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### Economic Commission for Europe

#### Committee on Sustainable Energy

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Item 12 of the provisional agenda

**Programme of work for 2016–2017 and Draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Subprogramme on Sustainable Energy**

### **Revised Programme of work for 2016–2017 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe subprogramme on Sustainable Energy**

#### **Note by the Secretariat**

##### *Summary*

The present document sets out the programme of work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) sustainable energy subprogramme for the biennium 2016–2017. It is based on the strategic framework for the period 2016–2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 17)) and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017 (A/70/6 (Sect. 20)). The document was prepared by the secretariat, taking into account the template for the programme of work established by the Executive Committee of ECE (EXCOM).

The Committee on Sustainable Energy will be invited to consider the document for adoption at its twenty-fourth session. Subsequently, the programme of work will be submitted to EXCOM for approval.

## Introduction

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) for 2016–2017. The Committee on Sustainable Energy<sup>1</sup> (“the Committee”) is invited to adopt it and recommend it to the ECE Executive Committee (Excom) for approval. Any approved additional, discontinued or carried over outputs will be reflected in the Integrated Monitoring and Document Information System (IMDIS) used by the Secretariat for the planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme. The results of the implementation of the programme of work will be submitted to the Committee in the Programme Performance report for the biennium 2016-2017.
2. The revised programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes a logical relationship between the hierarchical results (outputs – outcomes – impact) known as ‘results chain’, the resources (human and financial) known as ‘inputs’ and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent the programme from achieving its objective.
3. The outputs/activities in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2016–2017. They fall into the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) other substantive activities; and (c) technical cooperation, including advisory services, training courses, seminars, workshops, and field projects.
4. The outcomes/expected accomplishments, with corresponding indicators of achievement and performance measures are presented in Annex I in the form of a logical framework.
5. The details of the proposed publications are provided in Annex II. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in Annex III.

## I. Objective, strategy and external factors

6. The Sustainable Energy Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme will promote international policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders. This work will contribute to fostering sustainable energy development in Member States of the United Nations, improving their access to affordable and clean energy for all within the Sustainable Energy for All initiative of the Secretary-General and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector.
7. The subprogramme will focus on energy security, energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, United Nations Framework Classification related to energy and mineral reserves and resources and natural gas. The subprogramme will continue its energy security dialogue and contribute to the post-2015 development agenda.
8. The work of the subprogramme will strengthen regional cooperation in energy efficiency, promote activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and

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<sup>1</sup> The terms of reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and mandates and terms of reference of its subsidiary bodies, as approved by the EXCOM (doc. ECE/EX/7), are listed in Annex IV.

provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on ways to promote sustainable and clean production, distribution and consumption of gas. The subprogramme will implement activities that increase the uptake of renewable energy and that improve energy access in the ECE region. It will promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines through recovery and use of methane in order to reduce the risks of explosions. The subprogramme will draw on the work of other relevant organizations and institutions. It will work in cooperation with other regional commissions and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other organizations.

9. The subprogramme will contribute to the development, extension and implementation of ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues. It will assist member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects.

## **II. Outputs/activities to be delivered during the biennium 2016–2017**

### **A. Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies**

#### *(i) Committee on Sustainable Energy*

##### *a. Substantive servicing of meetings*

10. Committee on Sustainable Energy (12); Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (8); Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (8); Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (8); Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (8); Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (8); Expert Group on Resource Classification (16); Group of Experts on Gas (8).

##### *b. Parliamentary documentation*

11. Reports of the annual sessions of the Committee (2); set of documents for the Committee (approximately 20 documents) (1); reports of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (2); set of documents for the Expert Group on Resource Classification (approximately 16 documents) (1); reports of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (2); set of documents for the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (approximately 12 documents) (1); reports of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (2); set of documents for the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (approximately 12 documents) (1); reports of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (2); set of documents for the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (approximately 15 documents) (1); reports of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (2); set of documents for the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (approximately 12 documents) (1); reports of the Group of Experts on Gas (2); set of documents for the Group of Experts on Gas (approximately 15 documents) (1).

**B. Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (extrabudgetary)***(i) Advisory Board of the Gas Centre<sup>2</sup>**a. Substantive servicing of meetings*

12. Annual sessions of the Advisory Board of the Gas Centre (8); Meetings of Expert Groups and Task Forces of the Gas Centre (20).

