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**Author: The Association of Issuing Bodies, AIB**

**Place: BRUSSELS**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

**Title: Certification of energy**

**Subtitle: EECS updated / new Hub service**

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**Two major AIB decisions:**

- **EECS<sup>®</sup> updated to support the requirements of Directive 2009/28/EC**
- **All competent authorities for GOs allowed to use the Hub as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012**

At its General Meeting in Oslo last month, the AIB unanimously adopted the new set of rules governing the European Energy Certificate System – “the EECS<sup>®</sup> Rules” - which replaces the EECS<sup>®</sup> PRO.

The main enhancements are the following:

- All Guarantees of Origin issued according to the EECS<sup>®</sup> Rules will now fulfil the requirements of Directive 2009/28/EC in terms of contents and format
- New areas of operation can be entered into by AIB when there is significant interest among its members, in the markets for heat, gas, energy efficiency...
- Labels can become Independent Certification Schemes (ICS), once they have been recognised by the AIB. This means that these brands will be identified on EECS certificates. The operators of all interested labels are invited to get in touch with the AIB in order to receive more information on the procedure they need to follow in order to be formally recognised by the AIB.

Another very important step towards a unified platform of energy certification was reached at the same General Meeting: the AIB has decided to offer the use of its central messaging Hub for the exchange of RES and CHP Guarantees of Origin to certificate issuers that are not AIB members. All member states’ organisations in charge of the issuing of Guarantees of Origin according to the national transposition of Directive 2009/28/EC will be able to make use of the AIB Hub service, regardless of whether they are AIB members. Using the AIB Hub means that competent authorities will only need to connect to the Hub in order to be able to export or import GOs to or from Hub-connected countries. Currently, 18 AIB members use the Hub.

This service is expected to be launched on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, and will require the signature of an agreement between AIB and the organisation.

All competent authorities who are interested in this service should contact the AIB for more details as soon as possible, in order to be able to connect to the Hub as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012.

**PRESS RELEASE**

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The Association of Issuing Bodies - the AIB - promotes the use of a standardised system, based on harmonised environment, structures and procedures in order to ensure the reliable operation of international energy certificate systems, with a view to encourage the development of renewable energy.

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