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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Education and outreach and activities of the Communications Sub-Committee

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Note by the secretariat

1. The Expert Group on Resource Classification agreed to establish a Communications Sub-Committee at its first session, April 2010. It was further agreed that the Sub-Committee would be established by and report to the Bureau of the Expert Group.
2. The mandate of the Communications Sub-Committee is to develop and implement a communications and education strategy to ensure that opportunities to promote the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) globally and to deliver a consistent message thereon are maximized, including through conferences, workshops, articles and technical papers. The Sub-Committee should also assist to identify experts in countries and organizations not already represented in the Expert Group.
3. The modus operandi of the Communications Sub-Committee is contained in its interim report prepared for the second of the Expert Group in 2011 (document ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2011/6).
4. The current membership of the Communications Sub-Committee is provided in Annex I.
5. This document provides an update on the education and outreach activities undertaken since the third session of the Expert Group, including those by the Communications Sub-Committee.

I. Communications and education strategy

6. The agreed Communications and Education Strategy developed by the Communications Sub-Committee encompasses conferences and workshops; the relationship with other industry bodies and associations; publications, technical journals and articles; the media; website; and the membership of the Expert Group.

7. It is noted that there continues to be no extrabudgetary funding available to support the work of the Sub-Committee and hence implementation of the strategy continues to depend upon the voluntary contributions (travel and man hours) from members of the Expert Group. Efforts are being undertaken by the Sub-Committee to secure funding and should this be successful the strategy would then be modified accordingly.

II. Current activities

8. Since issuing its second report to the third session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, the Communications Sub-Committee has continued to conduct its work through regular e-mail correspondence, as well as via four meetings (one face to face meeting, two videoconferences and one audioconference). A copy of the minutes of all meetings is provided to the Bureau of the Expert Group for information.

9. The key education and outreach activities undertaken by the Communications Sub-Committee are outlined below. It is noted that these activities also serve to promote those widely used systems aligned to UNFC-2009, notably the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO) Template for solid minerals and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)/World Petroleum Council (WPC)/American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)/Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE) Petroleum Resource Management System (PRMS) for oil and gas, which has been endorsed by SPE, WPC, AAPG, SPEE and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG).

A. Conferences and workshops

10. The key focus of the Sub-Committee continues to be the promotion of UNFC-2009 – including, in particular, an understanding of how the system works and its relationship to the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS – at conferences and workshops, as well as the identification of expert speakers to deliver the presentations. A list of the conferences at which a presentation on UNFC-2009 and/or the work of the Expert Group was delivered in 2012 and in 2013 up to the date of this report is provided in Annex II.

11. In order to deliver on the educational aspect of the Communications and Education Strategy, attention was paid to organizing capacity-building workshops. In particular, efforts were focussed on:

(a) Workshop on UNFC-2009 and Resource Classification (for oil, gas and minerals) in Bangkok, Thailand, 9–10 February 2012. The event was organized by the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-east Asia (CCOP) in cooperation with ECE and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP);

(b) UNFC-2009 Workshop in Mexico City, Mexico, 28-29 September 2012. The event was organized by the Ministry of Energy of Mexico (SENER), the National Hydrocarbons Commission (CNH), and the Mexican Geological Survey (SGM), in cooperation with ECE and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);

(c) Interregional Workshop on Recent Developments in Evaluation of Uranium and Thorium Resources in Lisbon, Portugal, 15–18 October 2012. The event was jointly organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Ibero-American Programme for Science, Technology and Development (CYTED) and ECE; and

(d) At the request of the Ministry of Mines of India, the potential to organize a workshop in New Delhi, India in December 2012 was explored, but the event has now been postponed following advice from the Ministry.

12. Following each workshop, a review is made of the event and those elements considered to be successful are then incorporated into future events. The programme for the workshops, as well as the standard presentations delivered, are continually reviewed and updated.

