



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Gas

First session

Geneva, 14–15 April 2014

Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda

Adoption of the Agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the first session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday 14 April 2014*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Matters arising from the twenty-second session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy related to the Group of Experts on Gas.
4. Recent developments and medium- and long-term prospects and policies in the gas industry, including trade of gas:
 - (a) Natural gas markets in the UNECE region: key issues and trends;
 - (b) New developments in the European and world market of natural gas vehicles (NGVs) - Blue Corridor and other projects.

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division (<http://www.unece.org/ie/>), and transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, if possible, at least two weeks prior to the session, either by fax (+41 22 917 0038) or by e-mail (laurence.rotta@unece.org). Delegates are requested to present themselves at least one hour prior to the start of the meeting at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG 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 web site), for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (internal extension 72446 or 74140).

5. Review of the work of the UNECE Gas Centre.
6. Review of the activities of other subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy related to natural gas.
7. Overview of the activities of other international organizations in the field of gas.
8. Current state and prospects of liquefied natural gas in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe.
9. Future activities of the Group of Experts on Gas:
10. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.
11. Other business.
12. Dates of next meeting.
13. Adoption of the report of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

1. The first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda (ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2014/1).

Item 2: Election of officers

2. Member States were requested in early November 2013 to nominate candidates for the new bureau that will be elected at the first session of the Group of Experts on Gas.

Item 3: Matters arising from the twenty-second session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy related to the Group of Experts on Gas.

3. New terms of reference for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and terms of reference and mandates for its subsidiary bodies were presented and discussed at the twenty-second session of the Committee and subsequently approved by the Executive Committee (ECE/EX/2013/L.15). The Secretariat will present the terms of reference to the Group of Experts on Gas.

Item 4: Recent developments and medium- and long-term prospects and policies in the gas industry, including trade of gas.

4. Representatives of UNECE Governments, gas companies and organizations will be invited to present developments in 2014 in their countries' gas industry operations and condition. Reports on developments throughout 2013 should be submitted in writing for distribution to delegates at the meeting, National representatives are requested to provide electronic versions of any presentations to the secretariat in advance and in one of the UNECE three working languages (English, French, or Russian).
5. Authors of the joint UNECE-International Gas Union study on use of gas in transport (now posted to the UNECE website) will be invited to present recent

developments. Representatives of relevant companies will be invited to report on developments with regards to trends in the use of gas in transport in the UNECE region as well as in the world including the Blue Corridor and similar projects.

6. Leading experts from the UNECE member States, gas industry and national regulatory bodies will be invited to address the key issues and trends in the natural gas markets in the region. Competitiveness of natural gas, production and consumption trends, investment challenges and changing market structure would be topics of interest for meeting participants.

Item 5: Review of the work of the UNECE Gas Centre

7. The Secretariat will provide an overview of the work of the Gas Centre in 2013 and the programme for 2014.

Item 6: Review of the activities of other subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy related to natural gas

8. The secretariat will report on the work of other subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy as they related to natural gas.

Item 7: Overview of the activities of other international organizations in the field of gas

9. International governmental and non-governmental organizations will be invited to present their activities in the field of natural gas in 2013 and 2014.

Item 8: Current state and prospects of liquefied natural gas in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe.

10. The study of the current state and prospects of liquefied natural in the regional of the Economic Commission for Europe has been published. In order to hear the perspectives on LNG from the points of views of producing countries, an LNG producer/consumer dialogue will be conducted in the context of this agenda item.

Item 9: Future activities of the Group of Experts on Gas

11. The Group of Experts on Gas will consider its future programme of work for 2014 and 2015. The Bureau and the Secretariat will provide supporting documents and overviews for possible work in the following areas:

- (a) Best practice guidance to address gas leaks in the gas transport/distribution system;
- (b) Best practice guidance for development of unconventional gas, including shale gas;
- (c) Best policy practices to enhance the role of gas in enabling the penetration of renewables;
- (d) Removing obstacles to development of economic carbon capture and storage (to be done by the group of experts on cleaner electricity production);

- (e) Removing barriers to the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel; and
- (f) Best practice policy guidance on prices and tariffs, including gas quality standards.

12. The Group of Experts on Gas will be asked to endorse the programme of work and work plan 2014–2015 for submission to the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Secretariat will present the provisional calendar of meetings for 2014.

Item 10: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

13. The Group of Experts on Gas will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations as may be agreed.

Item 11: Other business

14. Delegates may wish to raise any other matter relevant to the meeting. At the time when the provisional agenda was prepared, no issues had been communicated to the secretariat under this item.

Item 12: Dates of next meeting

15. The second session of the Group of Experts on Gas will be held from 13 to 14 April 2015.

Item 13: Adoption of the report of the meeting

16. The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will sum up the agreed conclusions and recommendations and close the meeting. The report will be adopted at the meeting. If not adopted at the meeting, the draft report of the meeting and the list of participants will be drawn up by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau and circulated for comments and approval to the Geneva Permanent Missions for subsequent approval.
