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Committee on Sustainable Energy

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Item A of the provisional agenda

Reports of subsidiary bodies

Summary report on concrete and action oriented activities undertaken and results achieved by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in sustainable energy

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Executive Committee approved at its sixty-fifth meeting the programme of work for the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy for the period 2014–2015, as specified in ECE/EX/7 in Annexes I and II.

In response to the requests made by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-second and twenty-third meetings, the present document summarizes activities undertaken and results achieved by ECE in the area of sustainable energy in 2014–2015 for subsequent submission to the Executive Committee.

Introduction

1. The present document summarizes the activities undertaken and results achieved by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in the area of sustainable energy in 2014–2015. The Committee on Sustainable Energy (“the Committee”) is invited to recommend it to the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM) for information.
2. Overview tables of progress reporting can be found in Annex I.

I. Objectives and strategy

3. The objectives of the subprogramme are set out in the 11 April 2013 Commission Decision A (65) on the Outcome of the Review of the 2005 Reform of ECE (including subsection II E) and the Executive Committee decision of 4 December 2013 on the terms of reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and mandates and terms of reference of its subsidiary bodies.
4. Responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Committee on Sustainable Energy. This subprogramme is implemented under the overall oversight of EXCOM and is serviced by the Sustainable Energy Division.
5. 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” (SE4All) 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.
6. The Committee on Sustainable Energy oversees the following six subsidiary bodies: a) Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency; b) Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production on Fossil Fuels; c) Group of Experts on Renewable Energy; d) Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane; e) Expert Group on Resource Classification; and f) Group of Experts on Gas. Further, the Committee engages in an energy security dialogue.

II. Outputs/activities delivered in the 2014–2015 biennium

1. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

7. The Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency reported progress on the implementation of its Work Plan for 2014–2015 at the Committee’s Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further implemented the Work Plan according to schedule. The Group of Experts will review progress and prepare the draft work plan for 2016–2017 for Committee approval at its second session in November 2015.
8. Key accomplishments over the time period are related to work on best practice guidance on energy efficiency. The report “Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency” was published in May 2015 after several rounds of consultations with energy efficiency experts from ECE member States. The identified policies include examples of

best practices in energy efficiency from around the globe. For countries starting to develop energy efficiency programmes, the policies offer guidance when exploring and selecting options. For countries with established energy efficiency programmes, this report assists by validating policies and offering policy benchmarks.

9. The Inter-regional Workshop and Study Tour on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects and Policies, held on 8–12 February 2015 in Israel, was jointly organized by ECE and Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel (MASHAV). Twenty-one government officials, project developers and experts from 13 countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia participated in the event. The Workshop strengthened the capacity of decision makers and practitioners from these countries to increase the share of renewable energy in the energy mix and to improve energy efficiency.

10. Energy efficiency was one of the most prominent topics of the Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Hammamet in November 2014 and jointly organized by the Government of Tunisia and the five United Nations Regional Commissions. The Joint Statement (“The Hammamet Declaration”) was signed by all five Executive Secretaries and its intent was endorsed by ECE member States at the session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 19–21 November 2014. The Declaration is a roadmap for achieving the objectives of the SE4All initiative and for greening the energy sector and the economy as a whole. ECE played a key role in the organisation of the Fifth Forum, and is doing likewise for the Sixth Forum, currently being organised in Yerevan, Armenia on 29 September–2 October 2015.

11. The Committee on Housing and Land Management (CHLM) and the Committee on Sustainable Energy and its Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency jointly hosted an Expert Consultation on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in Geneva on 20–21 April 2015. The meeting served as a platform for discussion about ECE's role in energy efficiency standards in buildings and on broader issues of improving energy efficiency in buildings. A joint informal task force between the two Committees will be created to implement further requests from member States.

12. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency over the time period.

2. Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels

13. The Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels reported progress on the implementation of its Work Plan for 2014–2015 at the Committee's Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further implemented the Work Plan. The Group of Experts will review progress and prepare the draft work plan for 2016–2017 for Committee approval at its eleventh session in October 2015.

14. Despite rapid development of renewable and other advanced energy technologies, fossil fuels will remain the most important energy source in the ECE region for the foreseeable future. The work of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels is one of the few international fora, where fossil fuel themes are discussed frankly.

15. Key accomplishments over the time period include the assessment of the efficiency of the existing fleet of coal-fired power plants as a basis for developing best practices on the implementation of modernization measures from an economic and environmental perspective.

16. Work also focused on assessing carbon capture and storage (CCS) and on developing a specific set of recommendations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on how CCS, including CCS for enhanced recovery of hydrocarbons, can positively contribute to net climate change mitigation outcomes as part of the policy portfolio established to support a post-2015 instrument. ECE's CCS recommendations were disseminated to Environment Ministers from countries where fossil fuels play a critical role for power generation as well as to various industry organizations and non-governmental organizations. The work on the CCS recommendations was noted by the main stream media with over 60 articles published.

17. The Group of Experts has established the following four task forces: a) Potential collaboration with global and regional development banks; b) Goal, targets and indicators on efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants; c) Carbon Capture, Use and Storage (CCUS) technology transfer; and d) Carbon Capture and storage readiness of power plants.

18. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Group of Experts over the time period.

3. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

19. The Group of Experts on Renewable Energy reported progress on the implementation of its Work Plan for 2014–2015 at the Committee's Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further implemented the Work Plan. The Group of Experts will review progress and prepare the draft work plan for 2016–2017 for Committee approval at its second session in October 2015.

20. Key accomplishments over the time period are related to work closing data and information gaps on the uptake of renewable energy in the ECE region together with the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) and the International Energy Agency (IEA). The report is focused on selected countries and constitutes a first part of an investigation on the status of the region which could be envisioned in a future exercise with additional resources. The report further provides possible renewable energy policy frameworks and proposes best practice guidelines, taking into account global technical and structural barriers in the region. Key messages have been prepared for information in document ECE/ENERGY/2015/8 and will be presented at the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change in Paris in December 2015, where the report will be launched.

21. This work has contributed to a better understanding of energy access in the region, building on work carried out according to the Work Plan for the time period and reported to the Committee in its twenty-third meeting.

22. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy over the time period.

4. Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane

23. The Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane reported progress on the implementation of its Work Plan for 2014–2015 at the Committee's Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further implemented the Work Plan. The Group of Experts will review progress and prepare the draft work plan for 2016–2017 for Committee approval at its tenth session in October 2015.

24. Key accomplishments over the time period include progress translation of the Best Practice Guidance on Coal Mine Methane into other languages and on the establishment of an International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane. Critical steps have been made towards agreeing a Memorandum of Understanding between ECE and the Central Mining Institute in Katowice, Poland.

25. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane over the time period.

5. Expert Group on Resource Classification

26. The Expert Group on Resource Classification reported progress on the implementation of its Work Plan for 2013–2015¹ at the Committee's Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further progressed this implementation. The Expert Group at its sixth session recommended a draft work plan for 2016–2017 for Committee approval.

27. The Expert Group has delivered on all the elements in its Work Plan for 2013–2015. Most items included in the work plan are ongoing activities and the Expert Group continues to progress its work annually (visit annual session web pages: <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html>).

28. Key accomplishments over the time period include an increasing number of countries committing to apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) nationally or map or bridge to it, including Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, India, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda and Ukraine. A Technical Advisory Group was established and is now effective in provided technical advice and assistance to UNFC-2009 users. The Bridging Document between the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) "Red Book" Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009 was completed and endorsed by the Committee in 2014. Draft generic specifications for the application of UNFC-2009 to renewable energy resources were prepared and issued for public comment. A presentation on UNFC-2009 and the work of the Expert Group is delivered on average at one event every week around the world. UNFC-2009 is also now included in the curriculum at universities globally including in Argentina, Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom. As UNFC-2009 only became operational at the end of 2013, it is still too early to fully assess its impact, but the increasing interest in its application is clearly evident from the level of global participation in the annual sessions of the Expert Group and its sub-groups.

29. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Expert Group on Resource Classification over the time period.

6. Group of Experts on Gas

30. The Group of Experts on Gas reported progress of the implementation on its Work Plan for 2014–2015 at the Committee's Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy in May 2015 and has since further implemented the Work Plan with the

¹ The Committee at its twenty-third meeting in November 2014 endorsed the extension of the Expert Group's Work Plan for 2013–2014 to the end of 2015. This was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee of ECE at its seventy-fifth meeting.

establishment of four task forces: a) Best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the gas value chain; b) Best practice guidance on the role of natural gas in increasing the uptake of renewable energy; c) Best practice guidance for liquefied natural gas; and d) Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel.

31. The work of the Group of Experts is at an early stage of development. Over 130 people attended the Second Session of the Group of Experts on Gas, a significant increase over the first session held 9 months earlier, demonstrating the importance of this work in the region and the strong convening power of ECE. A Memorandum of Understanding between ECE and the International Gas Union (IGU) has recently been signed as a key partnership for collaborative activities with the private sector.

32. Annex I provides the complete list of the deliverables and achievements of the Group of Experts on Gas over the time period. Any delays are due to challenges in resources within the ECE secretariat, which have now been resolved.

Annex I

Progress reporting: The Committee on Sustainable Energy and its six subsidiary bodies

1. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
Establishment of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE), election of the Bureau, approval of the Work Plan 2014-2015, report of the session	November 2014	Completed November 2014	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/geee/geee1_Nov2014/EC_E_ENERGY_GE.6_2014_2Report1Session.pdf
A. Identification of the state of development of energy efficiency in the ECE region			
A report with a review of relevant studies/analyses to establish a baseline of energy efficiency in the ECE region submitted for consideration by the Group of Experts. Literature review at regional level: October 2014	October 2014	Completed October 2014	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/geee/geee1_Nov2014/Discussion_paper_1_Initial_review_of_EE_in_the_ECE_region.pdf
Presentation of the initial results to the Committee on Sustainable Energy	November 2014	Completed November 2014	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/geee/geee1_Nov2014/Discussion_paper_1_Initial_review_of_EE_in_the_ECE_region.pdf
B. Exchange of know-how and best practices in ECE on how to significantly improve energy efficiency in the ECE region			
Analysis of National Case Studies on Policy Reforms to Promote Energy Efficiency Investments	In preparation for the first session of GEEE	Completed November 2014	http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40546&L=0 Publication issued in August 2015
A balanced matrix of energy efficiency policies to support SE4All objectives and sustainable development	In preparation for the first session of GEEE	Completed November 2014	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/geee/geee1_Nov2014/Discussion_paper_2_A_balanced_matrix_of_EE_policies_rev1.pdf
A first draft menu of accelerators (high-impact policy measures) based on available information from existing actors (UNFCCC, IEA, UNEP, and C2E2) and countries implementing them	March 2015	Completed March 2015	Drafts circulated to the Bureau and the Group of Experts from January 2015, first version posted in March 2015
Improve/complete/maintain/update the menu	from March 2015 onwards	Completed June 2015	http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=39817&L=0 Publication Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency issued in June 2015
Suggestions for further work on developing and establishing ECE	May 2015	Completed April 2015	Expert Consultation on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in Geneva on 20-21 April 2015 (jointly

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
standards for energy efficiency		Ongoing	with the Committee on Housing and Land Management (CHLM)) http://www.unece.org/housing/expertconsultation_ee1.html#/
Help in developing national action plans if requested and where possible on the basis of existing templates and models	Ongoing	Ongoing, at the request of governments	Comments provided on the Concept of Energy Strategy of Ukraine at the request of the Committee on Fuel and Energy Complex of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine
Inter-regional Workshop and Study Tour on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects and Policies, Israel		Completed February 2015	Exchange of know-how and best practices, strengthened capacity of decision makers and practitioners from 13 ECE countries to increase share of renewable energy in energy mix and to improve energy efficiency http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=38564#/
C. Share experience on smart grids and other advanced transmission and distribution technologies			
Overview of activities and players active in smart grids		Completed August 2015	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/eneff/eneff_h.news/Smart_Grids.Overview.pdf
D. Cross-Cutting Issues and Coordination of Work of the GEEE with CSE and Other Expert Groups			
Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Hammamet, Tunisia (jointly organized by the Government of Tunisia and five UN Regional Commissions)		Completed November 2014	Executive Secretaries of five UN Regional Commissions signed the Joint Statement, in which they affirmed that the objectives of energy sustainability are attainable, and need not contradict more short-term considerations, if the world embarks on a determined, collective effort http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35706#/ http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/ee21/Forum_November_Tunisia/Joint_Statement_Fifth_International_Forum_Final_All.pdf
Sixth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Yerevan, Armenia (jointly organized by the Government of Armenia, UN Regional Commissions, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency (C2E2), and Habitat for Humanity International)		On-Track September-October 2015	The Forum is expected to contribute to building the capacity of government officials to adopt strategies and policies to accelerate deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in the private and public sectors. The Forum will also be a platform for practitioners – national experts, project developers, representatives of national and international financial institutions and private and public companies – to exchange experiences and solutions for improving energy efficiency, increasing the share of renewable energy, and implementing cleaner energy technologies.

2. Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
A. Prepare a survey of CCS landscape, recent developments and stakeholders			
CCS landscape survey report	October 2014	Draft report completed	Document delivered at 10th Session of the Group of Experts of CEP http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/clep/ge10/CEP.10.2014.INF.2.pdf
B. Assist UNFCCC in assessing CCS			
Recommendations to the UNFCCC on how CCS can be used to reduce CO2 emissions	November 2014	Completed	Document delivered at 10th Session of the Group of Experts of CEP: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/clep/ge10/ECE.ENERGY.2014.5.Rev.1.pdf
C. Assess efficiency of existing fleet of conventional power plants in UNECE region			
Baseline Efficiency Analysis of Fossil Fuel Power Plants	October 2014	Draft report completed	Document delivered at 10th Session of the Group of Experts of CEP: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/clep/ge10/CEP.10.2014.INF.5.pdf Updated document to be posted on website as a room document for 11th group of Experts meeting for CEP
Further work on efficiency and potential normative instruments	2014 to ongoing	In progress	
D. Define other activities through electronic exchanges			
Create several task forces to be active from Nov 2014 – Dec 2015 with key objective to inform post 2015 work plan	October 2014	Completed	Approved as part of the 10th Session of the Group of Experts of CEP. Work has proceeded under all task forces and used to develop 2015-2016 work plan.
Recommendations on potential future work regarding definition of capture ready for fossil fuel fired power plants	October 2015	Completed	To be posted on website as a room document for 11 th group of Experts meeting for CEP.
Investigate opportunities for collaboration with regional development banks		On-going	Initial investigation has been completed and recent meetings have identified further opportunities.
Recommendations on potential future work regarding best practice guidelines in energy efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants	October 2015	Completed	Includes summary of historical and recent work by other organisations on this topic. To be posted on website as a room document for 11th group of Experts meeting for CEP.
Survey to determine country specific needs for CCUS		On-going	Questionnaire was prepared and distributed among countries with economies in transition. This work will continue as part of the 2015-2016 work plan.

3. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
Establishment of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE), election of Bureau, approval of Work Plan 2014-2015 and report at the session	November 2014	Completed	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/geee/geee1_Nov2014/ECE.ENERGY.GE.7.2014.2_e.pdf
A. Identification of the State of Development of Renewable Energy Sources in the UNECE Region			
Initial Review of the Status of Renewable Energy Development in the UNECE Region (GIZ Report)	November 2014	Completed	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/gere1_18.11.2014/ECE_ENERGY_GE.7_2014_INF.1_Revised.pdf Main data gap raised by the report
UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report 2015 with REN21 and IEA	December 2015	On-Track	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/UNECE_RE/TOR_UNECE_RE_Status_Report.pdf The focus on 17 countries constitute a first part of an investigation on the status of the region as future exercise if resources will allow it.
B. Identification and Support to Those Communities in the UNECE Region That Have No Access to Energy			
Initial review on energy access in the region UNECE region	November 2014	Completed	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/gere1_18.11.2014/ECE_ENERGY_GE.7_2014_INF.2.pdf No available data and information on communities with no energy access
Identification of communities with no access to energy in the UNECE region within the RE Status Report	November 2015	On-Track	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/UNECE_RE/TOR_UNECE_RE_Status_Report.pdf
C. Exchange of Know-How and Best Practices in the UNECE Region on How to Help Significantly Increase the Uptake of Renewable Energy			
An initial Framework for Developing Best Practice Guidelines to Accelerate Renewable Energy Uptake in the UNECE region.	November 2014	Completed	http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/gere1_18.11.2014/ECE_ENERGY_GE.7_2014_INF.3_Revised.pdf
Menu of Efficient and Economic Technologies and Policies to Promote Them in the UNECE Region. A Practical Framework for Best Practices/Policies	April-October 2015	On-Track	The working paper was presented at the second GERE session. A first draft was reviewed by Bureau members in April 2015. A working document with regular inputs is posted at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/Menu.EffEcon.Tech.Policies/Menu.Efficient.Economic.Technologies_Policies.UNECE.Region.pdf