*b. Parliamentary documentation*

13. Reports on the status of the Gas Centre project (2); reports on workshops and high-level conferences (2).

**C. Other substantive activities***(i) Non-recurrent publications*

14. Tracking progress of renewable energy deployment (1); Best practice guidelines for sustainable renewable energy deployment (1); Promotion of benefits of energy efficiency improvements (1); Implementation of cost-effective policies to improve energy efficiency (1); United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources incorporating Specifications for its Application (updated version) (1); Best practice guidance on effective methane drainage and use in coal mines (updated version) (1); Analysis of the efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants in the UNECE region (1); Best practice guidance to reduce gas leaks in the gas value chain (1); Best practice policies on the role of natural gas to support renewables uptake (1); Best practice policy guidance for liquefied natural gas (1); Recommendations on removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel (1).

*(ii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits*

15. Booklets on topics to be identified, including on energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy security, sustainable energy development, natural gas, electricity, coal mine methane, and United Nations Framework Classification (6).

*(iii) Press releases, press conferences*

16. Annual set of press releases to be issued on the occasion of meetings, forums and the issuance of publications (2).

*(iv) Technical material*

17. Maintenance of a website with meeting documents, publications and information on activities related to this subprogramme (2).

**D. Technical cooperation***(i) Advisory services*

18. Gas Centre (2)<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> Without prejudice to the outcome of intergovernmental consultations on the Gas Centre.

<sup>3</sup> Without prejudice to the outcome of intergovernmental consultations on the Gas Centre.

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

19. United Nations Framework Classification workshops (4); capacity-building seminars on energy efficiency measures; energy efficiency accelerators; energy efficiency standards (2); interregional cooperation on renewable energy project development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation (2).

## Annexes

### Annex I

#### The expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for 2016–2017

<i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
(a) Improved policy dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders on sustainable energy issues, in particular energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, mineral resource classification, natural gas and energy security	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of recommendations on sustainable energy issued agreed by ECE intergovernmental bodies</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: n.a. Estimate 2014-2015: n.a. Target 2016-2017: 8</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of measures on affordable and clean energy for all taken by member States</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: n.a. Estimate 2014-2015: n.a. Target 2016-2017: 6</p>
(b) Increased awareness of the role of energy efficiency and renewable energy in achieving sustainable energy development	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of best practices on energy efficiency identified and disseminated</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: n.a. Estimate 2014-2015: n.a. Target 2016-2017: 8</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of best practices on renewable energy identified and disseminated</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: n.a. Estimate 2014-2015: n.a. Target 2016-2017: 4</p>
(c) Strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations/guidelines, best practices and other normative instruments for sustainable energy development	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of countries to apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: 11 Estimate 2014-2015: 14 Target 2016-2017: 20</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of activities to disseminate coal mine methane best practices globally</p> <p>Performance measures 2012-2013: n.a. Estimate 2014-2015: 6 Target 2016-2017: 7</p>

## Annex II

### Details of proposed publications for 2016–2017

#### A. Non-recurrent publications

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s)</i>	<i>Translated language(s)</i>	<i>No. of copies and language(s)</i>
1	Tracking Progress of Renewable Energy Deployment	ECE/ENERGY/91, Annex I, Item 17 C (3), (5)	Print and electronic	A4	80	E	F, R	300E, 100F, 300R
2	Best Practice Guidelines for Sustainable Renewable Energy Deployment	ECE/ENERGY/91, Annex I, Item 17 C (3), (6)	Print and electronic	A4	150	E	F, R	300E, 100F, 300R
3	Promotion of Benefits of Energy Efficiency Improvements	ECE/ENERGY/91, Annex I, Item 6 C (2)	Print and electronic	A4	150	E	F, R	300E, 100F, 300R
4	Implementation of Cost-effective Policies to Improve Energy Efficiency	ECE/ENERGY/91, Annex I, Item 6 C (4), 4	Print and electronic	A4	180	E	F, R	300E, 100F, 300R
5	United Nations Framework Classification for Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources Incorporating Specifications for its Applications – Updated Version	ECOSOC Decision 2004/233	Print and electronic	A4	85	E	A, C, F, R, S	3000E, 500A, 600C, 500F, 600R, 700S
6	Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines – Updated Version	ECOSOC Decision 2011/222, para. 6	Print and electronic	A4	80	E	C, F, R, S	600E, 500C, 100F, 500R, 300S
7	Analysis of the Efficiency of Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants in the UNECE Region	ECE/EX/2014/L.1 3	Print and electronic	A4	150	E	F, R	500E, 100F, 300R
8	Best Practice Guidance to Reduce Gas Leaks in the Gas Value Chain	ECE/ENERGY/G E.8/2014/2, Annex, Item IIA	Print and electronic	A4	60	E	F, R	500E, 100F, 300R

