

#PRES2024 brings together leaders of the renewable sector and kicks off on November 4 and 5 in Lisbon

- APREN's annual Conference returns with panels dedicated to the most relevant European and national topics for the renewable electricity sector, such as the European electricity market, the development of offshore and onshore wind energy, and the permitting of renewable projects.
- The Minister of Environment and Climate Action, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Director-General of DGEG, Paulo Carmona, and the Secretaries of State for Energy and Infrastructure, Maria João Pereira and Hugo Espírito Santo, among the confirmed speakers.

Lisbon, October 28th, 2024 – [APREN – Portuguese Renewable Energy Association](#) promotes the new edition of the [Portugal Renewable Energy Summit](#), which will take place on **November 4th and 5th**, 2024, at the Grand Auditorium of Culturgest, in Lisbon. This event, which in the last decade has established itself as the largest national meeting dedicated to the renewable sector, will bring together the main public, governmental and private entities in the energy sector, both national and international, to discuss the present and future of energy, electricity and renewables.

In the words of Pedro Amaral Jorge, "this year, the event will focus on the most relevant and current themes of the energy transition in Portugal and Europe". "Topics such as the **design of the European electricity market**, the new targets of the **Renewable Energy Directive III (REDIII)**, the **action plan for the electricity grid** and the challenges and opportunities for the development of **offshore and onshore wind energy**, as well as the **permitting of renewable projects**, stand out", adds the President of APREN.

The conference starts on Monday, November 4th, with the **opening session**, in charge of the **Secretary of State for Energy, Maria João Pereira**. Then, the focus will be on the debate on the **design of the European electricity market**, which will have the participation of Jorge Vasconcelos (President of NEWES), Leonardo Meeus (Director of the Florence School of Regulation), Maria de Athayde Tavares (Director of Regulation and Public Law at Linklaters Lisbon); Nicolás González Casares (Member of the European Parliament); Ricardo Nunes (Director of Strategy at OMIP).

Also in the morning, Culturgest's Grand Auditorium hosts the debate on the "**European Renewables Directive (RED III)**", which will feature an opening message from the European Commission's Director-General for Energy, Ditte Juul Jørgensen, and a presentation by Lourenço Vilhena de Freitas (partner at Cuatrecasas). To deepen the theme, the conference will have the contribution of Dörte Fouquet (Director of EREF), Patrick Clerens (Secretary General of EASE - European Association for Energy Storage), Viktoriya Kerelska (Director of Advocacy and Messaging at WindEurope) and Walburga Hemetsberger (CEO of SolarPower Europe).

In the early afternoon, in a debate held by the journalist Miguel Prado, the highlight will be the “**Grid Action Plan**”. The topic will be presented by ERSE's Director of Markets and Consumers (Eduardo Teixeira) and by the Member of the Board of DSO Entity (Luís Cunha). Around the table will be José Ferrari Careto (President of E-Redes), João Conceição (COO of REN) and Nuno Ribeiro da Silva (President of CCBT – Coordination Commission for Low Voltage).

Shortly afterwards the discussion will be on “**The goals of the Iberian National Energy and Climate Plans**”. Ignacio Cobo (Principal Consultant from AFRY) presents and moderates the debate, that will be attended by Cristina Torres-Quevedo (Director of Regulation and Finance at UNEF), Heikki Willstedt (Director of Energy Policies and Climate Change at AEE), Jorge Mendonça e Costa (Executive Director of APIGCEE), Pedro Amaral Jorge (President of the Board of APREN).

In the evening, Carlos Lobo (Partner at Lobo Carmona) will welcome Alexandra Courela (Partner and co-head of the tax practice at Abreu Advogados), Filipe de Vasconcelos Fernandes (Counsel at Vieira de Almeida), Francisco Mendes da Silva (partner and co-head of the tax department at Morais Leitão), Leonardo Scolari (senior adviser in PLMJ's tax practice) and Serena Cabrita Neto (partner at Cuatrecasas) to discuss the “**Taxation in the electricity sector**”.

In addition to the debates, on the first day of the conference, two presentations are planned. While Manuel Costeira da Rocha, Director of Technological Strategy at Smartenergy, will present the company's business model and strategy, Ana Lia Marques (CFO of Azuaga Seguros) will prepare a presentation on "Risk in the renewable sector".

On the **second day of the conference**, which will be **opened by the Secretary of State for Infrastructure, Hugo Espírito Santo**, attention begins focused on "**Renewables as a Driver of Decarbonization of Carbon-Intensive Sectors**", with presentations by Jorgo Chatzimarkakis (CEO of Hydrogen Europe), Pedro Guedes de Campos (Director of H2 Business Development and eSAF at Smartenergy) and Anise Ganbold (Head of Research at Aurora Energy Research).

With the offshore wind auction at the center of expectations for the coming months, on November 5th, Culturgest's Grand Auditorium will host the theme "**Offshore Wind**" with a presentation by Thomas Schulz (Partner at Linklaters) and a debate that will bring together Jorge Esteves (Director of Infrastructures and Networks at ERSE), José Carlos Simão (Director General of DGRM), João Afonso (Director of Planning at REN), Manuela Seixas Fonseca (Director of Energy Planning and Statistics Services at DGEG) and Teresa Ponce de Leão (President of LNEG).

To end the morning and start the afternoon activities of the last day of the conference, associations, companies and public entities will come together to discuss the **models of electrical and environmental permitting, in two panels moderated by Susana Seródio (Coordinator of Policies and Market Intelligence at APREN)**.

At first, the electricity permitting entities will meet, in a debate on **"The institutional model of electricity licensing entities"**, moderated by Susana Serôdio (Coordinator of Policies and Market Intelligence at APREN) that brings together Álvaro Pérez de Lema (General Director of Saeta Yield), Hugo Carvalho (President of EMER2030), Nelson Lage (President of ADENE), and Paulo Carmona (General Director of DGEG).

Afterwards, Ana Cristina Carrola (Member of the Board of Directors of APA), Francisco Ferreira (President of ZERO), Manuel Silva (Head of Development & Construction Portugal of Aquila Clean Energy), Miguel Lobo (Country Head Portugal of Lightsource BP), Nuno Banza (President of ICNF) will meet to discuss **"The institutional model of environmental permitting entities"**.

The last panel of the conference will be dedicated to the theme **"The major European and national challenges in the renewable sector"**. Ben Backwell (CEO da GWEC) will make an initial presentation and will give the floor to Pedro Amaral Jorge (Chairman of the Board of APREN) who will moderate the debate that will include the participation of Georgios Papadimitriou (COO of Renewables, New Businesses & Innovation at Galp), Hugo Costa (Country Manager Portugal at EDPR), Pedro Norton (CEO of Finerge), Rafael Mateo (CEO of Acciona Energía) and Rui Maia (COO of Nadara Energy).

The closing session will be in charge of the Minister of Environment and Climate Action, Maria da Graça Carvalho, who will deliver the final speech of the #PRES2024. Her speech will close a conference marked by debates and advances in the renewable sector, underlining the need for cooperation between the public and private sectors to accelerate the country's decarbonization.

More information about the full program can be found [here](#).

About APREN:



The Portuguese Renewable Energy Association (APREN) is a non-profit association founded in October 1988. Its mission is to coordinate and represent the common interests of its members, promoting renewables energies in the electricity field. APREN works together with official bodies and other similar entities, at national and international level, constituting an instrument of participation in energy and environmental policies through the use and valorization of natural resources for electricity production, namely in the fields of hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, biogas and urban solid waste.