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Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

Fourth session

Geneva, 31 October-1 November 2017

Draft Conclusions and Recommendations of the Fourth Session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency¹

Draft for Discussion

The Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency:

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/1 – Annotated provisional agenda.

1. Adopted the Agenda as presented.

2. Energy efficiency standards in buildings

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/4 – Framework guidelines for energy efficiency standards in buildings.

2. Took note of the endorsement of the document ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/4 “Framework guidelines for energy efficiency standards in buildings” and approval of the Terms of Reference for the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings of the ECE Region by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session.
3. Recommended enhanced cooperation with the Committee on Housing and Land Management in the activities of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and in the implementation of extrabudgetary project on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings.

¹ The draft conclusions and recommendations will be reviewed by the Group of Experts after each agenda item and updated as needed.

4. Expressed appreciation to the Governments of Denmark and Russian Federation for their financial support for the extrabudgetary project on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings.
5. Requested the secretariat, chair of the Group of Experts, co-chairs of the Joint Task Force and interested members of the Group of Experts and the Joint Task Force to develop and propose practical steps for implementation of the Framework guidelines for energy efficiency standards in buildings in the member States of the UNECE and other interested UN Member States. Such practical steps may include establishment of a research consortium by universities worldwide, establishment of Centres of Excellence on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings, training and capacity building of policy makers, architecture and construction practitioners, and other stakeholders. The scale and scope of these activities depend on availability of resources.
6. Requested the secretariat, co-chairs of the Joint Task Force and interested members of the Bureau and the Group of Experts, jointly with the Committee on Housing and Land Management, to organize a workshop on the results of activities of the Joint Task Force, including on promotion of the Framework guidelines for energy efficiency standards in buildings, at the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Kiev in 2018.

3. Best practices in selected economic sectors to improve energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/3 – Best practices in selected economic sectors to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on achieving the full potential within industry through targeted awareness building and active engagement with governments.

7. Took note of the document ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/3 “Best practices in selected economic sectors to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on achieving the full potential within industry through targeted awareness building and active engagement with governments”.
8. Took note that the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session supported activities to enhance dialogue between governments and business to improve significantly energy efficiency in industry.
9. Expressed its support to continue exploring barriers that constrain energy efficiency implementation in the industry sector and ways to overcome these barriers by organizing workshops with participation of policy makers and representatives of industrial companies both at international and national levels and by developing case studies on successful implementation of energy efficiency improvement in industry, which take into account its multiple benefits. The scale and scope of these activities depend on availability of resources.
10. Supported enhanced cooperation in these activities with UNIDO, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, and other international organizations.
11. Requested the secretariat and interested members of the Bureau and the Group of Experts, jointly with UNIDO, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, and other interested partners, to organize a workshop on various aspects of industrial energy efficiency at the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Kiev in 2018.

4. Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/5 – Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency – conclusions and recommendations.

12. Took note of the document ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/5 “Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency. Background paper on overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency – conclusions and recommendations”.

13. Took note that the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session supported activities to address barriers to improve energy efficiency based on the outcomes of the study “Overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency.”

14. Supported outcomes of the policy analysis in the joint study by UNECE and the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency on overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency and recommended wide promotion of its results through workshops, webinars and other activities.

15. Requested the secretariat to explore possibility of further activities to address barriers to improve energy efficiency depending on the availability of resources.

5. Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/6 – Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency. Background paper on lessons learned from utility-operated energy efficiency programmes in the United States and Switzerland.

16. Took note of the document ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/6 “Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency. Background paper on lessons learned from utility-operated energy efficiency programmes in the United States and Switzerland.”

17. Noted that utilities and energy service companies will play a significant role in the transition to clean energy system of the future and that the focus needs to shift to customer-driven service models, greenhouse gas emissions controls, affordability and reliability.

18. Took note of presentations on the use of geo-spatial and big data in energy transition.

19. Requested the secretariat and interested members of the Bureau and the Group of Experts to organize a workshop on the role of utilities and the use of geo-spatial and big data in energy transition at the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Kiev in 2018.

6. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, actions to achieve energy-related Sustainable Development Goals, and cross-cutting activities on transition of the energy sector

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/2017/2 – Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development: Building on Regional Cooperation.

ECE/ENERGY/2016/8 – ECE/ENERGY/2016/7 – Pathways to sustainable energy.

ECE/ENERGY/2016/9 – ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2017/3 – Renewable Energy Status Report 2017 – Key findings: from bottlenecks to opportunities.

20. Expressed its appreciation to the Government of Kazakhstan for hosting the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and the Energy Ministerial Conference.
21. Took note of the recommendations outlined in document ECE/ENERGY/2017/2 “Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development: Building on Regional Cooperation” and discussed at the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, and supported the steps for their implementation (Annex I, para. 3 (c) improving energy efficiency in buildings and (d) improving energy efficiency in industry), as reflected in the draft programme of work for the ECE sustainable energy subprogramme for 2018 in document ECE/ENERGY/2017/11.Rev.1.
22. Took note of the UNECE contribution to track sustainable energy progress in the region, in particular in the UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report 2017, its contribution to the World Bank reports Readiness for Investments in Sustainable Energy (RISE), Global Tracking Framework (GTF), and its UNECE regional report.
23. Took note of the relevance of the project “Pathways to Sustainable Energy” overseen by the Committee on Sustainable Energy in linking the work of its Groups of Experts and agreed to contribute to the delivery of the project by providing energy efficiency related inputs and recommendations to the development of policy and technology options and pathways.
24. Supported the request of the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session to the Groups of Experts on Energy Efficiency and on Renewable Energy to deepen their collaboration on deploying renewable energy sources in conjunction with energy efficiency measures and requested the secretariat and the Bureau to explore practical steps for such collaboration.
25. Requested the secretariat and the Bureau to explore the possibility of cooperation with the ECE Inland Transport Committee on selected issues in energy efficiency in the transport sector as recommended by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session (pending availability of resources).
26. Requested the secretariat to explore with Ukraine the possibility of organizing the fifth session of the Group of Experts under the auspices of the Ninth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Energy in 2018 in Kiev.

7. Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2018-2019

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/2017/5–ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/7 – Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2018-2019.

27. Acknowledged that the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session noted with appreciation the progress that the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency has made on delivering on its mandated activities and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2016-2017 and approved the request of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for extension of its mandate until 31 December 2019 and the Work Plan of the Group of Experts for 2018-2019 with a possibility of extension.
28. Requested the secretariat and the Bureau to explore possible ways and means to develop an umbrella programme or specific projects to be submitted for consideration and possible funding by potential donors and partner organizations.

8. Election of officers

29. Elected Mr. Samir Israyilov (Azerbaijan), Ms. Biljana Trivanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), and Ms. Antonela Solujic (Serbia) as vice chairs for two years. The Group of Experts invited Ms. Maria Gabriela Soares de Menezes Prata Dias (Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency) to join the Bureau for the next two years to strengthen its activities.

30. The Bureau of the Group of Experts has the following members: Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) as chair and Mr. Samir Israyilov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Andrei Miniankou (Belarus), Ms. Biljana Trivanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Mr. Zlatko Pavičić (Croatia), Ms. Natalia Jamburia (Georgia), Mr. Christian Noll (Germany), Ms. Antonela Solujic (Serbia), Mr. Valeriy Pysarenko (Ukraine), Mr. Benoit Lebot (IPEEC), Mr. Martin Kumar Patel (Energy Efficiency Chair, University of Geneva), Mr. Hannes Mac Nulty (BG Consulting Engineers), Mr. Stefan Buettner (Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production (EEP)), and Ms. Maria Gabriela Soares de Menezes Prata Dias (Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency) as vice chairs.

9. Other business

31. At the time the draft conclusions and recommendations were prepared there were no issues to be raised under this item.

10. Report of the meeting

32. The report of the meeting was adopted, including conclusions and recommendations, subject to any necessary editing and formatting.

11. Dates of the next meeting

33. The fifth session of the Group of Experts is tentatively scheduled to take place on 29-30 October 2017 in Kiev or Geneva. The Group of Experts proposed that its meetings may take place in venues outside Geneva.
