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## RELEASE

### **Strategic meeting of the Vertical Corridor initiative at the head office of Transgaz SA in Bucharest**

The meeting of the Gas Transmission System Operators, signatories of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Vertical Corridor - Transgaz S.A., DESFA S.A., Gastrade S.A, Bulgartransgaz EAD, ICGB AD, FGSZ Ltd and observers thereto - Eustream S.A., Gas TSO of Ukraine and Vestmoldtransgaz of the Republic of Moldova - was held in Bucharest today, on the initiative of SNTGN Transgaz SA.

CEOs of: Bulgartransgaz (Bulgaria), Mr. Vladimir Malinov, FGSZ (Hungary), Mr. Szabolcs Ferencz, DESFA (Greece), Ms. Maria Rita Galli, ICGB - the company that operates the Greece-Bulgaria interconnector, (Bulgaria), Ms. Teodora Georgieva and Mr. George Satlas, Gastrade S.A (Greece), Mr. Kostis Sifnaios, Eustream (Slovakia), Mr. Rastislav Ňukovič, together with representatives of the TSOs from Ukraine - GTSOU and the Republic of Moldova - Vestmoldtransgaz attended the meeting with Mr. Ion STERIAN – Transgaz' Director-General.

In his opening address, Transgaz' Director-General, the host of this meeting, thanked everyone for participation and involvement, convinced that through joint, combined efforts, beneficial results can be achieved for the common interest of natural gas Transmission System Operators (TSOs).

In the context of the High-Level CESEC meeting to be held in Athens during 18-19 January 2024, the Minister of Energy, Mr. Sebastian Burduja, paid a brief visit to the company's head office to deliver a message of support for Transgaz as regards the funding by EU grants of the investment projects meant for the development of the transmission infrastructure related to the Vertical Corridor in order to increase the security of gas supply to Central and South-Eastern Europe, in line with the European energy strategy and of support by the Romanian Government for the other TSOs in obtaining funding for the projects under the Modernization Fund.

The meeting agenda comprised the analysis of the status of cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Vertical Corridor for the configuration of the natural gas transmission routes and the steps to be taken for this corridor to

become operational and the inclusion of Eustream Slovakia, GTSOU (Ukraine) and Vestmoldtransgaz (the Republic of Moldova) among the MoU signatories.

The new MoU on the Vertical Corridor to be signed in Athens on the sidelines of the High-Level CESEC meeting will contribute to shaping the gas flow from the Revithoussa and Alexandroupolis LNG terminals as well as from the other LNG terminals in Greece which are now in the final investment decision phase.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT