



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Committee on Sustainable Energy

#### Group of Experts on Gas

##### Third session

Geneva, 21 and 22 April 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

##### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the third session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on  
Thursday 21 April 2016<sup>1</sup>

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Elections of officers
3. Opening session: Role of Gas in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the climate goals set at the Conference of the Parties, twenty-first session (COP 21)
4. Activities and priorities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and its Committee on Sustainable Energy
5. Recent developments and medium- and long-term prospects and policies in the gas industry – country updates and activities of international organizations.

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<sup>1</sup> Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations need to either register online or complete the registration form posted to the website of the ECE Sustainable Energy Division (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41122>) and transmit it to the ECE secretariat, if possible at least two weeks prior to the session, either by e-mail ([natural.gas@unece.org](mailto:natural.gas@unece.org)) or fax (+41 22 917 0038). Prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves, at least 45 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting, at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix opposite the Red Cross Building (see the map on the Energy Division's website) for the issuance of an identification badge. Registration is open every work day at the Pregny Gate from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The secretariat can be contacted by telephone (extension 76078 or 71499).



6. Overview of the Group of Experts on Gas' topical initiatives
7. Best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the gas value chain
8. Best practice guidance on the role of natural gas in increasing the uptake of renewable energy
9. Best practice guidance for liquefied natural gas
10. Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel
11. Work plan for 2014–2015 and for 2016–2017
12. Preparations for the fourth session
13. Other business
14. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations
15. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

## **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **Item 1: Adoption of the agenda**

1. In accordance with the rules of procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda. The documents for the session will be published on the ECE Sustainable Energy Division natural gas website<sup>2</sup>, as soon as they become available.

### **Item 2: Election of officers**

2. The Group of Experts will elect its Chair and Vice-Chairs.

### **Item 3: Opening session: Role of Gas in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the climate goals set at the Conference of the Parties, twenty-first session (COP 21)**

3. A debate will be held on the role of natural gas in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Stakeholders from ECE member States and the private sector will provide their insights as to how gas can help achieve the SDGs and climate goals set at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

### **Item 4: Activities and priorities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and its Committee on Sustainable Energy**

4. The secretariat will inform the Group of Experts on the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, 18–20 November 2015.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.unece.org/energy/se/docs/natural\\_gas.html](http://www.unece.org/energy/se/docs/natural_gas.html)

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**Item 5: Recent developments and medium- and long-term prospects and policies in the gas industry – country updates and activities of international organisations.**

5. Representatives of ECE member States, gas companies and international governmental and non-governmental organizations will be invited to present developments in 2015 and first quarter 2016 in their countries' gas industry operations and markets. Representatives are requested to provide electronic versions of any presentations or material to the secretariat in advance and in one of the ECE three working languages (English, French, or Russian).

**Item 6: Overview of Group of Experts on Gas' topical initiatives**

6. Following its first session in April 2014, the Group of Experts established four Task Forces to carry out the four activities defined in the Group of Experts' work plan for 2014–2015.<sup>3</sup> The secretariat will provide an overview of the Group of Experts' topical efforts and highlight challenges and opportunities for the Group of Experts.

**Item 7: Best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the gas value chain**

7. Task Force A is working to develop best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the value chain. The Group of Experts will be updated on the progress and will discuss possible next steps. Reporting will also be given on secretariat attendance at the Global Methane Forum held in Washington, D.C., United States, 28–30 March, 2016.

**Item 8: Best practice guidance on the role of natural gas in increasing the uptake of renewable energy**

8. Task Force B was established to work on developing best practices on the role of natural gas in significantly increasing the uptake of renewable energy in the ECE region, and to help achieve the objective of access to energy for all in the ECE Region. This work is to be carried out in close collaboration with the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy. The Group of Experts will be updated on the progress and will discuss possible next steps.

**Item 9: Best practice guidance for liquefied natural gas**

9. Task Force C was established to work on developing best practices for liquefied natural gas (LNG). The Group of Experts will be updated on the progress and will discuss possible next steps.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/wpgas/session/1st\\_Session\\_Group\\_Experts\\_on\\_gas/WorkPlan\\_GEG\\_2014\\_15.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/wpgas/session/1st_Session_Group_Experts_on_gas/WorkPlan_GEG_2014_15.pdf).

**Item 10: Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel**

10. Task Force D was established to work on removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel. The Group of Experts will be updated on the progress and will discuss possible next steps.

**Item 11: Work plan for 2014–2015 and for 2016–2017**

11. Progress in implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015 will have been presented during Items 7-11. The Group of Experts will be invited to propose modifications as needed in the timeline, deliverables or activities proposed.

12. The Group of Experts will consider the extension of the existing plan for 2016–2017, with the possibility of adding additional items.

**Item 12: Preparations for the fourth session**

13. The Group of Experts will discuss preparations for its fourth session. Possible topics for the substantive portion of the session will be proposed and discussed. The fourth session of the Group of Experts is to be scheduled in early- or mid-2017.

**Item 13: Other business**

14. The meeting may discuss other issues that arise before or during the session and that fall within the scope of the Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts. To the extent possible, delegates are encouraged to notify the secretariat or the Chair in advance of any issue they may wish to raise under this agenda item.

**Item 14: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations**

15. The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations as may be agreed.

16. Where possible the draft conclusions and recommendations will be circulated to participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the meeting.

**Item 15: Adoption of the report and close of the meeting**

17. The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the agreed conclusions and recommendations. The Expert Group will be invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau of the Group of Experts, following which the Chair will close the meeting.

### III. Tentative timetable

18. Below is a tentative timetable. It is subject to change; if required an updated timetable will be posted on the ECE Group of Experts on Gas website<sup>4</sup>.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<b>21 April 2016</b>	
10:00	Item 1: Adoption of the agenda
10:10	Item 3: Opening session: Role of Gas in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the climate goals set at the Conference of the Parties, twenty-first session (COP 21)
13:00	Lunch break
15:00	Item 2: Election of officers
15:10	Item 4: Activities and priorities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and its Committee on Sustainable Energy
15:20	Item 5: Overview of the activities of international organizations in the field of gas. Tour de table: recent developments and medium- and long-term prospects and policies in the gas industry – country updates.
16:00	Item 6: Overview of Group of Experts on Gas topical initiatives
16:20	Coffee break
16:40	Item 7: Best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the gas value chain
18:00	Close of Day One
<b>22 April 2016</b>	
10:00	Item 9: Best practice guidance for liquefied natural gas
11:20	Coffee break
11:40	Item 10: Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel
13:00	Lunch break
15:00	Item 8: Best practice guidance on the role of natural gas in increasing the uptake of renewable energy
16:15	Coffee break
16:30	Item 11: Work plan for 2014–2015 and for 2016–2017
16:50	Item 12: Preparations for the fourth session

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.unece.org/energy/se/docs/natural\\_gas.html](http://www.unece.org/energy/se/docs/natural_gas.html)

17:00	Item 13:	Other business
17:15	Item 14:	Adoption of conclusions and recommendations
17:30	Item 15:	Adoption of the report and close of the meeting
18:00		End of the session

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