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
D. Coordination with Other International Organizations and with Stakeholders			
MoU with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	September 2014	Signed	http://www.unece.org/info/media/presscurrent-press-h/sustainable-energy/2014/unece-signs-mou-with-the-international-renewable-energy-agency-irena/unece-signs-mou-with-the-international-renewable-energy-agency-irena.html
MoU with the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)	November 2014	Signed	http://www.unece.org/info/media/presscurrent-press-h/sustainable-energy/2014/unece-signs-mou-with-the-renewable-energy-policy-network-for-the-21st-century/unece-signs-mou-with-the-renewable-energy-policy-network-for-the-21st-century.html
E. Cross-Cutting Issues and Coordination of Work of the GERE Bureau with Other Expert Groups			
Cooperation with the Group of Experts on Gas (GEG), the Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC) for the implementation of the UNFC-2009 classification to renewable energy, and the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels (CEP).	Preparation for the Work Plan 2016-2017	Under development	The GERE Chair as well as other Bureau Members participated and contributed to the work of other Groups of Experts in close collaboration with their respective Chairs. This is reflected in the Draft Work Plan for the Group of Experts for 2016-2017 developed by the Bureau and submitted in August 2015 for consideration for approval at the October session of the Group of experts. It is posted at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/gere/gere2_12.10.2015/ECE_ENERGY_GE7_2015_3_Draft_Work_Plan_2016-2017_FINAL.pdf
International Conference on the Development of Renewable Energy in the UNECE Region	October 2015	Postponed for budgetary reasons of host country	An ad hoc conference on best practice policies was planned to be hosted by Azerbaijan on 13-14 October 2015 but it has been postponed to 2016 subject to the approval of funds by the end of 2015.

4. Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
A. Electronic dissemination of Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Recovery in Coal Mines			
Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Spanish	January 2015	Completed	
Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Mongolian	April 2015	Completed	
Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian	November 2015	Completed	
Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Korean	September 2015	Not started	According to the work plan, this activity depends on the availability of funds
Best Practice Guidance on Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Vietnamese	June 2015	Not started	According to the work plan, this activity depends on the availability of funds
B. Update and further development of Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Recovery in Coal Mines			
Presentation to the Group of Experts with recommendations on a new content for the Best Practice Guidance	November 2014	Completed	
C. Prepare proposals for case studies, where appropriate and financed by extrabudgetary resources, on the application of best practice guidance in specific coal mines in different regions of the world			
Case studies on the implementation of best practices in methane management		On track	Scheduled: November 2015
D. Facilitate establishment of International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane			
Decision the host country	November 2014	Completed	
Memorandum of Understanding on ICE-CMM	November 2015	On track	Draft MoU available
E. Continue to provide advice to UNFCCC (on the matters related to ACM0008) and to other international, national and regional market-based coal mine methane emission reduction mechanisms and coal mine methane related standards			
Report on coal mine methane management, inventories and standards	November 2015	On track	

