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**Economic Commission for Europe**

Committee on Sustainable Energy

**Committee on Sustainable Energy**

**Twenty-fourth session**

Geneva, 18-20 November 2015

Item 16 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the report and close of the meeting**

**Draft Conclusions and Recommendations arising from the Committee on Sustainable Energy Twenty-fourth Session<sup>1</sup>**

**Draft for discussion**

**The Committee on Sustainable Energy:**

**Agenda Item 1. Opening and adoption of the agenda**

1. Adopted the Agenda as presented.

**Agenda Item 2. Election of officers**

2. Elected Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst (Germany) as the Chair and Mr. Nazir Ramazanov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Talyat Aliev (Russian Federation), Mrs Jelena Simovic (Serbia), Mr. Jean-Christophe Füeg (Switzerland), and Mr. Ihor Didenko (Ukraine) as Vice-Chairs until the end of the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The term of office of the already elected official Mr. Jarad Daniels (United States) was for two years from the date of his election until the end of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. Underscored the desirability, for the sake of ensuring continuity of the Bureau, that not all officers be elected at the same time.
3. Thanked the Chairs of the Committee's subsidiary bodies for their valuable contributions to the Bureau since the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, of which they remain members *ex officio*.
4. Noted that nominations for Bureau members for the Committee on Sustainable Energy must be made by governments of member States of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). On procedures for nominating members to the Bureaux of subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, agreed that an elected Bureau could invite intergovernmental, non-governmental, and international organizations, or other specialists with particular relevant expertise to join the Bureau, subject to election by the Group of Experts and endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

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<sup>1</sup> The draft conclusions and recommendations will be reviewed by the Committee on Sustainable Energy after each agenda item and updated as needed.

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

5. Adopted the report of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (ECE/ENERGY/96; ECE/ENERGY/2015/L.1./rev1).

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

6. Noted with appreciation the progress made by the Group of Experts on Gas on the implementation of the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Gas for 2014-2015.
7. Took note of the report of the second session of the Group of Experts on Gas (ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2015/2), endorsed the extension of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Gas for 2014-2015 until the end of 2016, and requested the Group of Experts on Gas to prepare a Work Plan until the end of 2017.
8. Requested the secretariat, with the support of the International Gas Union, member companies of the ECE Gas Centre, the Bureau of the Group of Experts on Gas, and member States, to continue the work to reconceive the ECE Gas Centre in light of the sustainable development goals and the outcomes of COP21.

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

9. Noted with appreciation that the Expert Group on Resource Classification had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2013-2015<sup>2</sup>.
10. Endorsed the Guidelines for Application of UNFC-2009 for Uranium and Thorium Resources (ECE/ENERGY/2015/7).
11. Took note of the report of the sixth session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2015/2), endorsed the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2016-2017, and requested the secretariat to submit the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2016-2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
12. Endorsed the recommendation of the Expert Group on Resource Classification at its sixth session that an update of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) should not be undertaken before 2018.
13. In line with Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Decision 2004/233, encouraged all United Nations regional commissions to support global application of UNFC-2009 noting that it can incorporate and unify all existing classification systems, including national systems. Further noted that UNFC-2009 can enhance international communications by

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<sup>2</sup> The Committee in its twenty-third session had endorsed the extension of the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Resource Classification for 2013–2014 until the end of 2015.

providing a uniform, strong and rigorous classification system that offers a factual basis for general resource studies and strategies, government resource management, industry business process management, capital allocation and for reporting in existing classification systems that have been bridged to it.

14. The Committee requested that the Expert Group on Resource Classification prepare an extrabudgetary project proposal to fund needed secretariat support and other activities such as outreach and dissemination to ensure full and proper continued development and deployment of UNFC-2009.

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

15. Noted with appreciation that the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2014-2015.
16. Endorsed the extension of the mandate of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels to 31 December 2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
17. Endorsed the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2016-2017 and requested the secretariat to submit the Work Plan of the Expert Group on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2016-2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
18. Requested the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels to extend the duration of its future annual meetings to two days given the challenge to complete its work in one day.

