

MINUTES OF 30TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF SAFIR

Virtual Meeting (MS-Teams)

Date / Day: 27th April, 2026 (Monday)

Time: 04:00 PM IST

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS: Appendix-I

1. Chairperson of SAFIR / PUCSL, Prof. K.P. Lalith Chandralal, warmly welcomed all SAFIR members to the meeting, along with the officers of the SAFIR Secretariat. He noted that although the interaction was being held virtually, it was still a pleasure to connect with everyone. The Chairperson fondly recalled the previous meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, describing it as highly engaging and productive, where several important topics were deliberated. He expressed the hope that discussions would continue, with updates on the current status. It was highlighted that this meeting would primarily focus on two key agenda items: The Budget and updates on the SAFIR School of Regulation. Although the meeting would be brief, it was expected to be constructive and outcome-oriented.

AGENDA ITEM 1: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 29TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25TH – 26TH FEBRUARY, 2026

2. The EC members were apprised of the action taken on the previous minutes of the 29th Executive Committee Meeting, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
3. Mr. Jalal Ahmed, Chairperson of BERC, advised the SAFIR Secretariat to correct his remarks in Para 2 to reflect the revised RE installed capacity of Bangladesh as follows.

“Para 2He further noted the growing emphasis on the energy transition in his country, its target of achieving 20% RE installed capacity by 2030,”

4. He also suggested to elaborate on the need for redesigning the logo of SAFIR, based on which, the following changes were made in the 29th ECM minutes.

“Para 20: It was observed that the present logo of SAFIR does not adequately reflect the organization’s evolving role, core objectives, and areas of impact. The need for redesigning the logo of SAFIR was discussed and agreed upon, to ensure that the new logo represents the vision, mandate and identity of the organization in the present times. The EC members were informed that a similar exercise was done by the Forum of Regulators (FOR) in India in 2016 by the constituting a Working Group (WG) and hiring a design agency.”

SAFIR Secretariat was advised to make the above changes in the minutes of the 29th ECM before they were issued / posted on the SAFIR website.

With the above, the minutes were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ACCOUNTS RELATED - BUDGET OF SAFIR FOR FY 2026-27

5. The Members were apprised of the salient features of the SAFIR’s budget for the F.Y. 2026-27, including the projected income and expenditure.
6. The Chairperson SAFIR / PUCSL Sri Lanka inquired whether the consideration of new members had been included during the preparation of the budget estimates. In response, it was conveyed that the process of inviting prospective members is still ongoing. It was also clarified that, as a prudent financial practice, income from potential members is not included until

formal confirmation is received, as including such amounts at this stage would show fictitious income in the budget estimates.

7. It was further informed that no membership fees were pending from the Members, as of the day of the meeting. After discussion, the budget for FY 2026-27 was approved.

AGENDA ITEM 3: UPDATE ON 'SOUTH ASIA SCHOOL OF REGULATION'

8. Members were informed about the discussions held so far on the matter. It was also communicated that a virtual meeting had been convened to evaluate UNESCAP's alignment with the decisions made by EC members. Additionally, it was stated that UNESCAP had agreed to all the decisions of EC members.
9. It was further informed that SAFIR Secretariat had advised UNESCAP to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) promptly so it could be presented to EC members for detailed discussions. SAFIR Secretariat also emphasized that the DPR should clearly outline the funding modalities, including the extent of financial and in-kind support being proposed. In this regard, it was noted that SAFIR had already received funding offers from several organizations willing to support the initiative.
10. Members were informed that UNESCAP had requested an opportunity to present the DPR before SAFIR, and it was decided that this could be addressed during the Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) and Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) planned to be held later this year.
11. It was also informed that UNESCAP had been asked to submit the DPR within four months, with the first draft expected by the end of July. Once received, the draft would first be reviewed internally by the SAFIR

Secretariat before being presented to the Executive Committee (EC) and Steering Committee (SC).

12. Members were also informed about the possibility of organizing a conference in Malaysia to mark the inauguration of the ASEAN School there, as it would provide an opportunity for EC members to interact with the school's officials and learn from their experiences and lessons in this regard.

AGENDA ITEM 4: NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

13. It was agreed that the conference would be organised on the 20th and 21st of August 2026 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Chairperson of ERC Nepal informed the members that a cordial meeting had been held with officials of the Ministry and that preparations for the conference could proceed as planned.
14. SAFIR Secretariat was requested to issue the meeting notice and share the details pertaining to the programme schedule, logistics, and other requirements necessary for conducting the conference, which may serve as the starting point for further coordination and preparatory activities.
15. Secretary, SAFIR / CERC conveyed his sincere gratitude to Chairperson, SAFIR / PUCSL, for presiding over the deliberations and sharing valuable insights. He acknowledged the meaningful deliberations on the Budget for the upcoming year and the proposed 'South Asia School of Regulation' and thanked all members for their active participation and constructive insights.
16. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

APPENDIX-I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

S. NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
01.	Prof. K.P. Lalith Chandralal Chairperson, SAFIR / PUCSL	Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka)
02.	Mr. Jalal Ahmed Chairman, BEREC	Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (Bangladesh)
03.	Dr. Ram Prasad Dhital Chairperson, ERC Nepal	Electricity Regulatory Commission Nepal
04.	Ms. Deki Choden CEO, ERA	Electricity Regulatory Authority Bhutan
05.	Mr. Harpreet Singh Pruthi Secretary, SAFIR / CERC	Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (India)
06.	Dr. Sushanta K. Chatterjee Chief (Regulatory Affairs)	Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (India)
SAFIR SECRETARIAT / OTHERS		
07.	Ms. Rashmi Somasekharan Nair Jt. Chief (Regulatory Affairs)	CERC
08.	Mr. Debasish Roy Asst. Chief (Regulatory Affairs)	CERC
09.	Mr. Sushil Kumar Arora Senior Administrative Officer	SAFIR
10.	Mr. Nilesh Diwan Accounts Officer	SAFIR
11.	Mr. Davinder Kumar Sr. Technical Officer (IT)	FOR
12.	Mr. Akhil Ramakrishnan Research Associate	SAFIR