



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
27 July 2016

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

Third session

Baku, 18–19 October 2016

Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the third session

to be held at JW Marriott Absheron Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan
starting at 14:00 on Tuesday, 18 October 2016

I. Provisional agenda

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/1 – Annotated provisional agenda.

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item of the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Election of officers

2. During its first session, the Group of Experts elected representatives from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Belarus, Croatia, Germany and Turkey as Vice Chairs for two years. The Group of Experts invited representatives from the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency (C2E2), the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC), and the University of Geneva to participate in the Bureau for two years. The Group of Experts elected a representative of the C2E2 as its Chair for the period of two years. During its second session, the Group of Experts elected representatives from Portugal, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as Vice Chairs for two years. The Group of Experts will be invited to elect members of the Bureau. At the time this document was prepared the following member States nominated members of the Bureau of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency: Croatia – Mr. Zlatko Pavicic.

3. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/3-ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2016/3 – Concept Note of the Seventh International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development.

ECE/ENERGY/2016/8 – Draft outcome document of the Seventh International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development.

ECE/ENERGY/2016/9 – Concept note and draft outcome document of the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and Energy Ministerial.

3. The Government of Azerbaijan, five United Nations Regional Commissions, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office in Azerbaijan, the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office in Azerbaijan, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), C2E2, and the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) are jointly organizing the Seventh International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 18 – 21 October 2016. The Group of Experts session is being held in the framework of the Forum. The objectives of the Seventh Forum are to explore how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other aspirational pledges such as the Paris Agreement on climate change can be implemented and how to deliver on the national commitments, such as the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) in support of achieving the climate change mitigation and adaptation goals outlined in the Paris Agreement. The potential solutions are expected to be agreed at an Energy Ministerial at the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 11 June 2017. The Baku Forum provides an important stepping stone for the Energy Ministerial, as delegates will be invited to discuss these challenges and potential solutions as they relate to energy efficiency and its role in achieving energy-related SDGs.

4. Best practices in selected economic sectors to improve energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/4 – Best practices in selected economic sectors to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on exchange of know-how and best practices in industry to significantly improve energy efficiency in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region

ECE/ENERGY/100 – Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency. A Structured Framework of Best Practices in Policies to Promote Energy Efficiency for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development

4. Despite the multiple benefits, improving energy efficiency remains elusive. The state of the global economy and the economics of energy markets have prioritized short-term economic considerations, and geopolitics has moved energy security to the forefront of policy considerations. To make the first step in overcoming the current inertia, countries need to develop policies and capabilities in the private and public sectors at the local level to identify, formulate and present energy efficiency investment projects that are bankable; introduce policy and institutional changes to support energy efficiency investments; and create favourable conditions for financial institutions and commercial companies to invest in energy efficiency projects.

5. After the publication of the Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency, this structured framework of policies and measures have been widely distributed and discussed. Further work on identifying case studies that broaden a menu of high-impact policies and measures has been undertaken by the Group of Experts. In addition, a particular focus has been on improving energy efficiency in industry as a sector where significant improvements can have one of the most tangible impacts overall. The delegates will be invited to share existing practices of implementation of energy efficiency policies and measures in their countries as well as challenges to their implementation, in particular in the industry sector, and discuss the opportunities for exchanging experience among the ECE member States. The importance of baseline data and measuring energy efficiency improvements and multiple benefits will be highlighted and the concept of energy productivity discussed.

5. Energy efficiency standards in buildings

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/5 – Energy efficiency standards in buildings. Concept Note on the principles-based energy performance standard in buildings.

6. International standards in energy efficiency can play a valuable role in promoting good energy practices, harmonization of public policies, improving consumers' and users' understanding and confidence, avoiding technical barriers to trade related to energy policies, and enabling the creation of world markets for energy technologies. The work of the Group of Experts, jointly with the Committee on Housing and Land Management, explored the potential for activities on energy efficiency standards in buildings. A Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings has been established by the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Committee on Housing and Land Management. A proposal for a joint project for implementation of tasks by the joint task force has been prepared. An interest for developing ECE-wide principles based performance standards and guidelines has been explored with various stakeholders, in particular with the Passive House community. The delegates will be invited to discuss the areas where introduction of ECE-wide standards and guidelines on energy efficiency would be most beneficial to member States.

6. Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/7 – Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency. Background paper on energy efficiency programmes operated by a Swiss utility

7. Two major potential actors for improving energy efficiency are utilities and energy services companies (ESCOs). There is a need for an increased effort to consider energy market policies that mandate, enable and motivate utilities and ESCOs to profit from improved retail and distribution policies and practices (including taxation policies). Traditional utilities have always had an incentive for sales growth by increasing the quantity of electricity or heat sold, rather than providing customers with the energy services that they use. Industry's interests have not been aligned with those of government or end users.

8. The background paper analyzes the results of the implementation of energy efficiency programmes by a utility in Switzerland. The delegates will be invited to discuss these results and provide information on the energy efficiency programmes introduced by utilities in other countries and highlight obstacles to their introduction and implementation as well as on the recent developments in the ESCO market.

7. Workshop on promoting energy efficiency in Azerbaijan and other countries of the region

9. Improvements in energy efficiency in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia and in a wider region have potential to bring multiple benefits and be a driving force in achieving national goals on energy security, climate change mitigation, improved quality of life and other important objectives. This workshop is an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Centre for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Istanbul Regional Hub and UNDP Office in Azerbaijan. It will focus on presenting best practices and lessons learned from Azerbaijan and other countries in the region related to improvements in energy efficiency with a focus on public and residential buildings. This will include a discussion of the barriers to increased investment in energy efficiency as well as the means and tools that Governments can use to best overcome these barriers. Experience in implementing energy efficiency projects supported by UNDP through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will be presented. The delegates will be invited to discuss the main issues and barriers as well as specific programmes and policies to promote energy efficiency in countries of the region, with the focus on energy efficiency in buildings.

8. Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2016/6 – Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency – a policy analysis

10. A number of legislative, policy, economic, and financial barriers to significant improvements in energy efficiency remain. It is important to identify policies and measures in the ECE region that reduce barriers to increasing investment and financing flows to energy efficiency projects, with particular attention given to commercial energy efficiency projects and private financing. A valuable aspect is transferability of successful measures in

selected countries to other member States of UNECE. Particular attention needs to be given to the reasons why energy efficiency improvement is lagging behind what is necessary to achieve climate goals and sustainable development goals. The delegates will be invited to discuss policies and actions that increase the bankability of energy efficiency and comment on energy efficiency finance options in the region.

9. Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform and progress in industrial energy efficiency accelerator

11. The Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform is a public-private partnership to scale-up energy efficiency policy, action and investment, with the aim of contributing to doubling the rate of improvement in energy efficiency worldwide by 2030. The Platform provides governments and the private sector with the means for engaging with a variety of stakeholders whose knowledge of technologies, markets, financial instruments and implementation approaches can support scaling-up of energy efficiency actions in different sectors. The Platform helps to drive action and commitments by national and sub-national leaders at the country, city, state, region, or sector level. An overview of the progress on the existing accelerators, namely Vehicle Fuel Efficiency, Appliances and Equipment, Lighting, Buildings Efficiency, Industry and District Energy will be provided.

12. A particular emphasis will be given to the Industry accelerator. UNIDO will provide information on their work in this area with a focus on Energy Management Systems (EnMS). EnMS have emerged over the last two decades as proven best practice methodology. The UNIDO Industrial Energy Efficiency Programme supports enterprises in developing and emerging economies in the implementation of EnMS, thereby helping them improve their energy performance, productivity and environmental sustainability. The session will highlight the significance of energy management and energy efficiency as a key driver for inclusive and sustainable industrial development and a substantial opportunity area to support the achievement of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) goal and SDG7 target on energy efficiency, while mitigating climate change. Examples will be provided demonstrating EnMS as the prominent best practice for sustainable energy efficiency in industry, achieving multiple benefits including substantial cost reductions.

13. The delegates will be invited to discuss the work of the Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform and the role of EnMS in improving industrial energy efficiency.

10. Key messages for the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/2016/16 – Mapping of the Sustainable Energy subprogramme processes and activities that support countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

14. The Group of Experts will convey a set of conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the second part of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 19 January 2017 and by twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 26–28 September 2017.

11. Other business

15. At the time the provisional agenda was prepared, there were no issues to be raised under this item.

12. Report of the meeting

16. The Chair of the Group of Experts and the secretariat will draft the report of the session, including conclusions and recommendations, for discussion and approval by the delegates.

13. Dates of the next meeting

17. The fourth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency is scheduled to take place in Geneva on 31 October – 1 November 2017.