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

19. Noted with appreciation that the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane for 2014-2015.
20. Took note of the report on methane management in extractive industries (ECE/ENERGY/2015/1), requested the establishment of a task force under the Committee on Sustainable Energy with representatives of the Groups of Expert on Gas and Coal Mine Methane and other stakeholders to undertake further work to assess baseline, benchmarking and scale of current methane emissions in those industries, with the aim of giving clear guidance to policy makers for report back at its twenty-fifth session. Suggested the study be based on the recommendations made in ECE/ENERGY/2015/1 with a focus on standards and technologies for monitoring, recording, and reporting methane emissions at each stage of production, processing, storage, transmission, distribution, and use of fossil fuels, whether coal, oil, or natural gas, and on appropriate mechanisms for mobilizing needed resources for deployment of methods to reduce methane emissions. Agreed that such a study of the methane challenges and opportunities in the extractive industries would require extra-budgetary resources.

21. Requested the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane to make a proposal at the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on how to expand the current mandate of the Group of Experts to encompass work on the transition of traditional mining companies to become integrated service companies and to explore the impact this transition might have on energy for sustainable development.
22. Endorsed the extension of the mandate of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane until 31 December 2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
23. Endorsed the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane for 2016-2017 and requested the secretariat to submit the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane for 2016-2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
24. Endorsed the recommendation to not publish an update of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines (ECE Energy Series No 31) before 2016 at the earliest.
25. Requested the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane to extend the duration of its future annual meetings to two days given the challenge to complete its work in one day.

**Agenda Item 8. Group of Experts on Renewable Energy**

26. Noted with appreciation that the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2014-2015.
27. Took note of the document ECE/ENERGY/2015/8 about key messages and progress on the ECE Renewable Energy Status Report in collaboration with the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) and the International Energy Agency and stressed the importance of increasing the impact of the findings by holding national outreach events. Invited member States to host such events in collaboration with the secretariat and partners in 2016.
28. Invited the secretariat to expand the Renewable Energy Status Report for the UNECE Region to cover all ECE member States and further invited governments and other organizations to provide financial and/or in-kind expert support for its preparation and for the implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016-2017.
29. Endorsed the extension of the mandate of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy to 31 December 2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
30. Endorsed the report of the second session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2015/2), including the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016-2017, and requested the secretariat to submit the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016-2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.

### **Agenda Item 9. Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency**

31. Noted with appreciation that the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2014-2015.
32. Took note of the publication “Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency” (ECE/ENERGY/100) and recommended to use it as a basis for providing technical assistance and training programmes in collaboration with other partners to member States at their request and upon the availability of resources. These efforts will support member States to increase the uptake of energy efficiency and support achieving the target of doubling the global rate of improvement of energy efficiency by 2030 that is captured under the Sustainable Development Goal 7.
33. Noted the outcomes of the survey on building standards and building regulations in the ECE region. Endorsed the proposal to establish a joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings with the Committee on Housing and Land Management with participation of the experts from the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies, other ECE bodies and international partner organizations. Mandated the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency to lead the activities for the Committee on Sustainable Energy.
34. Noted the request by the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency to move activities related to smart grids and other advanced transmission and distribution technologies as cross-sectoral activity reporting directly to the Committee on Sustainable Energy, and requested the secretariat to implement the change.
35. Endorsed the extension of the mandate of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency to 31 December 2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
36. Endorsed the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016-2017 and requested the secretariat to submit the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016-2017 for subsequent approval by the Executive Committee.
37. Invited governments and other organizations to provide financial and/or in-kind expert support to strengthen the implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016-2017.

