

Terms of Reference

for the

Anthropogenic Resource Working Group

as mandated by the Expert Group on Resource Management, of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

created on 5 April 2019

Background

The Anthropogenic Resource Working Group (AWG) has been in place since the Expert Group of Resource Classification (EGRC¹) 8th Session in April 2017. The AWG was mainly initiated by the members of the Working Group 4 of the pan-European expert network “Mining the European Anthroposphere”, funded by European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST). Main work of the AWG was the development of *Specifications to apply the UNFC to Anthropogenic Resources*², which was reviewed by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), approved by the EGRC Bureau during its 9th Session in April 2018 and endorsed by UNECE’s Committee on Sustainable Energy at its 27th session, 27 September 2018, in Geneva.

After the EGRC Session 8th in April 2017, the EGRC Bureau reorganised the structure of Working Groups, Task Forces and the TAG. Under the revised structure, the AWG will report through the TAG, i.e. keep the TAG informed on plans, activities, progress and concerns.

This document describes the scope and responsibilities of the AWG and how the AWG will work.

Scope of the AWG

The AWG addresses all types of materials from anthropogenic sources excluding nuclear materials. The scope of the AWG encompasses the following.

- Develop, maintain and promote the UNFC in general, and the Anthropogenic Resource specifications, guidelines and case studies in specific.
- Provide advice on interpreting and applying the UNFC for Anthropogenic Resources.

¹The EGRM is formerly known as EGRC (Expert Group on Resource Classification)

²https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/UNFC/Anthropogenic_Resources/UNFC_Antropogenic_Resource_Specifications.pdf

- Work together with stakeholders to develop case studies for illustrating and testing specifications and guidelines.
- Assist stakeholders to find experts for anthropogenic resource assessments.
- Develop and submit research proposals in the field of anthropogenic resource assessment.
- Assist with documents reviews, as agreed to with the TAG, and provide expert advice to other Expert Group of Resource Management (EGRM) Working Groups and Task Forces.
- Review and evaluate progress and delivery against the decided workplan on an annual basis, identify issues and opportunities, define solutions, and implement related actions.
- Facilitate appropriate support across EGRM Working Groups e.g. identifying where one of our experts could provide helpful advice to another group.

AWG Membership

Individuals affiliated to universities, research centres, companies or other relevant legal entities can become AWG Member based on ascertained mutual benefit. The AWG develops, implements and monitors an inclusiveness policy that balances the geographical coverage, career stages and gender diversity among the AWG and will take actions if any imbalances arise. The AWG members will be appointed for a period of one year, starting with May, 1st and AWG members may be asked by the AWG Chair to renew the AWG membership at least 4 weeks before its end. The AWG chair may appoint additional members at any time as required, which is subject to AWG member approval. Where appropriate, the AWG may call upon other EGRM members for assistance and advice. The Chair of the Bureau and the TAG, or his/her nominated alternate, are always invited to attend *ex officio*.

The AWG Chair will be appointed for a period of two years, starting with May, 1st and may be asked by the EGRM Chair and the AWG to serve additional terms. Each AWG Member is eligible for election as AWG Chair. The AWG Members select the AWG Chair by means of online election.

AWG Meeting Arrangements

The AWG will meet at least twice by year, but typically quarterly. Each Meeting will be conducted via audio or video conference or a similar method as agreed by the members. An in-person meeting will be convened at the time of the annual EGRM session in Geneva. A secretariat will be provided by the UNECE. A notice and draft agenda of an AWG meeting will be sent to each representative member at least 1 week prior to the meeting. The AWG Chair will propose the draft agenda and members will be invited to comment and input. The agenda will be agreed to at the start of the meeting.

The meetings will be led by the Chair. If the designated Chair is not available, the Chair will nominate a member to be responsible for convening and

conducting that meeting. The role and responsibility of the Chair is to promote full participation by all, ensuring consideration is given to the appropriate issues, follow-up and adequate reporting.

For achieving decisions or recommendations, a majority of the AWG members, including the Chair, will constitute a quorum. The AWG will make every effort to make decisions or recommendations by consensus. When consensus is not possible, the majority view will be accepted, but the meeting minutes will reflect the diversity of opinions, and this range of views will be reported to the Bureau.

The draft meeting minutes will be prepared by the Chair, or nominee, and circulated to the members of the AWG as soon as possible, preferably within 2 weeks, of the meeting. The minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting and will be made available to the public through the UNECE website.

Resources and Budget

Members of the Group are not paid or funded in any way by the UNECE. A member's time and travel expenses shall be covered personally through that member's employer or through special arrangements made by the UNECE or any other available source of funding.

Responsibilities and Workload

It is expected that the Chair and members of the AWG will actively support and contribute to the work, attending most of the meetings and contributing to email discussion on AWG business between meetings. However, the intent will be to keep the level of discussion between meetings manageable. It is noted that experts volunteer as AWG members and will not be pledged by the Chair, the TAG and the Bureau to fulfil certain tasks.

Report

The AWG will review its work and prepare a Report for the TAG based on request.

Review Cycle

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure they remain appropriate to fulfil the role of the AWG.