

Bureau Call

24 January 2018

16:00-18:00 (Geneva time)

MINUTES

A. Participants:

Bureau Members:

Present

- Mr. Ray Pilcher (Chair)
- Mr. Clemens Backhaus
- Mr. Neil Butler
- Ms. Felicia Ruiz
- Mr. Clark Talkington

Apologies

- Mr. Sergazy Baimukhametov
- Mr. Yuriy Bobrov
- Mr. David Creedy
- Mr. Hasan Erdoğan
- Mr. Martin Hahn
- Mr. C. Ozgen Karacan
- Mr. Milanko Savic
- Mr. Jacek Skiba
- Mr. Sergey Ivanovich Shumkov
- Mr. Admir Softić
- Mr. Igor Yashchenko
- Mr. Zhixin Jin

Secretariat:

- Mr. Michal Drabik

B. Draft agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Update by the secretariat on the current status of work on the following subjects, followed by a discussion:
 - a) BPG on AMM
 - b) Preparation for the Seminar in Cracow, Poland organized jointly with ICE-CMM Poland (28 February 2018)
 - c) Preparation for Global Methane Forum in Toronto, Canada (16-18 April 2018)
 - d) Future workshops in Colombia, Turkey and Georgia
 - e) Management response to the Evaluation
 - f) Survey on Group members' participation in the Group activities in 2018-2019
 - g) Translation of BPG on CMM into other languages
 - h) The project on Transition of the Energy Sector
 - i) Activities of ICE-CMMs
 - j) GMI/UNECE panel at the World Mining Congress
 - k) Martin Hahn's resignation from the Bureau and future representation/cooperation with ILO
 - l) Chinese Interpretation at the annual session of the Group in 2018
3. Date of the next Bureau call
4. Any other Business
5. End of the meeting

1. Adoption of the agenda

- The agenda was adopted.

2. Update by the secretariat on the current status of work on the following subjects, followed by a discussion:

a) BPG on AMM

- The outline of the BPG on AMM is almost ready. It will soon be presented to the Bureau Members for their review.
- The necessity to create an editorial board was raised. Mr. Pilcher, Ms. Ruiz, and Mr. Talkington volunteered to join it.
- The issue of displaying logo of GMI on the future AMM publication was raised. The secretariat explained that according to the UN rules a logo of a UNECE partner may not appear anywhere in the publication unless the document is co-authored with a given organization. Even in such case, however, permission from New York is necessary. Secretariat was asked to check the exact requirements for, and a procedure of obtaining such approval, and to brief Bureau on these issues on the next occasion, as this publication is being co-authored by UNECE and GMI.
- The issue of displaying logo of GMI on the second edition of BPG on CMM was raised, as this publication is also co-authored by UNECE and GMI. The secretariat informed the Bureau that due to the fact that the document has already been issued there is no possibility of making any changes to its layout or design. The next possibility to make any changes to the document will present itself with the next update.

b) Preparation for the Seminar in Cracow, Poland organized jointly with ICE-CMM Poland (28 February 2018)

- The event will take place on 28 February 2018 in Cracow, Poland and it will feature over 10 presentations on subjects related to CBM, CMM and AMM, which will be delivered by Polish and International experts.
- In order to provide an opportunity for exchanging knowledge and experiences between the experts and the audience, the panel composed of the speakers will follow the lecture-type part of the meeting.

c) Preparation for Global Methane Forum in Toronto, Canada (16-18 April 2018)

- The Group aims at delivering a 4-hour-long side event, the goal of which is to approach the issue of methane in the coal industry from various perspectives and explore potential for reducing emissions along the whole cycle of power production from coal.
- Apart from a number of short presentations, the side-event organized by the Group at GMF will also feature a panel discussion allowing experts operating at different stages of the said cycle to exchange experiences and opinions.
- Part of the session will be delivered jointly with the GoE on Cleaner Electricity Production. The Chair and the secretariat had a phone call with the Chair of the CEP Group during which the issue was discussed in greater detail. The Chair offered to follow up with the Chair of the CEP Group in order to obtain names of experts who could represent the CEP Group at the meeting.
- Since a presentation, which is to be delivered at the side-event by ICE-CMM Poland focuses on a particular methane drainage project, the Bureau requested the secretariat to find out more information about this project and report back. The concern was raised that the said project focuses on CBM, which is beyond the mandate of the Group. While the secretariat agreed to explore the project, it also explained that CBM matters are covered by the work plan of ICE-CMM Poland. The latter being an independent entity, operates under auspices of the Group, but is not bound by the Group's mandate.

- The issue was raised that it is necessary to secure audience for the Group’s meeting. Active involvement of all Bureau Members will be necessary. All Bureau Members agreed to advertise the event to their respective networks. The Chair suggested to explore whether it would be possible to post an article describing the event in “Coal Age” or “World Coal”.
- A joint meeting of the Bureau (unofficial) and the Task Force on AMM is also to take place within the framework of GMF.

d) Future workshops in Colombia, Turkey and Georgia

- The secretariat reached out to Turkey, however, so far no response was received.
- The secretariat received official Letters of Invitation to deliver workshops in Colombia and Georgia.
 - Both events are to be preceded by fact-finding missions.
 - The event in Colombia is tentatively scheduled for July (fact-finding mission in March).
 - The event in Georgia is tentatively scheduled for September/October (fact-finding mission in July/August).
- The secretariat is in the process of preparation of generic ToR for workshops determining obligation of the Group and the Host Country. Once finalized by the secretariat, the document will be circulated among the Bureau Members.

e) Management response to the Evaluation

- Management response has been finalized and post on the website at: <http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/energysedocscmmx-long/activities/evaluation/review-of-the-case-studies-of-the-application-of-best-practices-guidance-for-coal-mine-methane-management.html> and <http://www.unece.org/info/open-unece/evaluation-and-audit.html>

f) Survey on Group members’ participation in the Group activities in 2018-2019

- Survey on activities was sent to Members of the Group (it is identical to survey circulated previously among Bureau Members).
- Survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3PMNY3R>.
- The deadline for submitting answers is 29 January 2018.
- The secretariat was asked to send out the reminder.

g) Translation of BPG on CMM into other languages

- Translation into Polish provided by ICE-CMM Poland is in its final stage. The text was translated and is currently being reviewed. The review is scheduled to be completed in February 2018.
- Translation into Indonesian provided by the Anglo Euro Energi Indonesia is completed. Decision of the Bureau regarding the next steps is required.
- Translation into Chinese, which was supposed to be delivered by the Secretariat will not happen due to internal misunderstanding within the UN. It will be provided by ICE-CMM China as one of the deliverables set up for this biennium.
- Translation into Spanish will be delivered by the UN using the XB funds dedicated to translations. The document should be printed by April 2018.

h) The project on Transition of the Energy Sector

- Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed its interest to participate in the project. The secretariat works on reviewing the documents that it was provided with.
- Meeting with the Kazakh Deputy Ambassador was postponed due to WEF in Davos. The meeting is currently scheduled to take place in February.

- Georgia was approached and offered to participate in the project. The secretariat presented the project to the Government and it is currently waiting for the latter's response.
- A phone call to explore opportunities for cooperation with the European Commission is to take place within the next few weeks. The secretariat contacted EC and it is currently waiting for the latter's response.
- The secretariat continues exploring funding opportunities for the project.
- The secretariat works on an update of the project document.
- Steps were undertaken to hire an intern, which would be of help with researching and analyzing data that is necessary to improve the project document.

i) Activities of ICE-CMMs

- ICE-CMM Poland
 - In February ICE-CMM Poland will deliver a seminar in Cracow.
 - ICE-CMM Poland and the secretariat undertook steps to secure Centre's involvement in COP24 in Katowice.
 - The Centre will participate in GMF and deliver a presentation during the side event organized by the GoE.
- ICE-CMM China
 - ICE-CMM China continues its efforts to complete registration under Chinese law.
 - The Centre will undertake translation of BPG into Chinese. The first draft has been completed and is currently under review by Chinese experts. Permission was requested to add to the text endorsement of the document by a high-level Chinese expert in order to demonstrate "Chinese ownership of the message." The secretariat informed the Bureau that an additional foreword directed to the Chinese audience is acceptable.
 - The Centre will participate in GMF and deliver a presentation during the side event organized by the GoE.
 - The secretariat and the Bureau were briefed by Ms. Ruiz who recently visited the ICE-CMM as part of GMI activities. The Centre has prepared a physical space where its offices will be located. GMI is working with the ICE-CMM to develop a train-the-trainers program to promote best practices. A risk assessment tool that was developed by Dr. Creedy as part of the GoE work plan is to constitute a part of the training. The ICE-CMM has also developed a draft schedule for a best practices workshop that it will host in the spring/summer, which should be circulated shortly. Negotiations on organizing joint activities with partners from Georgia are in progress.

j) GMI/UNECE panel at the World Mining Congress

- Group of Experts together the Global Methane Initiative committed itself to organize a one-day session dedicated to methane issues at the 2018 World Mining Congress in Astana, Kazakhstan (19-22 June 2018).
- The session will take place on 20 July 2018.
- The secretariat informed the Bureau that the following Members expressed their interest in participating in the event and delivering a presentation:
 - Mr. Igor Yashchenko (and Mr. Vadim Miroshnichenko) – (CMM - Ukraine)
 - Mr. Yuri Bobrov – (CMM - Ukraine) (TBC)
 - Mr. Sergazy Baimukhametov
- The Bureau is working with the GMI on determining the scope and the main focus of the event. The outline of the agenda is to be ready by the end of the month.
- Upon receiving a draft agenda, the secretariat will send a message advertising the event to the Group.

k) Martin Hahn's resignation from the Bureau and future representation/cooperation with ILO

- Due to change of the position within ILO and ensuing relocation to Brazil, Mr. Martin Hahn will not be able to continue serving as a Member of the Bureau.
- For the time being he will be replaced by Mr. Casper Edmonds (Head of Unit, Manufacturing, Mining and Energy).

l) Chinese Interpretation at the annual session of the Group in 2018

- Interpretation of the annual session of the Group of Experts cannot be provided at no cost (since it is not one of the official languages of UNECE)
- Interpretation can be provided using XB funds.
- ICE-CMM China offered to provide \$10.000 for this purpose. The Bureau welcomed this decision and appraised generosity of ICE-CMM China.

3. Date of the next Bureau call

- The next call will be held in the week of 19 February 2018.

4. Any other business

- No issues were raised.

5. End of the meeting

- The Chair and the secretariat thanked participants for their time and involvement in the call.
- The meeting was closed
