

***ESTELA: General Assembly appoints a new Executive Committee.
Luis Crespo is re-elected as President for the next term 2016-2017.***

Brussels, 26th Jan 2016. The General Assembly of the European Solar Thermal Electricity Association (ESTELA), re-elected Dr. Luis Crespo for the next 2-year term. Together with the President election, the Executive Committee of the Association was also newly mandated.

Dr. Luis Crespo was appointed unanimously as President by the ESTELA General Assembly yesterday for another 2-year term. In his second tenure, Crespo is eager to pursue the core work of ESTELA towards EU institutions and at the same time to increase its action modalities as a bridge between European and Mediterranean regions, following the enlargement of geographical scope of ESTELA to the MENA region.

“During the next term, our action will be refocused on several fields:

- Continued support to our industry in Europe via an enhanced dialogue with policy-makers (in their essential task of driving long-term strategies); the key point is to achieve an improved perception of the **value proposition** of solar thermal electricity (STE) well beyond the current cost level of the technology. Doing so, it will be possible to show that the value of STE for both the electrical system and the European economy is today well able to offset the current still-high investment costs;
- Search for **synergies and alliances with other RES sectors** regarding ongoing legislative initiatives;
- Support ESTELA members’ efforts to implement a **first-of-its-kind project in Europe** in close cooperation with some Member States and EC services
- Extend the **support of the association to its members for promoting their presence** in the **most active STE markets (Morocco, South Africa, China, Chile, Australia)** always fairly addressing the mutual interests of the respective partners;
- Relaunch the already established world federation “STELA-World” for reinforcing the global STE industry representativity towards the EU institutions and identifying the corresponding opportunities and threats during its ongoing development worldwide.”

“Following an ambitious global COP21 agreement in Paris and several years of driving far-sighted policies for the deployment of renewables, there is simply no good reason why Europe – just because of lower costs of some variable technologies – should lay behind non-EU countries regarding the differentiation of the support still needed by flexible renewable technologies. This is even more striking when such flexible technologies are recognized (especially by TSOs) as a key element to achieve a reliable CO₂ free system in the coming years. What is here at stake is ultimately the global competitiveness of Europe as well as its energy security”, declared Crespo.



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