**The institutions in Pristina and the Secretariat sign an Implementation Partnership**

Mr. Besim Beqaj, Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Ali Hamiti, Chairman of the Energy Regulatory Office and Mr. Slavtcho Neykov, Director of the Energy Community signed today a memorandum on “Implementation Partnership” in Pristina.

Based on intense cooperation between the Ministry, the Assembly and the Secretariat, three sets of electricity laws, namely a Law on Energy, a Law on the Energy Regulator and a Law on Electricity were adopted in October 2010. It is now of great importance that appropriate and compliant electricity market model and additional secondary legislation is drafted and adopted without delay. It is on this background that the three parties agreed to sign today’s memorandum.

With the signatory of the Memorandum, the Energy Regulatory Office has agreed to establish working groups for different categories of secondary legislation. It will not only involve all the domestic stakeholders in the working groups, but it will also seek the Secretariat’s advice and expertise throughout the process. The working groups are expected to present drafts to a steering committee in regular intervals. The steering committee will consist of the Chairman of the Energy Regulatory Office, the Director of the Secretariat and the Minister of Economic Development.

At the press conference organized by the Ministry of Economic Development, Director Neykov thanked the state authorities of UNMIK for the good co-operation. He also underlined the Secretariat’s readiness, upon request, to envoy its energy experts to Pristina.

In March 2011, the Secretariat presented a paper to the members of 19th PHLG on how to boost the implementation of the Treaty. The paper proposed tougher reporting, particular scrutiny for those lacking behind and more affirmative action in case of non –compliance in the form of “Implementation Partnerships”. Today’s memorandum is second of its kind, following the partnership with Skopje on 8 April 2011.