

**Committee on Sustainable Energy
Bureau Meeting/Call
Geneva, 12 April 2019, 15.00-18.00**

Bureau Report No. 2019/2

Attendance

Léa Bigot on behalf of the Chair, Mr Jürgen Keinhorst
Talyat Aliev supported by Yury Baron, Sergio Garribba, Taglat Karashev, Vice-Chairs
Francisco de la Flor Garcia, Raymond Pilcher, Barry Worthington, Sergio Garribba, Vice-Chairs Ex Officio

From the Secretariat: Scott Foster, Charlotte Griffiths, Harikrishnan Tulsidas, Michal Drabik, Gianluca Sambucini, Viktor Badaker, Igor Litvinyuk, Iva Brkic, Anastasia Ioannou
Special guest: Lisa Tinschert

Apologies:

Jürgen Keinhorst, Jean-Christophe Fueeg, Aleksandar Dukovski, David MacDonald, Stefanie Held

SUMMARY AND ACTION POINTS

WELCOME

- The agenda was approved as distributed. All items were discussed.
- Note: the Chair delegated the authority of chairing the Bureau call to the Director of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division, Mr Scott Foster.

PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROJECT

Consultations with Expert Groups and Timeline

- Secretariat thanked the Expert Groups (EG) and the Focal Points (FP) for their contributions in the consultation process so far. Chair of the EG on Cleaner Electricity Systems (CES), has informed the Bureau that the group has prepared additional policy recommendations which will be shared with other stakeholders soon.
- Secretariat informed the Bureau that a thorough review exercise of the documentation that has been received so far and the outstanding deliverables that will be received beginning of next week has to be conducted internally prior to consultation process with stakeholders.
- Secretariat informed the Bureau that upon the completion of the thorough review exercise a revised version of the draft White Paper will be shared with FPs and EGs on May 3 in preparation for the May Consultations.
- Bureau was invited to share any comments they may have on a very first draft of the White Paper by April 19, COB. Secretariat emphasised that the draft White Paper may significantly change in the process of review of additional materials.
- In the period from May 3 – May 16 EGs will be invited to review and react on the revised version of the draft White Paper that will be shared by the Secretariat on May 3.
- EGs are expected to refine their key messages and policy recommendations by May 12. FPs are requested to deliver short presentation on behalf of their EGs at the Workshop on May 15. FPs are requested to submit the slides by May 12 COB. Secretariat will follow up with clear

Bureau Meeting Report - BMR No. 2019/2

instructions about deliverables and expectations from the FPs and EGs during the May Consultations soon.

- It was requested that FPs receive structured and clear instructions about deliverables for the May consultations.

Proposals for Next Steps

- It was suggested that it would be important to include an executive summary in the White Paper to make the document easier to comprehend.
- The importance of an inclusive dialogue has been emphasised. Bureau has also acknowledged the benefit of breaking the silos and work in nexuses across EGs in order to deliver a common message.
- It was agreed that a collective outcome matters along with a collective understanding of the Pathways and trade-offs.
- Energy efficiency was raised as an important and overarching topic that we should particularly pay attention to when thinking about the future of energy infrastructure going forward.
- It was shared that there was still an open question on who is making the judgement when we talk about the Early Warning System (EWS). Who is the subject and thus who is entitled if a risk occurs?
- The draft EWS concept was welcomed by the Bureau. It was raised that the EWS should be developed as a tool to check different policy pathways.
- Discussion will continue on May 14. Bureau is invited to provide comments.

Actions:

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| • Bureau to submit comments on the DRAFT White Paper | 19 April 2019 |
| • Secretariat to circulate a revised version of the White Paper | 3 May 2019 |
| • EGs invited to review and react on the revised version of the White Paper and refine their key messages and policy recommendations | 3 – 12 May 2019 |
| • FPs to deliver short presentations on behalf of their EGs | 15 May 2019 |
| • Bureau is invited to provide comments on draft Early Warning System concept at the consultations workshop | 14 May 2019 |

INFORMAL OPEN-ENDED CONSULTATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY: 16 MAY 2019

- It was clarified that a revised version of the Strategic Review Document with comments addressed has been circulated.
- It was raised that perhaps more time would be needed for discussion on restructuring the work of the sustainable energy subprogramme. Preferable the whole afternoon on May 16 with a short intro presentation by the Secretariat.
- Chair GEG requested the elimination of the session “Deep-Dive on Gas – Role of Natural Gas in Sustainable Energy” from the Agenda to expand the discussion in which all EGs are involved. This will require review.

Actions:

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| • Bureau is invited to provide any additional comments on the Strategic Review Document | 19 April 2019 |
| • Secretariat will modify the Agenda to reflect the afternoon session on May 16 | asap |

Bureau Meeting Report - BMR No. 2019/2

BUREAU MATTERS

- Bureau Elections – Bureau has taken note.
- Nominations need to go through the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
- Bureau is very interested in High-level Segment at the 28th Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (25-27 September 2019). Delivering one is a high priority.

Actions:

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| • Bureau Members to inform the Secretariat about their intentions regarding mandate renewal | asap |
| • Bureau to provide the information to the Secretariat on how to proceed with high-level invites | asap |

EXPERT GROUPS OUPDATES

1. GEG

- An update on successful Annual Meeting that took place in March was provided.
- Methane emission was recognised as a key topic of the GEG.

2. CMM

- The Bureau was informed that the draft Workplan has almost been finalised.
- The Group emphasised that the cooperation with the Global Methane Initiative is strategic.
- The Group shared with the Bureau its ambition of opening centres of excellence beyond China and Poland.
- The Group reminded the Bureau of its continuous cooperation with ISO and UNFCCC.

3. CES

- The Group informed the Bureau that it has accomplished majority of interim deliverables.
- The Group shared that its key topics are around identifying the synergies between coal and other fossil fuels as well as between coal and RE.

4. GERE

- The Group shared that the key topic focuses on how to increase the uptake of RE.
- The Group also shared the importance of strengthening the role of regional hard-talks.
- The Group emphasised the importance of the strategic partnership with DENA and REN21 – a common project is in the pipeline.

5. EGRM

- The Group shared that the change of the Group's name has been approved.
- The Group emphasised the objective of mandate renewal for another 5 years. This will be requested in April 2019 during the UNECE Resource Management Week but will need to be again adopted in September 2019 by the Committee.
- The Group also shared its ambition to extrapolate the UNFC to RE – in particular, solar and wind energy.
- The Group informed the Bureau that it has been working on the development of the UN RMS to enable countries to exploit their natural resources aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

6. GEEE

- The Director of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division informed the Bureau on behalf of the GEEE that the draft workplan has been prepared.
- The Bureau was informed that the current activities focus on EE in buildings as well as industrial EE.

Next Bureau meeting:

- The next Bureau meeting (in person) will take place in Geneva on 24 June 2019, 15.00 – 18.00.