5. Expert Group on Resource Classification

Implementation of work plan for 2013–2015²

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
A. Specifications for UNFC-2009			
Publication of UNFC-2009 together with the specifications as a single publication in all United Nations languages	Preferably August 2013	Completed	“UNFC-2009 <i>incorporating</i> Specifications for its Application” issued in all UN languages as publication UNECE Energy Series No. 42, ECE/ENERGY/94: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34487 .
A summary report to be presented to the fifth session of the Expert Group of any advice provided by the Specifications Task Force under its revised Terms of Reference.	April/May 2014	Completed	Specifications Task Force discontinued by Expert Group at fifth session (29 April–2 May 2014) (see report of fifth session, ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2013/5, para 34 at: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=33065 Technical Advisory Group is compiling advice related to any future updates of UNFC-2009.
B. Technical Advisory Group			
Technical Advisory Group established by end-2013 and operational during 2013 or first-half of 2014.	First half of 2014	Completed	Technical Advisory Group established and operational February 2014. See Technical Advisory Group web page: http://www.unece.org/energy/se/unfc_tag.html First report provided to Expert Group in 2014 Room document and presentation provided to Expert Group in 2015.
C. Testing and review of UNFC-2009			
UNFC-2009 case studies.	2013 to ongoing	On track	Case studies are prepared annually and presented to the Expert Group. ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2014/4 and ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2014/5 prepared for Expert Group fifth session: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=33065 Case studies ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/5, ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/6, and ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/7 prepared for Expert Group sixth session: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=36110 A series of seven case studies focussing on application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuel resources in Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Malawi, Niger and United States was also prepared for the sixth session (EGRC-6/2015/INF.9 - unofficial document in English

² The Committee at its twenty-third meeting in November 2014 endorsed the extension of the Expert Group's Work Plan for 2013–2014 to the end of 2015. This was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee of ECE at its seventy-fifth meeting.

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
			only as at 23 April 2015). These case studies were issued for public comment from 25 June to 20 August 2015; the final texts will be issued as an electronic ECE publication.
A Status Report on the Implementation of UNFC-2009 for submission to the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-second session in November 2013.	2013 to ongoing	Completed	“Report on Implementing UNFC-2009 in ECE member States” (dated 12 September 2013) submitted to Committee on Sustainable Energy twenty-second session, November 2013 (ECE/ENERGY/2013/3): available at: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=31774 .
Proposals for modifications to UNFC-2009 to be presented to the fifth session of the Expert Group.	2013 to ongoing	On track	See work of Specifications Task Force (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2013/4, para 21). Since the discontinuation of the Task Force in May 2014, the Bureau of the Expert Group has been monitoring the need for modifications to UNFC-2009 (see report of fifth session: ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/2, para 32).
D. Education and outreach			
A report of the activities of the Communications Sub-Committee to be delivered to the fifth session of the Expert Group.	November 2015	Completed	Reports delivered annually to EGRC in 2013, 2014 and 2015. http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/unfc-and-resource-classification/areas-of-work/communications-sub-committee.html .
E. Use of UNFC-2009 in classifying injection projects			
An assessment of how stakeholders classify and evaluate the maturity of their gas injection projects today. A bridging document for application of UNFC-2009 to injection projects, in particular to the storage of carbon dioxide.	2013-2014 (subject to review at fifth session of Expert Group)	Completed	Report prepared for fifth session of Expert Group: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/egrc/egrc5_apr2014/EGRC.5.2014.INF.2_e.pdf
A bridging document for application of UNFC-2009 to injection projects, in particular to the storage of carbon dioxide.	2013-2014 (subject to review at fifth session of Expert Group)	In progress	Following detailed review, Expert Group recommended that specifications were needed as opposed to a bridging document. Draft specifications for the application of UNFC-2009 to injection projects for the purpose of geological storage was issued for public comment from 8 July to 15 September 2015. Available at: http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/unfc-and-resource-classification/areas-of-work/unfc-public-comments.html