13. A copy of all the presentations delivered at the workshops is posted to a dedicated page on the ECE website. Where appropriate, ECE press releases are issued either immediately prior to or immediately following the close of the event. Articles are also prepared for publication in the ECE's weekly newsletter "UNECE Weekly".

B. PowerPoint presentations, articles and other promotional and educational material

14. A number of standard PowerPoint slides have been developed for insertion into presentations on UNFC-2009 dependent on the audience and the theme of the conference.

15. Work has continued on the development of an educational animated presentation with voice-over explaining UNFC-2009, how its three axes work and the relationship with the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS. The final presentation will be posted to the ECE and shown at workshops.

16. The Communications Sub-Committee has discussed development of a series of frequently asked questions (FAQs) on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group for eventual posting to the ECE website. The Sub-Committee views this as an important area of work and one that will assist users and potential users of UNFC-2009. Until the generic specifications are finalized the list of questions will initially be kept very general, for example, what is the role of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, who are the stakeholders of UNFC-2009, why is the United Nations involved in resource classification, what is the relationship with the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS, which commodities are covered by UNFC-2009, etcetera.

17. The follow articles related to UNFC-2009 and/or the Expert Group on Resource Classification were published in 2012:

(a) Non-Renewable Resource Issues – Geoscientific and Societal Challenges, 2012, published by Springer as part of the International Year of Planet Earth series. UNFC-2009 is explained in chapter two "Stretching the Availability of Non-Renewable Resources";

(b) The article "Defining Reserves & Resources" authored by the Chairman of the Expert Group was published in GEOExPro Magazine, issue 2, volume 9, April 2012;

(c) An article explaining UNFC-2009 was published in the Indonesian Journal of Geology in 2012;

(d) The article "EAGE tracks United Nations classification system for fossil energy and mineral reserves and resources" was published in the European Association of

Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE) newsletter First Break, issue 3, volume 30, March 2012;

(f) The expert opinion “Comparable energy reserves and resource – why we should care” was written by the Chair of the Expert Group and published on 5 December 2012 on the ECE website, as part of the ECE’s Expert Opinion initiative; and

(g) UNFC-2009 has been translated into Bulgarian by experts from the Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism. The Bulgarian text was published in the Bulgarian journal "Geology and Mineral Resources", edition number 10, December 2012.

18. Discussions were held with the Editor of The Global Journal during 2012 to explain UNFC-2009 and its relevance to sustainable energy development.

19. The following press releases, which are available to view on the ECE website¹, were issued by ECE in 2012:

(a) UNFC: enhanced energy security and sustainability, issued on 15 February 2012;

(b) UNFC: Key Policy Tool for Energy Strategy Development, issued on 4 October 2012;

(c) UNFC development continues: key rules of application released for public comment, issued on 22 October 2012; and

(d) Energy industry calls for UNFC to embrace renewables, issued on 5 November 2012.

20. The following articles were published in the ECE’s weekly newsletter “UNECE Weekly”:

(a) Need for UNFC highlighted at World Petroleum Congress, issue number 458, 2–6 January 2012;

(b) IAEA to finalize mapping and testing of UNFC for nuclear fuel resources, issue number 474, 23–27 April 2012;

(c) Key rules of application of the UN Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources now released for public comment, issue number 500, 22–26 October 2012;

(d) Uranium and thorium experts agree on widespread need for UN Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources, issue number 502, 5–9 November 2012;

(e) EU Member States assess use of UNFC for raw materials supply, issue number 504, 19–23 November 2012; and

(f) UNFC issued in Bulgarian, issue number 511, 14-18 January 2013.

21. The following articles were published in relation to the 2012 public consultation on the draft specifications for application of UNFC-2009:

(a) European Federation of Geologists issued an article in the November 2012 edition of its monthly newsletter, GeoNews; and

(b) SPEE published a summary article in its November 2012 newsletter.

