

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SZE

Intervention by H.E. Mr Paolo Trichilo, Ambassador of Italy

1 April 2019

Mr. State Secretary,

Mr. President,

Dear participants,

I am very pleased to participate in the 2019 International Conference of the Slovenian Energy Association, which this year is dedicated to Sustainable and Clean Energy Supply for Heating and Cooling, and I give thanks in particular to Prof. Alojz Poredoš, President of the Slovensko združenje za energetiko.

I would like also to express my appreciation for AERMEC – an important hundred year old Italian company and a world leader in the production of fan coils – which collaborated closely in organizing this event as main sponsor.

This invitation allows me the opportunity to give a general overview of the cooperation between Italy and Slovenia in the energy sector. It is highly significant and I will give you some examples.

As for companies,

- ENI, with Adriaplin, is active in the distribution and sale of gas to many municipalities in Slovenia
- SIAD is operating with Istrabenz plini for the production and distribution of technical gases
- SOL is producing and distributing technical gases with SPG, medical and refrigeration gases with TPJ, as well as investing with Energetika ŽJ in hydroelectric power stations
- Liquigas with Butanplin is a major distributor of LPG
- Mittelenergy is in contact with the Municipality of Kočevje for a possible new cogeneration system for biomass.

For what concerns strategic areas,

In the nuclear sector, Ansaldo Nucleare has signed a contract for the safety upgrade of the reactor at Krško Nuclear Power Plant, that I wish to congratulate for

designing one of the most complete responses by the nuclear industry to the lesson learnt from the Fukushima incident.

Another major project is the construction of the gas pipeline between Slovenia and Hungary, which, when completed, will provide a new bi-directional interconnection between Italy – hence the interest of SNAM - and Hungary through Slovenia, our two countries being already connected.

No less significant are the projects for the electrical connection [between Dekani-Zaule and Redipuglia-Vrtojba] developed by Adrialink - owned by the Italian companies Enel Produzione SpA (50%) and Hera Trading SpA (50%) - in partnership with the Slovenian companies Holding Slovenske Elektrarne (HSE) and E3 (energetika ekologija ekonomija).

Regarding other forms of cooperation, let me mention within the framework of the INTERREG Programme Italy-Slovenia 2014-2020 the SECAP project (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan) for the support of energy and climate policies, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

Finally, Italy and Slovenia are both members of the Central and South Eastern Europe Energy Connectivity (CESEC), supported by the European Commission and aimed at diversifying gas supplies.

In conclusion, I would like to wish you all full success in your deliberations and underline that the strong and increasing cooperation between Italy and Slovenia in the energy sector is coherent with the excellent framework of economic collaboration in the business and investment sectors both on the bilateral level and in the wider European context.