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
F. Application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuel resources			
Establishment of a Task Force led by IAEA to facilitate application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuel resources.	2013-2014 (subject to review at fifth session of Expert Group)	Completed	Task Force established in May 2013. Expert Group recommended at its fifth session in 2014 that Task Force should continue (see ECE/ENERGY/GE.2/2014/2, para 50).
A bridging document relating to the NEA/IAEA “Red Book” classification of nuclear fuel resources to UNFC-2009 and vice versa will be presented to the Expert Group for consideration and recommendation at its fifth session.	2013-2014 (subject to review at fifth session of Expert Group)	Completed	Bridging Document between Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development Nuclear Energy Agency/International Atomic Energy Agency Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009 submitted by Expert Group to Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement on 10 September 2014 (ECE/ENERGY/2014/6): http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35137
Appropriate guidelines will be incorporated to ensure consistent application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuels thereby allowing use of the higher granularity of UNFC-2009 and its harmonization advantages.	2013-2014 (subject to review at fifth session of Expert Group)	On track	Draft guidelines for the Application of UNFC-2009 to Uranium and Thorium Resources issued for public comment from 25 June to 20 August 2015. Available at: http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/unfc-and-resource-classification/areas-of-work/unfc-public-comments.html .
G. Application of UNFC-2009 to renewable energy projects			
Establishment of a Task Force on Renewable Resources and sub-task forces as appropriate.	1 November 2013	On track	Task Force established in June 2013: see http://www.unece.org/energy/se/unfc_re.html . Working Groups on Bioenergy and Geothermal established in 2014. ECE and International Geothermal Association signed an MoU on 19 September 2014 to facilitate work on application of UNFC-2009 to geothermal resources: see http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/oes/MOU/2014/MoU-UNECE_IGA.pdf .
A written outline of how the application of UNFC-2009 to renewable energy resources will be accomplished with a timeline for each deliverable will be circulated to the Expert Group and outputs made available on the ECE website prior to submission to the Committee on Sustainable Energy.	1 November 2013	Completed	“Application of UNFC-2009 to Renewable Energy Resources – Deliverables and Timelines” (informal document 2, 10 October 2013) presented to Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-second session, November 2013: http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/UNFC/rer/ApplicationRenewableEnergyUNFC.pdf .

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
H. Financial reporting			
Status report on any changes or developments in the financial reporting sector globally with implications or potential implications for UNFC-2009	Annually	On track	Financial reporting is included as an agenda item at annual meetings of the Expert Group and a presentation(s) delivered by experts. The Bureau of the Expert Group also keeps a watching brief and circulates any relevant information to the Expert Group electronically.
I. Collaboration and cooperation with other bodies			
A list of stakeholders who either participate actively in meetings of the Expert Group or who have expressed an interest in doing so is to be prepared for the fifth session of the Expert Group.	2013 to ongoing	On track	First list was prepared for the fifth session of the Expert Group. List is updated periodically.
J. Electronic communication			
An enhanced and centralized database of UNFC-2009 end-user contacts.	2013 to ongoing	On track	Centralized ECE database of Expert Group members established and updated regularly by the secretariat.
Electronic dissemination of the deliverables of the Expert Group.	2013 to ongoing	On track	Outputs of the Expert Group are circulated electronically, including via a public comments process for documents that form part of UNFC. Expert Group agreed on a document approval process at its fifth session, see ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2014/2, para 97.

6. Group of Experts on Gas

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments/Links</i>
A. Best practice guidance in reducing gas leaks along the gas value chain			
Systematic assessment of gas leakage rates in UNECE member States and review of reduction techniques deployed	December 2014	Under Development	Initial consultations have begun with broad range of stakeholders across the UNECE region to determine current initiatives.
Best Practice Guidance on Reducing Gas Leakage Rates	April 2016	In Progress	Initial research into topical studies has begun.
B. Best practice guidance on the role of natural gas in increasing uptake of renewable energy			
Assessment of the systemic consequences of renewables uptake and economic analysis of natural gas in a context of green policies	April 2015	In progress	Research, outline and draft material has been developed. Discussions have been held with the bureau chair and task force members to continue to progress work on this topic.
Publish Best Policy Practices on the Role of Natural Gas to Support Renewables Uptake	June 2017	In Progress	An initial outline has been completed.
C. Best practice guidance for liquefied natural gas			
Comprehensive Assessment of Trends in LNG	October 2016	In Progress	Draft of report completed in April 2015 and being reviewed by the GEG bureau.
Best Practice Policy Guidance for LNG	October 2016	In Progress	Initial scoping has begun
D. Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel			
Development/approval of detailed project description/ToR by Task Force	July 2015	In Progress	Drafts have been completed and are being finalised.
Recommendations on Removing Barriers to the Use of Natural Gas as a Transportation Fuel	November 2016	In Progress	First draft is expected in fall 2015