¹ <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=24027>

C. UNFC-2009 promotional poster and leaflet

22. The promotional poster on UNFC-2009 prepared in English and Russian continues to be displayed at conferences and workshops.

23. The Communications Sub-Committee noted that the existing information leaflet “Resource Classification and UNFC” provides comprehensive background information on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group and is a useful promotional tool to distribute at conferences and workshops. However, there is now a need for a more detailed complementary leaflet outlining what has been achieved during the development of UNFC-2009 for circulation to decision makers responsible for the future orientation of the programme of work on energy at ECE. The Sub-Committee is working on development of such a leaflet.

D. Website

24. Changes continue to be made to update and improve the Expert Group and UNFC web pages on the ECE website², notably with regard to accessibility, re-organization of existing information and the addition of new material as regularly as possible.

III. Future work plans

25. The Communications Sub-Committee will continue its efforts to implement the agreed Communications and Education Strategy.

26. Regular and/or annual meetings of relevant societies and professional associations will be identified to ensure that a presentation on UNFC-2009 is included.

27. Efforts will continue to prioritize events to attend in 2013 (Annex III) and 2014.

28. The animated presentation on UNFC-2009 will be finalized and posted to the ECE website, as will the FAQs on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

29. Focus will also be given to seeking new members for the Expert Group, particularly oil and gas producers and experts from countries outside the ECE region.

30. Efforts will be undertaken to secure extrabudgetary funding.

² <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html>

Annex I

Communications Sub-Committee Members

Chair

John Brooks, American Association of Petroleum Geologists European Region (AAPG-Europe)

Members

Stephen Henley, Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO)

David MacDonald, Chair, Expert Group on Resource Classification and BP (joined May 2013)

Jan Roelofsen, IHS Global SA

Tim Smith, Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE)

Daniel Trotman, Ernst & Young LLP (joined May 2013)

Secretary, Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Annex II

Conferences and other events in 2012 to January 2013 at which UNFC-2009 was presented and/or promoted

- (a) Conference “Uzbekistan and Europe: perspectives for development of cooperation in the fields of transport and energy”, Geneva, Switzerland, 17 January 2012;
- (b) ECE Working Party on Gas, 22nd Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 24–25 January 2012;
- (c) Workshop on UNFC Resource Classification (for oil, gas and minerals) organized by CCOP in cooperation with UNECE and ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand, 9–10 February 2012;
- (d) 4th International Professional Geology Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 22–24 January 2012;
- (e) Reserves Estimation for Unconventional Resources Conference, London, United Kingdom, 1–2 March 2012;
- (f) Applying PRMS to Unconventional Resources Workshop, London, United Kingdom, 2 March 2012;
- (g) EuroGeoSource International Workshop “Security of Energy and Minerals Supply – Political and Economic Aspects”, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 8 March 2012;
- (h) German Society for Petroleum and Coal Science and Technology/Austrian Society for Petroleum Science Spring Meeting “Environmental Protection in the Exploration and Production Industry, a Daily Commitment”, Celle, Germany, 19–20 April 2012
- (i) SPE Applied Technology Workshop, Lima, Peru, 23–24 May 2012;
- (j) 18th Turkish Coal Congress, Zonguldak, Turkey, 6–8 June 2012;
- (k) IAEA Regional workshop on uranium resources assessment and recovery from phosphate and rare earth element ores, Nuclear Materials Authority, Cairo, 17-21 June 2012;
- (l) IAEA Technical Cooperation Planning and Coordination meeting with focus on "Uranium exploration and production priorities outlook", Helsinki, Finland, 26–29 June 2012;
- (m) Meeting of the Extended Bureau of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, Geneva, Switzerland, 5 July 2012;
- (n) “Geology Café’ (association of geoscientists from Kerala) Foundation Day, Trivandrum, Kerala, India, 18 July 2012;
- (o) Centre for Earth Sciences, Trivandrum, Kerala, India, 20 July 2012;
- (p) 34th International Geological Congress, Brisbane, Australia, 6–10 August 2012;
- (q) Reserve Estimation for Unconventional Resources, Houston, United States, 20–21 August 2012;

