

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Twenty-third session
Geneva, 19-21 November 2014

Energy for Sustainable Development

Must reality conflict with ambition?

21 November 2014 10.00-13.00

**How can renewable energy help optimise
energy systems?**



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

UNECE

1st Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) 18 November (afternoon)-19 November (morning) 2014

TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Status of renewable energy in the UNECE region (Item 3)

What is the right way to develop and deploy renewables?

Moderator: *Mr. Scott Foster*, Director Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

- Keynote presentation:

Ms. Christine Lins, Executive Secretary, Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)

- Panel discussion

Mr. Marko Kosir, Mr. Tomaž Lajovic, Consultants, German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ)

Mr. Paolo Frankl, Head Renewable Energy Division, International Energy Agency (IEA)

Mr. Jeffrey Skeer, Senior Programme Officer, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

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Energy access and quality of supply (Item 4)

How can we support those communities with no access to energy in the UNECE region?

- Moderator: *Mr. Hans B. (Teddy) Püttgen*, Senior Director, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and Honorary Professor, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL)
- Panel discussion

Mr. Hayk Harutyunyan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Armenia

Ms. Alma Zhukenova, Deputy Director, Renewable Energy Division, Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan

Ms. Malika Jumaeva, Attaché, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tajikistan

Mr. Nebojsa Arsenijevic, Manager, Balkan Renewable Energy Program, International Finance Corporation (IFC), Belgrade, Serbia

1st Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) 18 November (afternoon)-19 November (morning) 2014

WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Best practices policies (Item 5)/ Contribution to the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (Item 7).

How can a competitive market environment for renewables be improved?

- Moderator: *Mr. Julian Popov*, Advisor, European Climate Foundation
- Keynote presentation on the call for action by the SE4ALL Decade in the UNECE region

Mr. Minoru Takada, Representative and Director, Sustainable Energy for All Initiative, NY office

- Executive Office of the Secretary-General, United Nations
- Panel discussion

Mr. Oliver Frank, Head of Division, Renewables Energy, German Energy Agency (Dena)

Mr. Germán Bejarano García, Chairman's Adviser and International Institutional Relations Director, Abengoa

Mr. James Primrose, Head of Strategy and Analytics, BP Biofuels

Mr. David Kerins, Energy Economist, Renewable Energy & Energy RDI Division, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Mr. Andrea Rossi, Programme Officer, Global Bioenergy Partnership (FAO/GBEP)

1st Session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE) 18 November (afternoon)-19 November (morning) 2014

WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER

- Cross-cutting issues and coordination of work on renewable energy (Item 6)
- Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2014–2015 (Item 8)
- Presentation by the secretariat - Open discussion
- Other business (item 9)
- Report of the meeting (Item 10).
- Dates of the next meeting (Item 11)

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 2: Elections of Officers

1. The Group of Experts elected Mr. Ulrich Benterbusch as its chair (Germany), Mr. Nazir Ramazanov (Azerbaijan), Ms. Maria Raytcheva (Bulgaria), Mr. Andrei Miniankou (Belarus), Mr. Zeljko Juric (Croatia), Mr. Martin Scigan (Poland) as vice chairs for two years. The Group of Experts agreed to invite other stakeholders.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 2: Elections of Officers

2. The Group of Experts invited other stakeholders to participate in the Bureau for two years to strengthen its activities. The following persons have agreed to join the Bureau for two years: 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).

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 2: Elections of Officers

3. Other stakeholders who express an interest may also participate in the Bureau meetings or may opt to be consulted regularly and closely associated with the ongoing work of the Bureau. The agendas and reports of the Bureau meetings will be posted on the ECE website.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 2: Elections of Officers

4. The Group of Experts appreciated the invitation by the Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy to be represented on the Bureau *ex officio* by its Chair.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 3: Status of development of renewable energy in the UNECE region

5a. The Group of Experts expressed appreciation for the report on the renewable energy status in the ECE region which was prepared for the first session of the Group of Experts with the support provided by the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ), acknowledged important data gaps for the region and recommended future work with relevant partners, including the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 3: Status of development of renewable energy in the UNECE region

5b. The Group of Experts invited the secretariat to prepare a Renewable Energy Status Report for the ECE Region in 2015 in collaboration with key partners as a concrete tool aimed at further increasing the uptake of renewable energy in the region and invited governments and other organizations to provide financial and/or in-kind expert support to the preparation of this Report.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 3: Status of development of renewable energy in the UNECE region

