The SOBEH was created in order to:

 define, manage and acquire participations of any type for the State, or for its own account, directly or indirectly in all activities connected to the research, the exploitation, the marketing of the crude oil, the refining and all activities reporting directly to the above-mentioned activities;

 hold participations of the State in hydrocarbons fields and in capital of companies holders of establishment agreements and production sharing contracts;

 insure, as service provider for the State, the acquisition of participations in capital of companies holders of oil production sharing contracts current on the sedimentary basins of Benin or somewhere else;

 insure as service provider for the State, marketing and exportation of all or part of Benin holdings in products extracted from the fields of hydrocarbons within the framework of the current production sharing contracts;

 hold oil blocks, whithout partner either in partnership or joint-venture, for the research and the exploitation of hydrocarbons fields and any related or associated substances;

 manage the oil data of Benin differents sedimentary basins and insure their promotion;

 generally, realize either directly, or by any other entity or by the creation of subsidiaries of Beninese right(law) or foreign right, any financial transactions relating directly or indirectly to hydrocarbons industry.

The head office of SOBEH is, until further notice, at COTONOU, economic capital of Benin.