- (r) Workshop on “Mining Towards the Future”, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 28 August 2012;
- (s) EU-USA Workshop on "Mineral Raw Material Flows and Data", Brussels, Belgium, 12–13 September 2012;
- (t) SPE Hydrocarbon Economics and Evaluation Symposium, Calgary, Canada, 25–25 September 2012;
- (u) SPE Course “Managing Your Business using PRMS”, Mexico City, Mexico, 24 September 2012;
- (v) SPE Applied Technology Workshop "Petroleum Resources Management System (PRMS) Application Guidelines Document", Mexico City, Mexico, 25–26 September 2012;
- (w) UNFC-2009 Workshop, Mexico City, Mexico, 27–28 September 2012;
- (x) Interregional IAEA-CYTED-ECE Workshop on Recent Developments in Evaluation of Uranium and Thorium Resources, Lisbon, Portugal, 15–18 October 2012;
- (y) CRIRSCO Annual Meeting Open Session, London, United Kingdom, 22 October 2012;
- (z) 10th Annual Global Reserves Summit, London, United Kingdom, 29–31 October 2012;
- (aa) FINEX’ 12 (Financing Exploration: Exploration Meets the City), Geological Society, London, United Kingdom, 31 October – 1 November 2012;
- (bb) Renewable Reserves Workshop, London, United Kingdom, 31 October – 1 November 2012;
- (cc) EU Raw Materials Supply Group Plenary Meeting, Brussels, Belgium, 12 November 2012;
- (dd) IAEA International Training Course on “Uranium deposit models and exploration”, Beijing, China 12–16 November 2012;
- (ee) PETEX 2012, London, United Kingdom, 20–22 November 2012;
- (ff) ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, 21st Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 28–29 November 2012;
- (gg) SPEE European Charter, London, United Kingdom, 3 December 2012;
- (hh) InterEnerStat, 5th Meeting, Paris, France, 4–5 December 2012;
- (ii) IAEA International Training Course on “Uranium production from phosphate rocks”, Amman and Aqaba, Jordan, 10–14 December 2012;
- (jj) 24th Colloquium of African Geology, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 8–14 January 2013;
- (kk) ECE Working Party on Gas, 23rd Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 22 January 2013.

Annex III

Conferences and other events in 2013 at which it is anticipated UNFC-2009 will be presented and/or promoted

- (a) Black Sea and Caspian Energy Conference 2013, London, United Kingdom, 14 February 2013
 - (b) EuroGeoSource Final International Seminar, Brussels, Belgium, 12 March 2013;
 - (c) Meeting with Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France, Paris, France, 22 February 2013;
 - (d) Reserves Estimation for Unconventional Resources Conference, London, United Kingdom, 12–15 March 2013;
 - (e) 75th EAGE Conference & Exhibition, London, 10–13 June 2013;
 - (f) UNFC-2009 Workshop, Geneva, Switzerland, 23 April 2013;
 - (g) IAEA-CYTED-ECE-ECLAC Workshop on UNFC-2009 applications in uranium and thorium resources: focus on comprehensive extraction”, Santiago, Chile, 9–12 July 2013;
 - (h) SPE Petroleum Reserves Workshop, Bogota, Colombia, 4–5 September 2013;
 - (i) AAPG International Conference and Exhibition, Cartagena, Colombia, 8–11 September 2013;
 - (j) SPE Applied Technology Workshop, Houston, September/October 2013;
 - (k) SPE Applied Technology Workshop on the PRMS Applications Document, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 22–23 October 2013;
 - (l) UNFC-2009 Workshop, New Delhi, India: this event has been postponed and will be rescheduled based on advice from the Ministry of Mines of India; and
 - (m) Renewable Resources Workshops are anticipated to be held in Brazil in March 2013 and in London in April 2013.
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