6. The Group of Experts invited the secretariat to explore possible ways and means to prepare a study on the potential and competitiveness of renewable energy technologies in the ECE region in cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), additional key international stakeholders and other subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, subject to the availability of funding.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 3: Status of development of renewable energy in the UNECE region

7. The Group of Experts invited the secretariat to prepare during the biennium 2016-2017 a tracking progress report of renewable energy deployment in the ECE region as follow-up to the Renewable Energy Status Report, and to explore possible ways and means to raise funds for the preparation of this report on a regular basis.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 4: Energy Access in the UNECE region

8. The Group of Experts took note of the paper prepared on the energy access in the ECE region and noted the need to identify those communities with no access to energy and subsequently to develop a “Access to energy for all” action plan, suggesting concrete ways to support those communities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 4: Energy Access in the UNECE region

9. The Group of Experts invited the secretariat to include the consideration of data and information on the communities with no access to energy in the Renewable Energy Status Report for the ECE region 2015 through a questionnaire sent to interested member States to collect data and information if necessary, as well as to initiate a multi-stakeholder dialogue with the help of the private sector, academia, civil society and other international actors.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 4: Energy Access in the UNECE region

10. The Group of Experts requested the secretariat to work with a range of stakeholders in renewable energy to identify best practices on the use of renewable energy in areas without access to energy and help stakeholders to identify and develop proper solutions for those communities with no access to energy at the present.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 5: Best practices in renewable energy in the UNECE region

11. The Group of Experts noted the development of matrices with key action areas to develop a menu of efficient and economic technologies and policies to promote them and encourage the exchange of experiences, lessons learned and best practices between experts of member States as a step to significantly increase energy production from renewable sources as a means of sustainable development and climate change mitigation.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 5: Best practices in renewable energy in the UNECE region

12. The Group of Experts recommended to set up a Task Force on Best Practice Policies, mainly working through electronic consultations, with representatives of main stakeholders from government, non-governmental, financial and international organizations as well as from energy companies and academia to develop a menu of efficient and economic technologies and policies to promote them, with a possible view of establishing ECE standards for renewable energy in the long-term.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 6: Cross-cutting and coordination of work on renewable energy

13. The Group of Experts agreed to strengthen the cooperation and synergies with other subsidiary bodies of the Sustainable Energy Subprogramme, in particular with the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, the Group of Experts on Gas 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 ECE subprogrammes, in particular the ECE-FAO Forestry and Timber subprogramme, the Housing and Land Management subprogramme and the Statistics subprogramme, and within the overall ECE contribution to the post-2015 development process.



Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 6: Cross-cutting and coordination of work on renewable energy

14. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation the strengthened cooperation between ECE and relevant partners, including through specific agreements such as the Memorandum of Understanding with the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21), Memorandum of Understanding with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and Letter of Agreement with the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 6: Cross-cutting and coordination of work on renewable energy

15. The Group of Experts invited the Chair of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy and the Chair of the Group of Experts on Gas to explore ways to strengthen the cooperation for the implementation of the respective work plans, and it further recommended that they develop a proposal for joint work that would benefit from synergies of both groups and avoid duplication, bearing in mind that renewable energy and gas are inextricably linked.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 7: The UNECE's role in achieving the objectives of the UN Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All Initiative

16. The Group of Experts was informed of the Joint Statement of the Executive Secretaries of the United Nations Regional Commissions at the Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, held in Hammamet, Tunisia, on 4-7 November 2014 and, in particular, of its renewable energy aspects.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 8: Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2014-2015

17. The Group of Experts agreed on the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2014-2015, and requested the secretariat to submit the work plan for endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy and subsequent approval by the Executive Committee of ECE.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 8: Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2014-2015

18. The Group of Experts requested the secretariat, in coordination with the Bureau of the Group of Expert and in coordination with member States to prepare Draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy for 2016-2017 for the next session of the Group of Experts.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 9: Other Business

19. There was no other business.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 10: Report of the meeting

20. The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, summarized the previously agreed conclusions and recommendations. The report of the meeting was adopted, including conclusions and recommendations, subject to any necessary editing and formatting. After editing it will be posted on the ECE renewable energy webpages.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 11: Dates of the next meeting

21. The Group of Experts noted the challenge to complete its work in one day and recommended that consideration be given to increasing the duration of future meetings of the Group of Experts to two days per year.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Report back from the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Agenda Item 11: Dates of the next meeting

22. The second session of the Group of Experts is tentatively scheduled to take place on 12-13 October 2015 in Geneva.