9	Best Policy Practices on the Role of Natural Gas to Support Renewables Uptake	ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2014/2, Annex, Item IIB	Print and electronic	A4	60	E	F, R	500E, 100F, 300R
10	Best Practice Policy Guidance for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)	ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2014/2, Annex, Item IIC	Print and electronic	A4	60	E	F, R	500E, 100F, 300R
11	Removing Barriers to the Use of Natural Gas as a Transportation Fuel	ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2014/2, Annex, Item IID	Print and electronic	A4	60	E	F, R	500E, 100F, 300R

## B. Promotional material

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s)</i>	<i>Translated language(s)</i>	<i>No. of copies and language(s)</i>
1	Booklet on Sustainable Energy Development in the UNECE Region	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R
2	Booklet on Natural Gas	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R
3	Booklet on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R
4	Booklet on Resource Classification	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R
5	Booklet on Renewable Energy	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R
6	Booklet on Coal Mine Methane	ECE/ENERGY/2015/L1/rev.1	Print and electronic	A4	20	E	F, R	300E, 200F, 300R



## Annex III

### Legislative mandates<sup>4</sup>

#### A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

##### 1. General Assembly resolutions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/248	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007
65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
68/222	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
67/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
67/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
67/83	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe
67/148	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
68/204	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
68/212	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
68/230	South-South cooperation

<sup>4</sup> Without prejudice to the outcome of intergovernmental consultations on the ECE legislative mandates for 2018-2019 in EXCOM

67/264	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
68/6	Outcome document of the Special Event to follow up on efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals

## 2 Economic and Social Council resolutions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2012/30	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2013/16	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

## 3. Economic and Social Council decisions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2011/247	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its forty-fifth session

## 4. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
ECE/AC.21/2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted at the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

## B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

### 1. General Assembly resolution

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
60/248	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

### 2. Economic and Social Council resolution

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission

### 3. Economic Commission for Europe decision

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
E/ECE/1434/Rev.1	Work Plan on ECE reform

## Annex IV

### **Terms of reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and mandates and terms of reference of its subsidiary bodies**

#### **I. Terms of Reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) on Sustainable Energy is mandated to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objectives mentioned below.

##### **A. Objectives**

2. The Committee on Sustainable Energy is an intergovernmental body that provides member States with a platform for international dialogue and cooperation and is mandated to carry out a programme of work in the field of sustainable energy with a view to providing access to affordable and clean energy to all, in line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General, and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector. The Committee and its subsidiary bodies will carry out concrete and results-oriented activities with the aim to achieve the specific objectives identified for each priority area and they will work in accordance with the “Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies” as adopted by the Commission session on 11 April 2013.

3. The objectives, areas of work and concrete, results-oriented activities indicated in each of the subsequent mandates will orient the work of experts, who may suggest additional areas of work and activities within agreed mandates. All activities should have a clear demonstrable value added, be coordinated with and complementary to the work of other relevant international actors without duplicating their work or mandates<sup>5</sup>. Specific activities to be carried out within the overall framework of the objectives and areas of work mentioned in the agreed mandates shall be decided in a member States driven process and be carried out in an efficient and transparent way.

##### **B. Areas of work**

4. The Committee and its subsidiary bodies will focus on:

###### **1. Energy efficiency**

(a) In line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General, ECE should focus on activities that help significantly improve energy efficiency in the region, thus contributing to climate change mitigation efforts;

(b) ECE should help strengthen regional cooperation in energy efficiency, with a view to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

###### **2. Cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels**

ECE should focus on activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity production from fossil fuels. Activities aimed at cleaner electricity production

<sup>5</sup> See document on modalities of the 2011-2012 Review of the 2005 ECE Reform (ECE/EX/6, para 11).

from fossil fuels should be developed and implemented with the active participation of ECE member States, representatives from the energy and financial sectors and civil society, independent experts and academia.

**3. Renewable energy**

In line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General, the ECE should focus on activities that help significantly increase the uptake of renewable energy in the region and that help achieve the objective of access to energy for all in the ECE region.

