



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Committee on Sustainable Energy

#### Twenty-fourth session

Geneva, 18–20 November 2015

Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda

#### Opening and adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session<sup>1</sup>

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 18 November 2015

## I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the revised draft report of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

### A. Reports of subsidiary bodies

4. Group of Experts on Gas.
5. Expert Group on Resource Classification.
6. Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels.
7. Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.
8. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy.

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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=35130>) and transmit it to the ECE secretariat, if possible at least two weeks prior to the session, either by e-mail ([laurence.rotta@unece.org](mailto:laurence.rotta@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 72443 or 73728).

9. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency.

## **B. High-level segment**

10. Panel discussion: Pathways to sustainable energy in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region.
11. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development.

## **C. Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

12. Programme of Work for 2016–2017 and Draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Subprogramme on Sustainable Energy.
13. Regional advisory services.
14. Cooperation with international organizations.
15. Any other business.
16. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.

# **II. Annotations**

## **1. Opening and adoption of the agenda**

*Documentation:* ECE/ENERGY/98 – Annotated provisional agenda

1. The provisional agenda is based on decisions taken by the Committee on Sustainable Energy (the Committee) at its twenty-second session (ECE/ENERGY/91) and on progress made since then in implementing the 2014–2015 programme of work. The provisional agenda, which was approved by the Committee Bureau on 7 September 2015, is presented to the Committee for adoption.

## **2. Election of officers**

2. The Committee will be invited to elect the chair and vice-chair(s) as appropriate.

## **3. Adoption of the revised draft report of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

*Documentation:* ECE/ENERGY/2015/L.1/rev.1 – Revised draft report of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

3. The Committee will be invited to adopt the report of its twenty-third session based on a draft prepared by the Secretariat. The Bureau decided to submit the report for adoption at the twenty-fourth session of the Committee and has informed the Committee accordingly.

## **A. Reports of subsidiary bodies**

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/91 – Report of the twenty-second session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/2015/4 – Summary report on concrete and action oriented activities undertaken and results achieved by the ECE in sustainable energy

4. The Committee will be briefed on the activities undertaken by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies since its twenty-second session and the plans for the coming two years.

#### **4. Group of Experts on Gas**

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2014/2 - Report of the First Session of the Group of Experts on Gas, including the recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Gas for 2014–2015

ECE/ENERGY/2015/1 - Methane management in extractive industries

5. The role of gas is evolving – including in transport and power generation as well as in energy markets through the increased deployment of liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure. A panel comprised of international thought leaders on natural gas and representatives of the ECE Groups of Experts on Gas will share views on the developments and future contribution from natural gas to increasing the sustainability of energy systems.

6. The Chair of the Bureau of Group of Experts on Gas will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015, Bureau work and the main developments since the Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy for discussion at the Committee session. Focus will be given to the work of the four Task Forces: (a) Best Practice Guidance in Reducing Gas Leaks in the Gas Value Chain; (b) 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; (c) Best Practice Guidance for Liquefied Natural Gas; and (d) Removing Barriers to the Use of Natural Gas as a Transportation Fuel.

7. The Committee will be invited to extend the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Gas for 2014–2015 until the 2016–2017 work plan is approved at the Third Session of the Group of Experts on Gas, to be held in early 2016, and to recommend the extension for submission to the Executive Committee of ECE (EXCOM) for subsequent approval.

#### **5. Expert Group on Resource Classification**

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/2 – Report of the Sixth Session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, including the recommended work plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/2015/7 – Guidelines for Application of UNFC-2009 for Uranium and Thorium Resources

8. The Chair of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Classification will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2013–2014<sup>2</sup>, the recommended work plan for 2016–2017, Bureau work and the main developments since the Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy for discussion with the Committee.

9. The Committee will be invited to endorse the recommended work plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2016–2017 and to recommend submission to the EXCOM for subsequent approval.

## **6. Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels**

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2015/2 - Report of the Eleventh Session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels, including the mandate and recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2015/3 - Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production for 2016–2017

10. The Chair of the Bureau of Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015, Bureau work and the main developments since the Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy for discussion with the Committee.

11. The Committee will be invited to endorse the extension of the mandate for two additional years and the recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2016–2017 and to recommend both for submission to EXCOM for subsequent approval.

