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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy (CSE)

Bureau call

6 July 2017, 15.30-17.00

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Present, CSE Bureau:

Ms. Miriam Gutzke, Germany, for Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst, Chair

Mr. Jarad Daniels, Mr. Dave McDonald, Mr. Ray Pilcher, Vice-Chairs

Secretariat, ECE Sustainable Energy Division (SED):

Mr. Scott Foster, Director, SED, Mrs. Stefanie Held, Mrs. Charlotte Griffiths, Mr. Branko Milicevic, Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Ms. Lisa Tinschert, Mr. Michal Drabik, Mr. Hari Tulsidas, Mr. Gianluca Sambucini

Apologies received from:

Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Mr. Ramazan Zhampiisov, Mr. Nazir Ramazanov, Mr. Sergio Garribba, Mr. Francisco de la Flor

Main discussion points:

1. Adoption of the Agenda

- The agenda was adopted as presented in the email to the Bureau dated 23 June 2017.

2. Minutes of the Bureau meeting from 12 June 2017

- The minutes were adopted and have been placed on the website of the Committee.

3. Draft agenda 26th session, overview and intended outcomes

- The Bureau approved the draft agenda of the 26th session CSE with the following observations and recommendations:
- At the request of the Chair, Mr. Dave McDonald, Chair of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, provided an overview of the mandate on waste to energy in the context of the session that is being planned on 27 September 2017. He stressed that the focus of the Expert Group was on specifications and guidelines for applications of the UNFC to classify and manage waste to energy projects. The intent was to develop future specifications based on PPPs and case studies. The mandate comprises all commodities, waste from mixed operations, and recovery of raw materials including critical materials like rare-earth elements from waste products. It was time to update the CSE on progress and intentions because of the high interest in waste to energy and raw material projects. Mr. Jared Daniels informed that topic of recovery of rare-earth elements from wastes of high importance with the US Department of Energy.
- Questions were raised about the session on carbon capture use and storage (CCUS) during the call. Following the request by the Bureau at its meeting in Astana, the CSE agenda contains a session about the status quo of CCUS. The Group of Expert on Cleaner Electricity Production

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from Fossil Fuels has a mandate on CCUS and has developed recommendations that were fed into the UNFCCC negotiation process for policy parity in 2014. Ms Gutzke, in the name of the Chair, stressed the importance of exploring options for CCUS to attain climate objectives. It was further a major topic at the Clean Energy Ministerial. There was consensus that activities around CCUS were now a business reality, but needed to be accelerated for impact. For the CSE session, the Bureau recommended a panel comprising government and industry representatives. Work of the Group of Experts should seek to feed into ongoing processes including by the International Energy Agency, G20, CSLF and others.

- Energy efficiency on the agenda of the CSE: Ms Gutzke, in the name of the Chair, proposed to enlarge the discussion on energy efficiency to include more topics, e.g. the potential to review subsidies. The secretariat advised that the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency was in the process of implementing the work plan for 2016-2017 and proposed to report on the activities on energy efficiency in buildings as a flagship initiative. The Bureau was informed that the CSE would be asked to endorse the framework guidelines on energy efficiency in buildings, following the 25th session of the CSE and the 8th Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (8th Forum) sessions on the same topic.
 - Mr. Ray Pilcher, Chair of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, reported on progress about the project on the modernisation of industrial mega-sites. The CSE had been briefed during both sessions of its 25th meeting and a workshop was held in Astana to seek guidance from a wider audience and to involve business. He also mentioned the intention to open a Centre of Excellence in China after Poland, at the request of the Country, and sought guidance from the Bureau on activities outside the UNECE region. The Bureau advised on involving ESCAP and keeping the UNECE Executive Committee (EXCOM) informed.
 - The Bureau discussed briefly the suggested keynote speakers for the CSE: Dr Sun, Secretary General International Energy Forum, HE Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo, OPEC Secretary General, and Mr Sefcovic, VP European Commission Energy Union. At the request of the Chair, the head of OPEC was deleted from the list of speakers.
 - The Bureau was informed of the importance of the 26th session for the work of the sustainable energy subprogramme 2018-2019. The CSE will be presented with the draft programme of work for 2018-2019 for approval and approval will also be sought for the draft Strategic Framework of the sustainable energy subprogramme 2020-2021. Both documents are online.
4. Outcomes from the 8th Forum and energy ministerial
- The secretariat informed of the outcomes from the 8th Forum and pointed to the draft document in the possession of the Bureau (ECE/ENERGY/2017/2). The Bureau had received the IISD summary report of the Energy Ministerial and the second day of the Forum in an earlier email. Press releases about Forum activities can be found here: <https://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/press-releases.html>
 - Document ECE/ENERGY/2017/2 groups the declaration as adopted by the ministers in Astana, key messages from the 8th Forum and recommendations related to energy efficiency. The Bureau discussed at length the wording to be used in the draft conclusions and recommendations, which will be proposed during the CSE for discussion. This document will be fully integrated into the report of the 26th session, and is thus an important building block for the forthcoming session. The Bureau suggested finding a solution that would allow the sustainable subprogramme to move forward in general with meaningful actions on the ground. It recommended finding strong words that recognise necessary action following the 8th Forum without requesting the CSE to “endorse” the ministerial declaration. During the meeting, the

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26th session, the CSE would have the opportunity to propose how it would like to take action so that the CSE would “act” instead of being an observer to sustainable energy developments. The wording proposed for the conclusions and recommendations would be along the lines of: “the CSE takes note of document ECE/ENERGY/2017/2 and supports/endororses/approves the following items/activities/actions ...”

5. Mandates and work plans for the Groups of Experts

- The secretariat informed of the request for extension of mandates of 5 Groups of Experts and requests for approval of work plans of all subsidiary bodies of the CSE. As most Groups of Experts would meet only after the 26th session of the CSE, with the exception of EGRC respective work plans have been approved by the bodies by written procedure. The Bureau was informed that the consultation period was ongoing and that potential comments should be addressed directly to the Group of Experts.

6. AOB

- Progress on “Pathways to Sustainable Energy”: Following up on the request by the Bureau to receive an update, the Bureau has received a summary presentation by email. The Bureau was asked for input on slide 8 - research questions for the modellers. The modelling agencies are preparing their work and requested guidance on approach and outcome of the project, as many angles are possible. Input can still be given to the secretariat.

Next Bureau calls and meetings: 26 September, one in December 11.00-13.00

- The secretariat reminded of the next Bureau calls and meetings. Traditionally, the Bureau also holds a call just before the 10-day deadline of the CSE (mid-September). The secretariat will be in touch after consulting with the Chair.