**4. Coal mine methane**

ECE should promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines by means of activities that may help the recovery and use of methane in order to reduce the risks of explosions in coal mines.

**5. United Nations Framework Classification**

ECE should continue its work on the classification of energy and mineral reserves and resources.

**6. Natural gas**

ECE should provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on ways to promote the sustainable and clean production, distribution and consumption of gas in the ECE region.

**7. The Committee will continue its energy security dialogue**

5. The Committee will evaluate the work of its subsidiary bodies on the basis of an annual report prepared by each body that sets out in a succinct way the activities undertaken, the resources used, and the results achieved (with hyperlinks to the outcomes).

## **II. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency**

6. The Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency is mandated until December 2015, with a possibility of extension, to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objectives mentioned below. At the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency will make a request for mandate extension to December 2017.

### **A. Objectives**

(1) In line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General, ECE should focus on activities that help significantly improve energy efficiency in the region, thus contributing to climate change mitigation efforts;

(2) Strengthening regional cooperation in energy efficiency, with a view to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## **B. Areas of Work**

- (1) Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing financial, technical and policy barriers to improve energy efficiency;
- (2) Sharing experience and best practices in the field of energy efficiency in the ECE region, including on strengthening institutional capacity in energy efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and on standards.

## **C. Concrete Activities<sup>6</sup>**

- (1) Exchange of know-how and best practices in selected economic sectors on how to significantly improve energy efficiency in the ECE region;
- (2) Exchange of know-how and best practices in the ECE on the role of standards and guidelines to significantly improve energy efficiency in the ECE region;
- (3) Exchange of approaches and best practices for utilities and energy services companies to improve energy efficiency in the ECE region, including quality of service regulation;
- (4) Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency; and
- (5) Facilitate engagement in the Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform.

7. In addition, ECE member States could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates, including specific projects at regional level, aimed at improving regulatory and institutional frameworks and knowledge exchange for energy efficiency.

## **III. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels<sup>7</sup>**

8. The Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels is mandated until December 2015, with a possibility of extension, to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objectives mentioned below. At the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels will make a request for mandate extension to December 2017.

### **A. Objective**

9. The Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels will focus on activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity production

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<sup>6</sup> Subject to adoption at the second session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, followed by endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).

<sup>7</sup> Subject to adoption at the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels, followed by endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).

from fossil fuels. Activities aimed at cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels should be developed and implemented with the active participation of ECE member States, representatives from the energy and financial sectors and civil society, independent experts and academia.

## **B. Areas of Work**

- (1) Regulatory and policy dialogue;
- (2) Sharing best practices in the field of cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels in the ECE region;
- (3) Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), as well as carbon utilization;
- (4) Enhanced oil recovery with CO<sub>2</sub>;
- (5) Advanced fossil fuels technologies for power generation;
- (6) Evaluation of efficiency enhancing measures for coal-fired power plants including steam generators, air and flue gas systems, steam turbines, generators.

## **C. Concrete activities<sup>8</sup>**

10. The Bureau of the Group of Experts and the Task Forces, on the basis of the outcomes during the implementation of the Work Plan for 2014–2015 and consultations through an inclusive electronic process, are proposing that the Group of Experts undertakes the following activities under an agreed and self-imposed deadline of the next two years (2016–2017):

- (1) Assess a future role for thermal power plants in sustainable electricity systems;
- (2) Increasing flexibility in coal power generation;
- (3) Decreasing emissions and increasing efficiency from new and existing coal power generation using best practices across the ECE region and globally;
- (4) Assess means for development and deployment of carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS) technology and know-how;

11. The Committee will encourage the exchange of know-how and best practices between relevant experts of all member States in order to attract investments in advanced fossil fuels technologies for electricity generation with a view to supporting industrial and economic competitiveness and achieving low-carbon sustainable development.

12. Work on cleaner electricity production is not limited to the above activities. ECE member States could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates.

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<sup>8</sup> Subject to adoption at the second session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels, followed by endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).

## **IV. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy**

13. The Group of Experts on Renewable Energy is mandated until December 2015, with a possibility of extension, to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objective mentioned below. At the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy will make a request for mandate extension to December 2017.

### **A. Objective**

14. In line with the “Sustainable Energy for All” Initiative of the United Nations Secretary General, the Group of Experts will focus on activities that help significantly increase the uptake of renewable energy in the region and that help achieve the objective of access to energy for all in the ECE region.