## **7. Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane**

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2015/2 - Report of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, including the mandate and recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2015/3 - Draft 2016–2017 Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane

12. Methane is a significant driver of short-term global warming. Reducing methane emissions can help slow the rise in global temperatures. Globally, there is no truly complete picture of the amount of methane being emitted. However, methane emissions from coal, oil and natural gas production are substantial and occur at every stage of the fossil fuel natural gas life cycle. A panel comprised of international thought leaders on methane management and representatives the ECE Groups of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and on Gas will share views on managing and reducing fugitive methane.

13. The Chair of the Bureau of Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015 and the main developments since the

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<sup>2</sup> 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 EXCOM at its seventy-fifth meeting.

Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy. He will focus on the activities that promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines through recovery and use of methane, as described in detail in ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2015/3.

14. The Committee will be invited to endorse the extension of the mandate for two additional years and the recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane for 2016–2017 and to recommend both for submission to EXCOM for subsequent approval.

## 8. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2015/2 - Report of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy on its second session, including the mandate and recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016–2017 (draft)

ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2015/3 - Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/2015/8 - ECE Renewable Energy Status Report - Key messages and progress

15. As requested by the Committee in its twenty-third session, a ECE Renewable Energy Status Report has been prepared in collaboration with the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) as a tool for closing data gaps and tracking the uptake of renewable energy in the region. Findings and key messages from the report will be presented for discussion. Subsequent discussion may elaborate messages to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties in Paris (COP21), outreach to member States and next steps.

16. The Chair of the Bureau of Group of Experts on Renewable Energy will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015, Bureau work and the main developments since the Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy for discussion at the Committee session.

17. The Committee will be invited to endorse the extension of the mandate for two additional years and the recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016–2017 and to recommend both for submission to EXCOM for subsequent approval.

## 9. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2015/2 – Report of the second session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, including the mandate and recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016–2017 (draft)

ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2015/3 – Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/97 – Analysis of National Case Studies on Policy Reforms to Promote Energy Efficiency Investments

ECE/ENERGY/100 – Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency. A Structured Framework of Best Practices in Policies to Promote Energy Efficiency for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development.

18. At the request by member States, ECE recently published two studies that highlight best practices and incentives needed to stimulate and ensure successful energy efficiency policy outcomes. These publications – “Best policy practices for promoting energy efficiency<sup>3</sup>” and “Analysis of national case studies on policy reforms to promote energy efficiency investments<sup>4</sup>” – provide recommendations on measures that can catalyse new energy efficiency investments in countries and make significant improvements in energy efficiency in the ECE region and beyond. A panel comprised of contributors to the reports and members of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency will provide examples of successful national energy efficiency initiatives.

19. The Chair of the Bureau of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency will report on the implementation of the work plan for 2014–2015, Bureau work and the main developments since the Open-ended consultations on UNECE work on sustainable energy for discussion with the Committee. The Committee will also be informed of progress on cooperation with the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management on energy efficiency standards in buildings.

20. The Committee will be invited to endorse the extension of the mandate for two additional years and the recommended work plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016–2017 and to recommend both for submission to EXCOM for subsequent approval.

## **B. High-level segment**

### **10. Panel discussion: Pathways to sustainable energy in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region**

21. There is an important opportunity at this time to explore what sustainable energy means for the ECE region, both from the perspective of reducing the environmental footprint of energy and from the perspective of assuring needed energy for sustainable development. Due to its diversity and strength, the ECE region has an advantage and is able to contribute constructively to the current dialogues about energy for sustainable development.

22. Since the twenty-third session the Bureau has been investigating and assessing options for pathways to attain Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All). The Committee will be presented with perspectives of its work. An international high-level panel will provide ECE and its member States with an occasion to come to a better understanding on the different approaches that ECE could consider to explore the challenges and consequences.

### **11. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development**

23. The Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development was held in Hammamet, Tunisia in 2014, jointly organised by the Government of Tunisia and the five United Nations Regional Commissions. The Committee at its twenty-third session endorsed the intent of the Joint Statement of the Executive Secretaries of the United Nations

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=39817>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40546>

Regional Commissions<sup>5</sup>, and requested that the ECE sustainable energy subprogramme deliver concrete results on the different elements of the statement in accordance with existing mandates and work plans of its subsidiary bodies.

