

<u>Speech by HEDNO's Chairman & CEO Mr. Konstantinos Zontanos</u> at the "International Conference on Electromobility: Green eMotion Project"

Minister

Mayor

Chairman of PPC

**Dear Guests** 

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

With the opportunity of today's meeting and on the occasion of undertaking my new tasks as HEDNO's Chairman and CEO, I would like to thank once more HEDNO's main shareholder, PPC, for the expression of trust.

My personal commitment in the difficult role that I undertake is to continue the task of the previous administration with prudence, determination and effectiveness and to contribute decisively to the development of HEDNO, one of the largest corporations of our country.

Nowadays, HEDNO's role is crucial not only for the modernization of the domestic electricity market, but also for the development of the Greek economy. Today, we plan the Networks of the future, we modernize a corporation that distributes electricity in every part of Greece.

Speaking of modernization, with this conference PPC gives us the opportunity to exchange opinions and know-how relative to electromobility, a very ambitious vision.

## The electric vehicles constitute a significant "weapon" against Climate Change and a valuable ally to achieve EU climate and energy goals.

The sector of road transport equals to more than 1/5, that is, more than 20% of the total greenhouse gas emissions in the European Union.

It is clear that the wider use of electric vehicles and the limitation in use of conventional technology cars will lead to significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.



At the same time, it should be mentioned that according to recent studies it is possible that, until 2050, electric vehicles could represent more than 60% of the new car sales and constitute up to 25% of the global passenger car fleet.

However, in order these numbers and the vision of electromobility to become true, a large number of new complex works should be implemented in the Electricity Distribution Networks.

The electric vehicles must constitute an indispensable part of Smart Grids, so as to contribute to the achievement of the climate goals.

The role of Electricity Distribution System Operators is decisive in this great challenge.

The corporations that manage the electricity distribution systems all over Europe, DSOs, are invited to establish all the necessary infrastructure for the development of electromobility. The electric vehicles are directly connected with the vision of Smart Grids that constitute the common goal of all contemporary DSOs in Europe.

HEDNO, recognizing this significant role, has integrated the vision for Distribution Smart Grids in the "heart" of its strategy.

"Smart Grids" are placed in the core of the implemented business plan. Their establishment constitutes an essential condition for a modern electricity market that will be able to accept and manage electromobility with the best possible way in our country and to contribute decisively in its development.

Our business plan includes projects for the development of our Network and integration of new technologies that will create the necessary smart infrastructure for the wider use of electric vehicles. This project modernizes HEDNO leading it towards evolution and future.

Apart from the implementation of complex works, our vision for Smart Grids presupposes continuous research and inquiry for innovative solutions.

Within this framework, I should mention that HEDNO participates in multiple research activities through European and national cooperations.

Today, we participate in five European research projects for Smart Grids that include innovative solutions as well as electromobility, such as SmartKYE, which among others provides tools for the management of charge points.

These research projects, like Green eMotion, bring us closer to our common vision for "Green vehicles"; they bring us closer to the achievement of our common goals.



I would like to thank you for your attention and I hope that through the constructive works of the Conference we will reach to some useful conclusions that will contribute to a more efficient approach in all complex issues related to the development of electromobility not only in our country, but in other European countries as well.