rapid increase in renewable energy by constantly adapting our transmission grid. We also ensure that investments are made on time and within budget, with a maximum focus on safety. In carrying out our projects, we manage stakeholders proactively by establishing two-way communication channels between all relevant parties very early on in the development process. We also offer our expertise to different players across the sector in order to build the energy system of the future.

International focus

In addition to our activities as a transmission system operator, we provide various consulting services to international customers through our third subsidiary, Elia Grid International (EGI). Elia (in Belgium) is also part of the Nemo Link consortium, which operates the first subsea electrical interconnector between Belgium and the UK.

The legal entity Elia Group is a listed company whose core shareholder is the municipal holding company Publi-T.

More information: [eliagroup.eu](https://www.eliagroup.eu)

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