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

38. Noted the recommendations of its Bureau and the high-level panel on pathways to sustainable energy. Requested further analysis on sustainable energy policy drivers in ECE member States that will help attain the objectives of energy for sustainable development. Such analysis should include developing instruments for transparent model-based analysis of pathways for sustainable energy in the ECE region and establishing an early warning system if the achievement of sustainable energy objectives is not on track. Recommended to link to ongoing efforts of tracking and implementation, *e.g.*, the World Bank’s *Global Tracking Framework* and to the processes related to the *International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development*.

39. Requested the secretariat in close collaboration with the Bureau to begin preparations for an energy ministerial meeting on enabling the transition to a sustainable energy future. Invited member States to host such an event in collaboration with the secretariat and partners in 2017.
40. Endorsed the proposal to strengthen the capacity of the ECE member States to achieve the sustainable development goals related to energy under the supervision of its Bureau and requested a review of activities at its twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth meetings. Invited governments and other organizations to provide financial and/or in-kind expert support to assist with the implementation of the Work Plan. The secretariat was requested to present the proposal to the Executive Committee at the next opportunity.

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

41. Endorsed the *Statement of Common Action* to support implementation of the provisions of the Hammamet Declaration, adopted at the 6th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Yerevan on 29 September - 2 October 2015. Agreed to support the five priority action areas and called upon the ECE Executive Secretary to bring it to the attention of the President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for further action. Called upon the Secretaries of the other regional commissions to consider doing likewise.
42. Welcomed the offer by Kazakhstan to host the International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in 2017.

#### **Agenda Item 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**

43. In view of the conception of the ECE Gas Centre noted that a number of planned documents will not be issued and a number of planned meetings will not be held during the biennium 2014-2015.
44. Took note of the summary report on concrete and action oriented activities undertaken and results achieved by the ECE in the area of sustainable energy (ECE/ENERGY/2015/4).
45. Endorsed the programme of work for 2016-2017 on the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy with the requested changes as reflected in the annex of this report, including the terms of reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and mandates and terms of reference of its subsidiary bodies (Annex IV), the publication plan for 2016-2017 (ECE/ENERGY/2015/3) and the calendar of meetings for 2016 (ECE/ENERGY/2015/6). Requested the secretariat to prepare the draft programme of work for 2018-2019 for consideration at its twenty-fifth meeting.
46. Endorsed the strategic framework 2018-2019 of the ECE subprogramme on sustainable energy in its revised format, as attached to this report.
47. Requested the secretariat to proceed with the preparations of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 28-30 September 2016 in Geneva. Further

requested the secretariat to organise the second Open-ended Consultations on ECE work on sustainable energy on 19 April 2016 in Geneva.

48. Endorsed the request of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee that their annual sessions be supported by parliamentary documents, including a relevant agenda and reports, as needed in relation to the implementation of their work plans for 2016-2017. Invited the secretariat to continue supporting the work of the subsidiary bodies by, *inter alia*, the following: organizing planned work plan activities, preparing formal documentation required for the development, approval, implementation and reporting of work plan activities, arranging the translation of official documents into the three official ECE languages (English, French, Russian) by the Division of Conference Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva to service the meetings of the subsidiary bodies.
49. Invited governments and other organizations to provide financial and/or in-kind expert support to strengthen the implementation of its programme of work for 2016-2017.

**Agenda Item 13. Regional advisory services**

50. Requested an update on regional advisory services (ECE/ENERGY/2014/2) at its twenty-fifth session.

**Agenda Item 14. Cooperation with international organizations**

51. Noted the report on cooperation and coordination with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (ECE/ENERGY/2015/5) and requested an update at its twenty-fifth session.

**Agenda Item 15. Any other business**

52. Took note of the request by its Bureau to increase the participation of representatives and experts from the capitals of the ECE member States in its activities and meetings. In order to allow more targeted outreach and information flow in preparation for its twenty-fifth session in 2016, requested member States of the ECE and participants of the meeting to provide expert contact points to the secretariat and requested the secretariat to implement this request.

**Agenda Item 16. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting**

53. Adopted the report of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (ECE/ENERGY/99) subject to any necessary editing and formatting.