24. The Committee will be informed of the outcomes of the Sixth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Yerevan, Armenia on 29 September–2 October 2015. It is jointly organized by the Government of Armenia, the United Nations Regional Commissions, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office in Armenia, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency (C2E2), the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), and Habitat for Humanity International.

25. The Committee will have the opportunity to discuss the impact of its main outcome document: the Statement of Common Action and be requested to recommend steps for its implementation, in particular in relation to the regional implementation of SE4All's Global Tracking Framework.

### **C. Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

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

*Documentation:* ECE/EX/7 - Decision on matters relating to the Committee on Sustainable Energy

ECE/ENERGY/2015/2 – Draft programme of work for 2016–2017 of the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy

ECE/ENERGY/2015/9 – Draft strategic framework 2018–2019 of the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy

ECE/ENERGY/2015/3 – Draft publication plan for 2016–2017

ECE/ENERGY/2015/6 – Provisional calendar of meetings for 2016

26. The Committee's activities are conceived with a view to ensuring access to affordable and clean energy to all and to helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector. Work is needed in three 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 the region's energy markets, and
- (c) Facilitating the transition to a sustainable energy system.

27. The Committee will be invited to agree the proposed programme of work for 2016–2017, including the draft publication plan for 2016–2017 and the provisional calendar of meetings for 2016, and to recommend their submission to EXCOM for subsequent approval.

28. The Committee will be invited to take action on the draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 of the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy which was endorsed by the Bureau on 7 September 2015. The Strategic Framework 2018–2019 is the principal policy

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.unece.org/energy/welcome/areas-of-work/energy-efficiency/meetings-and-events/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-21/2014/fifth-international-forum-on-energy-for-sustainable-development/docs.html#/>

directive for the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy. It follows results-based approach and articulates the subprogramme's objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, performance measures, strategy and external factors. The Strategic Framework was 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/2000/8).

### **13. Regional advisory services**

29. Update on regional advisory services. The Committee will be invited to comment on regional advisory services in the field of energy.

### **14. Cooperation with international organizations**

*Documentation:* ECE/ENERGY/2015/5 – Cooperation and coordination with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

30. The Committee will be invited to advise on ongoing cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including industry associations, and the business community with a view to achieving synergies and complementarity of efforts and to avoid overlap and duplication.

### **15. Any other business**

31. Member States may raise any other issues under this agenda item.

### **16. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting**

*Documentation:* ECE/ENERGY/99 – Report of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on its twenty-fourth session

32. The Chair will summarize the major decisions, conclusions and recommendations taken by the Committee. These decisions, conclusions and recommendations will be duly included in the draft report prepared by the Secretariat for consideration and adoption by the Committee in session.



### III. Provisional timetable

**Wednesday,**

**18 November 2015**

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|-------------|---|
| 10.00-11.15 | 1. Opening and adoption of the agenda.<br>2. Election of officers.<br>3. Adoption of the revised draft report of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. |
|             | <b>A. Reports of subsidiary bodies</b>  |
| 11.15-13.00 | 4. Group of Experts on Gas.   |
| 13.00-15.00 | Lunch break   |
|             | <b>A. Reports of subsidiary bodies (continued)</b>  |
| 15.00-18.00 | 5. Expert Group on Resource Classification.<br>6. Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels.<br>7. Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.              |
| 18.00-20.00 | Reception   |

**Thursday,**

**19 November 2015**

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|-------------|---|
|             | <b>A. Reports of subsidiary bodies (continued)</b>  |
| 10.00-13.00 | 8. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy.<br>9. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency.   |
| 13.00-15.00 | Lunch break   |
|             | <b>B. High-level segment</b>  |
| 15.00-18.00 | 10. Panel discussion: Pathways to sustainable energy in the ECE region.<br>11. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development. |

**Friday,**

**20 November 2015**

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|-------------|---|
|             | <b>C. Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy</b>  |
| 10.00-12.00 | 12. Programme of Work for 2016–2017 and Draft Strategic Framework 2018–2019 of the ECE Subprogramme on Sustainable Energy.<br>13. Regional advisory services.<br>14. Cooperation with international organizations.<br>15. Any other business. |
| 12.00-13.00 | 16. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.  |