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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 Draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Subprogramme on Sustainable Energy

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 is the principal policy directive for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) subprogramme on Sustainable Energy. The Strategic Framework of each United Nations Department contains a short narrative highlighting the main themes of programmatic activity (overall orientation) as well as logical frameworks (logframes) of its constituent subprogrammes. Each subprogramme's logframe follows results-based approach and articulates its objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, performance measures, strategy and external factors. The Strategic Framework is prepared in accordance with the Secretary-General's bulletin "Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation" (ST/SGB/200/8).

2. When defining indicators of achievement, the General Assembly in its resolution 69/17 emphasised the importance of further strengthening the logical framework, and "encouraged programme managers to further improve the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievement in order to enable better evaluation of results, bearing in mind the importance of defining the indicators in a way that ensures their clear measurability".

3. The draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 is based on the Strategic Framework 2016–2017. It was worked out by the ECE Secretariat and unanimously endorsed by the Bureau of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy at its meeting on 3 September 2015 in Geneva. The draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 will be further considered by the Committee on Sustainable Energy and, subsequently, the ECE Executive Committee. The

final draft will be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly for adoption at its seventy-first session, as a component part of the ECE Strategic Framework for the biennium 2018–2019.

II. Draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019

A. Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective of the Organization: To improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement	Performance measures			
			2018-2019	2016-2017	2014-2015
(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	(a) (i) Increased number of recommendations on sustainable energy issues agreed by ECE intergovernmental bodies	Target	12	8	–
		Estimate		8	–
		Actual			–
	(ii) Increased number of measures on affordable and clean energy for all taken by member States	Target	10	6	–
		Estimate		6	–
		Actual			–
(b) Increased awareness of the role of energy efficiency and renewable energy in achieving sustainable energy development	(b) (i) Increased number of countries implementing measures to raise the uptake of energy efficiency	Target	5	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
	(ii) Increased number of countries implementing measures to raise the share of renewable energy in energy mix	Target	5	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
(c) Strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations/guidelines, best practices and other normative instruments for sustainable energy development	(c) (i) Increased number of countries applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources	Target	24	20	14
		Estimate		20	14
		Actual			* ¹
	(ii) Increased number of countries applying the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines	Target	2	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–

B. Strategy

4. The Sustainable Energy Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achievement of the energy-related SDGs. The objective of the subprogramme will be achieved through:

(a) International policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development in Member States of the United Nations, improve their access to affordable and clean energy for all and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector, in line with energy-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

(b) Development and extension of ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues; and

(c) Assistance to member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects to build capacity for applying the normative instruments, and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned in the areas of its work.

5. The work of the subprogramme falls under three broad and critical areas: (a) reconciling the reality of fossil fuels' enduring share of the energy mix with the need to address climate change, (b) enhancing integration of energy markets in the region, and (c) facilitating the transition to a sustainable energy system. The subprogramme will focus on issues related to energy security, energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production, renewable energy, coal mine methane, United Nations Framework Classification of energy and mineral reserves and resources, and natural gas. The subprogramme will also continue its dialogue on energy security

6. The work of the subprogramme will strengthen regional cooperation, promote activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on ways to promote sustainable and clean production, distribution and consumption of energy.

7. The subprogramme will establish synergies in the respective areas of work with the other subprogrammes working on energy-related issues, notably subprogrammes 1 (Environment), 2 (Transport), 3 (Statistics), 4 (Economic cooperation and integration), 6 (Trade), 7 (Forestry and timber), and the Housing and Land Management component of subprogramme 8¹. The subprogramme will work in cooperation with other regional commissions and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other organizations to enhance impact and effectiveness and avoid duplication.

C. External factors

8. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that at the national, regional and local levels, there is: (a) political will and capacity to integrate sustainable energy objectives into policies and to promulgate legislation including the objectives of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative; and (b) sufficient awareness and participation of the public in implementing national and regional policies to improve energy access, and reduce both greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector.

¹ The Sustainable Energy Subprogramme is number 5.