

Memorandum of Understanding

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

and

International Geothermal Association

Bearing in mind the decision of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (2004/233)¹ inviting Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and regional commissions to consider taking appropriate measures for ensuring worldwide application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources and the decision of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) that work be undertaken to apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) to renewable energy resources, it is a goal of the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification (UNECE Expert Group) to further the development of UNFC-2009 for renewables, including the issuance of *Specifications* and *Guidelines* thereon.

The objectives of the International Geothermal Association (IGA) are to encourage research, the development and utilization of geothermal resources worldwide through the publication of scientific and technical information among the geothermal specialists, the business community, governmental representatives, United Nations organizations, civil society and the general public. One of IGA's aims, as defined in the Charter of the Association, is to encourage, facilitate and, when appropriate, promote the coordination of activities related to worldwide research, development and application of geothermal resources.

UNECE and IGA agree that their goals in the area of geothermal resources are mutually supportive and to this end agree to establish a relationship to further their achievement.

It is further agreed that IGA is to provide the commodity-specific specifications for the application of UNFC-2009 to geothermal resources using the full granularity of UNFC-2009. Along with the generic specifications, these will provide the foundation and keystones for consistent application of UNFC-2009 for geothermal resources.

¹ <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2004/decision%202004-233.pdf>

Responsibilities of IGA:

IGA will:

- (i) Develop *Specifications* and *Guidelines* for the application of UNFC-2009 to geothermal energy, hereafter referred to as the Texts.
- (ii) Maintain evergreen the Texts in a manner consistent with their proper application through regular and periodic review.
- (iii) Conduct its activities in relation to development and maintenance of the Texts through a transparent governance structure and processes that allows input from all stakeholders.
- (iv) Select a representative from the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification to participate in IGA development of the Texts.
- (v) Invite a representative from the UNECE Expert Group to be an observer at meetings of the IGA Board of Directors.

Responsibilities of UNECE:

UNECE, through the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification, will:

- (i) Provide a forum of stakeholders to assist in defining the needs to be met by the Texts and ensure the deliberations resulting from the meetings of the UNECE Expert Group are provided to the IGA for the continuing development of Texts.
- (ii) Include a representative of IGA on the Technical Advisory Group of the UNECE Expert Group.
- (iii) Conduct a due process through which the UNECE Expert Group may recommend or not the general application of the Texts developed by IGA, and through which each individual stakeholder may, on an informed basis, accept or reject the implementation of them under their authority.
- (iv) Promote collaboration with member countries, the geothermal sector, international standard setters (including standards organizations), regulators and other international organizations in considering applying the recommended Texts in applications of interest.
- (v) Invite IGA representatives to the annual meeting of the UNECE Expert Group. The venue for this meeting is normally Geneva, Switzerland.

The present Memorandum of Understanding will not have any financial implications for either party. IGA will not seek funding from UNECE for its activities and UNECE will not seek funding from IGA for its activities.

It shall be noted that the work of UNECE, including that of its Expert Group on Resource Classification, is governed solely by the rules and regulations of the United Nations. As such, IGA through its relationship with UNECE arising from this Memorandum of Understanding may not use its association with the United Nations in any way that is incompatible with those regulations, which *inter alia* govern the protection of the United Nations name and emblem. Any use of the United Nations name and emblem related to the present agreement shall be subject to prior consultation with UNECE.

Any disputes that may arise out of the application of the present Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled by the two parties through good faith negotiations.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective upon signature by both organizations. It shall remain in effect for the duration of four years and will then automatically be extended for further periods of four years, including any modifications as mutually agreed by IGA and UNECE, unless terminated by a written notice given three months in advance by either party.

Christian FRIIS BACH
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Executive Secretary
United Nations Economic Commission
for Europe

19 September 2014
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Date

Juliet NEWSON
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President
International Geothermal Association

19 September 2014
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Date