### **B. Areas of Work**

15. Regulatory and policy dialogue and sharing of best practices on various renewable energy sources, including biomass, with a view to increasing the share of renewables in the global energy mix.

### **C. Concrete Activities<sup>9</sup>**

(1) Tracking of the progress made in the uptake of renewable energy sources in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region;

(2) Exchange of know-how and best practices in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region on how to help significantly increase the uptake of renewable energy; and

(3) Integration of Renewable Energy in Future Sustainable Energy Systems in the region.

16. In addition, ECE member States could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates. The activities of the sustainable energy subprogramme are complementary to and implemented in cooperation and coordination with other ECE subprogrammes, in particular with the ECE-FAO Forestry and Timber subprogramme.

## **V. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane**

17. The Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane is mandated until December 2015, with a possibility of extension, to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objective mentioned below. At the twenty-fourth session of the

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<sup>9</sup> Subject to adoption at the second session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, followed by endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).

Committee on Sustainable Energy the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane will make a request for mandate extension to December 2017.

### **A. Objective**

18. To promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines by means of activities that may help the recovery and use of methane in order to reduce the risks of explosions in coal mines.

### **B. Areas of Work**

19. Best practice guidance for effective drainage, recovery and usage of coal mine methane.

### **C. Concrete activities<sup>10</sup>**

(1) Disseminate the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Recovery in Coal Mines;

(2) Launch and support the work of the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane;

(3) Collect and disseminate case studies on the application of best practice guidance in specific coal mines in different regions of the world;

(4) Expand the Group of Experts' scope of work to cover integrated methane management in the context of sustainable development; and

(5) Continue to provide advice on coal mine methane related standards to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and other international, national and regional market-based coal mine methane emission reduction mechanisms.

20. If the activities carried out by ECE coal mine methane experts reveal coal mine safety issues unrelated to drainage, recovery and usage of coal mine methane, these will not be addressed in the ECE context but they may communicate these to other relevant organizations, such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) for consideration in the framework of its coal mine safety guidelines.

## **VI. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Expert Group on Resource Classification**

21. The Expert Group on Resource Classification is mandated until December 2019 to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objective mentioned below.

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<sup>10</sup> Subject to adoption at the tenth session of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, followed by endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).



**A. Objective**

Classification of energy and mineral reserves and resources.

**B. Areas of Work**

United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources (UNFC).

**C. Concrete activities<sup>11</sup>**

- (1) UNFC-2009 and the Specifications for its Application;
- (2) Governance of UNFC-2009;
- (3) Application of UNFC-2009 to renewable energy resources;
- (4) Accommodating environmental and social considerations in UNFC-2009;
- (5) Education and outreach;
- (6) Use of UNFC-2009 in classifying injection projects;
- (7) Application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuel resources;
- (8) Financial reporting; and
- (9) Resourcing Strategy.

22. In addition, ECE member States could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates.

**VII. Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts on Gas**

23. The Group of Experts on Gas is mandated until December 2017, with possibility of extension, to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objective mentioned below.

**A. Objective**

24. Provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on ways to promote the sustainable and clean production, distribution and consumption of gas in the ECE region.

**B. Areas of Work**

25. Policy dialogue and exchange of information and experience among ECE member countries on:

- (1) Gas-related issues of regional relevance, including the role of gas in the global energy mix;

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<sup>11</sup> Subject to endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).

- (2) The relation between natural gas and the environment.

### **C. Concrete activities<sup>12</sup>**

26. Concrete activities that member States agreed for the Group of Experts included studies, delivered in a timely way, on the sustainable and clean production, transport, and use of gas, including on issues that emerge from natural gas market studies carried out in the past, and methods of preventing gas losses and leakages during production and distribution:

- (1) Best Practice Guidance in Reducing Gas Leaks in the Gas Value Chain;
- (2) Best Practices on the Role of Natural Gas in Significantly Increasing the Uptake of Renewable Energy in the ECE Region and Helping Achieve the Objective of Access to Energy for All in the ECE Region;
- (3) Best Practice Guidance for Liquefied Natural Gas;
- (4) Removing Barriers to the Use of Natural Gas as a Transportation Fuel.

27. Maintain a transparent dialogue between governments and the gas industry through the extrabudgetary Gas Centre to give gas companies the opportunity to meet and liaise with and report to the Group of Experts to exchange relevant information and views.

28. In addition, ECE member States could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates.

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<sup>12</sup> Subject to endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-fourth session and subsequent approval by the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM).