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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Alexandra Sdoukou: Smart charging infrastructures: the “key” to electro-mobility penetration - HEDNO’s role very important**

*Ministry of Environment and Energy - HEDNO Conference on electro-mobility and the role of the electricity network in its promotion*

Can the national electricity network support the penetration of electro-mobility envisaged in the National Energy and Climate Plan goal (1 in 3 new vehicles should be electric)? This question was discussed in the conference jointly organized by the Ministry of Environment and Energy and the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator (HEDNO) in the headquarters of the latter, with the participation of all stakeholders.

In her introductory statement, the **Secretary General for Energy and Mineral Resources (and Head of the Interministerial Committee on electro-mobility) Ms Alexandra Sdoukou**, underlined that the fast penetration of electro-mobility is a priority for the government, in the context of a shift towards green transportation. “We continue to strive to open all aspects of the electro-mobility market”, she said, starting from the charging infrastructures and their integration in the electricity network, which was the main theme of the event.

"According to the materially competent persons, HEDNO's experts, the electricity network will have no problem in the next years with the envisaged penetration of electric cars, as long as charging is done in a smart way to avoid any problems locally, due to charging multiple electric vehicles in the same area. However, there is another reason for which charging must be smart and controlled", Ms Sdoukou noted. "If we really want green transportation, vehicle charging must be smart, so that we can charge our electric vehicles when electricity is generated by the sun, the wind or other clean sources".

The fact that our electricity network seems to be sufficient however, does not mean that one can uncontrollably install charging infrastructures without affecting the network. She continued saying that "experience with countries with a more developed electricity market has shown that it is very important for the prospective electro-mobility customers to discuss with the electricity network operator about their increased needs for electric power supply due to charging". "To give another example: a Municipality wishing to install charging facilities for its citizens should involve the network operator as early as possible in the discussion, so that the latter can guide them in areas where the existing network is sufficient for supplying the chargers with the necessary power, thus avoiding potential costly investments in it".

**HEDNO Chairman and CEO Mr Anastasios Manos** noted that "we are adopting a common strategy with the Ministry of Environment and Energy, with the main aim of developing as fast as possible electro-mobility in our country. The Network operated by HEDNO will not be an obstacle but a catalyst in this development. We are fully prepared to implement - timely and in advance - all the necessary actions to upgrade the infrastructure wherever is needed within the Network. Already in recent months, the foundation for this concerted effort has been laid, along with the accompanying necessary studies and proposals, in order for the Network Operator to be ahead of future needs and assist in the implementation of the Ministry of Environment and Energy goals and vision for modernizing the country".

**General Manager of Network Development and Operation, Mr Heracles Menegatos**, referred to the existing Distribution Network infrastructures, emphasizing their capacity to support electro-mobility, based on the objectives set by the national energy and climate strategy by 2030. He also stressed the need to encourage slow smart charging of electric vehicles in the existing supplies and, in particular, residential ones, in order to maximize the benefits of using electro-mobility”.

During the conference, Mr **Theofilos Xanthos** also spoke, presenting the technical study of the German company FGH – carried out in collaboration with AUTH- on the integration of electric vehicles charging points in the national Distribution Network, as well as Mr **Konstantinos Magkaniotis**, Deputy Head of Metering Systems, HEDNO Network Department who referred to the best European practices - focusing on the example of Amsterdam - and noted that HEDNO intends to follow these practices when installing chargers in public spaces.

[**You can download the presentations [here](#):**]

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