

## Bureau Call

11 September 2017

15:00-16:00 (Geneva time)

# MINUTES

### A. Participants:

Bureau Members:

*Present*

- Mr. Ray Pilcher (Chair)
- Ms. Felicia Ruiz
- Mr. David Creedy
- Mr. Martin Hahn represented by Ms. Bianca Perina
- Mr. Jacek Skiba

*Apologies (sent approval for all 4 candidates in advance)*

- Mr. Clark Talkington
- Mr. Milanko Savic
- Mr. Yuriy Bobrov

*Apologies (no earlier communications)*

- Mr. Sergazy Baimukhametov
- Mr. C. Ozgen Karacan
- Mr. Sergey Ivanovich Shumkov
- Mr. Igor Yashchenko

Candidates to Bureau

*Present*

- Mr. Neil Butler
- Mr. Zhixin Jin represented by Mr. David Creedy

*Apologies*

- Mr. Hasan Erdoğan
- Mr. Clemens Backhaus

Secretariat:

- Mr. Michal Drabik

### B. Draft agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Submission of candidatures for new Bureau
3. Discussion on presented candidatures and recommendations

**Candidates for new Bureau members join the call.**

4. Presentation of candidates to the Bureau
5. Description of duties of a Bureau member
6. Presentation of Work Plan for 2018-2019
7. Bureau's activities and division of labor in light of Work Plan for 2018-2019
8. Date of next Bureau call
9. Any other business

## **1. Adoption of the agenda**

- The agenda was adopted.

## **2. Submission of candidatures for new Bureau Members**

- The Secretariat presented the four candidates whose names were previously put forward by various members of the Bureau. The four presented candidates were as follows:
  - Mr. Neil Butler (representing private sector), Technical Director at HEL-EAST Ltd
  - Mr. Clemens Backhaus (representing private sector), Engineer at A-TEC Anlagentechnik GmbH
  - Dr. Hasan Hüseyin Erdoğan (representing Turkey), Head of the Strategic Management Department at the Directorate of Strategy Development of the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkey
  - Mr. Zhixin Jin (representing China), Vice President and General Manager of the Shanxi Coking Coal Group Co., Ltd.

## **3. Discussion on presented candidatures and their formal approval**

- The Bureau unanimously recommended all four candidates. Mr. Talkington, Mr. Savic and Mr. Bobrov, who were unable to participate in the call sent their recommendations of all four candidates before the call. So did Ms. Ruiz who joined the meeting following the discussion.

### **Candidates for new Bureau members join the call.**

- Bureau members congratulated Mr. Butler, the only candidate who participated in the call.
- The Secretariat reminded that Bureau's recommendation does not yet mean being elected to the Bureau. It was underlined that the formal elections will take place at the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Group in October. At the meeting the nominees will be presented as being put forward by the Bureau and will be subject to the approval of the Group.
- The Secretariat provided a short update on the current activities of the Group (preparation for the opening of ICE-CMM in China, 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Group).

## **4. Presentation of candidates to the Bureau**

- Mr. Butler expressed his gratitude for being recommended by the Bureau. He said that he wished to share his professional knowledge and experience with others and work for the common good.

## **5. Description of duties of a Bureau member**

- The Chair of the Group informed the new candidate that the Group has a very ambitious plan for the next biennium and explain that an active engagement of the whole Bureau will be necessary to deliver on the Work Plan.

## **6. Presentation of Work Plan for 2018-2019**

- The Secretariat provided a short overview of the 2018-2019 Work Plan for the Group. Current and prospective Bureau members were invited to actively engage in the presented activities.

## **7. Discussion on the Bureau's activities and the division of labor in light of Work Plan for 2018-2019**

- Ms. Ruiz underlined that there were no arbitrary assignments of duties and that it was for Bureau members to choose, on the basis of their experience, interests and availability, which activities to engage in

- Mr. Butler observed that he had recently done some work on Abandoned Mine Methane (AMM) and offered to contribute to work on the Best Practice Guidance (BPG) on AMM.
- The Chair stated that at the October meeting he was planning to set up a Task Force to lead the work on BPG on AMM.
- Ms. Ruiz said that she had been working on an outline of the BPG on AMM and that she would share the results of her work with the Bureau shortly.
- The Secretariat offered that based on the recently done work for another project, it could prepare and submit for the Bureau's review documents providing an organizational structure of work on the BPG together with the detail timeline.
- Mr. Creedy enquired about a scoping document for the project, adding that his Chinese partners would be interested in seeing it. He wished to know whether the document would encompass a social impact of mines closure including an issue of job loss and creation.
- The Chair responded that no formal document was yet created, and agreed that the socioeconomic aspect of this subject is important.
- Mr. Creedy pointed also to the issue of public safety.
- The Chair agreed and observed that there were many new developments in technologies for detecting leakages that are relevant to this matter.
- Ms. Ruiz stated that the subject should be discussed in detail at the October meeting.
- Mr. Butler pointed out to the fact that the UK was an interested case study for abandon mines safety. He observed that over the next 10-20 years there would be a lot of mines closures in China and India. He argued that the experience of the UK, where a lot of mines had already been closed, could provide these countries with valuable lessons-learned. He indicated that there might be a lot of work already done on this subject in the UK and the US, and suggested that the Group tries to obtain this data.
- The Chair added that there might also be the case in Belgium and Poland.
- Mr. Creedy confirmed that there were a lot of documents about mine closure in the UK. He warned, however, that some of this data might be confidential or legally protected.
- The Chair enquired whether it would be possible to extract statistics from these documents.
- Mr. Creedy replied that there might be such possibility. He suggested, however, using these documents as a reference rather than quoting them directly.

## **8. Date of the next Bureau call**

- The Bureau previously agreed to hold calls on the bimonthly basis.
- The next call will be held in the week of 4 December.

## **9. Any other business**

- No issues were raised.
- The Secretariat thanked all participants for their time and involvement in the call.
- The meeting was closed

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