

## **Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Sustainable Energy**

### **Group of Experts on Renewable Energy Second session**

Geneva, 12-13 October 2015

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

#### **Report of the meeting**

### **Draft Conclusions and Recommendations arising from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy Second Session<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Draft for discussion**

##### **Agenda item 2: Election of Officers**

1. The Group of Experts elected Mr. Milos Banjac (Serbia)<sup>2</sup> as Vice-Chair to join the Bureau.
2. The Group of Experts expressed appreciation for the services provided by Mr. Marcin Scigan (Poland) who withdrew from his role of Bureau member, Vice-Chair, due to new professional assignments.
3. The Bureau of the Group of Experts has the following members: Mr. Ulrich Benterbusch (Germany) as Chair and Mr. Nazir Ramazanov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Andrei Miniankou (Belarus), Ms. Maria Raytcheva (Bulgaria), Mr. Zeljko Juric (Croatia), Mr. Milos Banjac (Serbia) and Mr. Paolo Frankl (International Energy Agency), Mr. Jeffrey Skeer (International Renewable Energy Agency) and Ms. Christine Lins (Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century) as Vice-Chairs.

##### **Agenda item 3: Report on the implementation of the Work Plan 2014-2015**

4. The Group of Experts noted that it had delivered on the concrete activities of the mandate and work plan for 2014–2015 and will report achievements and key milestones at the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

##### **Agenda item 4: Progress made in the renewable energy uptake: key messages and next steps from the on-going status report in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region**

5. The Group of Experts thanked its partners, notably the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (REN21) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) for their commitment in the work of the GERE and its Bureau, with a special mention to the progress made to the UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report and encouraged future engagement with key partners along these lines.
6. The Group of Experts requested the secretariat to explore with member States and potential donors possible ways to track progress on renewable energy for the entire UNECE region in collaboration with REN21, IEA, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the World Bank and other partners, including on the multi-agency Global Tracking Framework of the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL), and produce a report on key issues, potential and opportunities for the region as part of its 2016-2017 work plan, depending on resource availability.

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<sup>1</sup> The draft conclusions and recommendations will be reviewed and agreed by the Group of Experts after each agenda item, including any updates as needed

<sup>2</sup> Nomination received on 13 July 2015

Member States were invited to contribute to the promotion of the UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report by hosting specific events in 2016.

**Agenda item 5: The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal on energy, and contribute to the global actions on climate change mitigation and adaptation, including the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

7. The Group of Experts recommended that the Committee on Sustainable Energy play a lead role in supporting member States to achieve the global goal on energy and to contribute to global efforts on climate change mitigation through renewable energy.

8. The Group of Experts requested the secretariat to promote the role of the Group of Experts and of the UNECE to increase the uptake of renewable energy at a first outreach event to launch the UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report at the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in December 2015.

**Agenda item 6: International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development**

9. The Group of Experts recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy to endorse the outcome of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and agreed to support those action items that relate to renewable energy.

**Agenda item 7: Cross-cutting issues and coordination of work on renewable energy**

10. The Group of Experts recognized the importance of cross-cutting issues and agreed to consider renewable energy issues in the future energy mix from a systems perspective.

11. The Group of Experts invited the secretariat to continuing to closely collaborate with other bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, in particular with the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, the Group of Experts on Gas, the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels and the Expert Group on Resource Classification on the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) to renewables as well as with other Sectoral Committees of the Commission and with other key stakeholders in the context of the draft work plan, including on the possible development of renewable energy standards in housing and other areas

12. The Group of Experts agreed to continue the participation in the Task Force on Gas and Renewable Energy of the Group of Experts on Gas in relation to the use of natural gas to support renewable energy uptake.

**Agenda item 8: Renewal of Mandate and Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016–2017**

13. The Group of Experts recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy that its mandate be extended to 31 December 2017, for subsequent approval by the UNECE Executive Committee;

14. The Group of Experts recommended that the draft work plan for 2016-2017 be submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement and then to the UNECE Executive Committee for subsequent approval.

**Agenda item 9: Key messages for the Committee on Sustainable Energy: Presentation by Chair and the secretariat**

15. The Group of Experts invited the Committee on Sustainable Energy to explore possible funding of extra-budgetary projects among UNECE member States to strengthen the implementation of its work plan 2016-2017, including tracking progress on renewable energy in the region.

16. The Group of Experts recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy that its annual sessions be supported by parliamentary documents and reports as needed in relation to the implementation of the work plan 2016-2017. The Group of Experts recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy that the secretariat be invited to continue supporting its work 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, including the translation of official documents into the three official ECE languages (English, French, Russian) to service the Group of Experts meetings.

**Agenda item 10. Other business**

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

**Agenda item 11. Report of the meeting**

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

**Agenda item 12. Dates of the next meeting**

19. The Group of Experts recommended the following topics for the substantive portion of its third session: xxx

20. The Group of Experts welcomed the proposal made by the Government of Azerbaijan to organize an International Conference on Renewable Energy in 2016 in Baku.

21. The third session of the Group of Experts is tentatively scheduled to take place on 20–21 October 2016, Baku or Geneva. The Group of Experts proposed that its meetings may take place in venues outside Geneva.

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