

To: Members of the Bureau of the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Management

From: David MacDonald, Charlotte Griffiths and Harikrishnan Tulsidas

Conference Call of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) 12 November 2020 MINUTES
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Attendance 3pm CET call:

	Present	Apology
David MacDonald, EGRM Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Igor Shpurov, Russian Federation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternates Olga Trofimova and Ekaterina Lovchuk</i>		
Tunde Arisekola, Nigeria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hussein Allaboun, Jordan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Viktor Babashev, Kazakhstan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fatih Birol, IEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate tbc</i>		
Roger Dixon, CRIRSCO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mücella Ersoy, Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gioia Falcone, IGA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nurangiz Farajullayeva, Azerbaijan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Milan Grohol, EC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate Gerardo Herrera</i>		
TBC, IAEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Zoltán Horváth, EuroGeoSurveys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erica Ingvald, Sweden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alistair Jones, EGRM TAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JU Jianhua, China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate YANG Hua</i>		
Young Joo Lee, (alternate Dhiti Tulyatid), CCOP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Branka Knežević, Bosnia and Herzegovina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rafal Misztal, Poland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul Msoma, AUC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Neumann, EFG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teresa Ponce de Leão	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roberto Sarudiansky, OLAMI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bernard Seiller, SPE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Charlotte Griffiths, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hari Tulsidas, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of Draft Agenda (attachment 1)
2. Bureau Update and Welcome to New Members (attachment 3)
3. Draft minutes of Bureau call of 14 September 2020 (attachment 2)
4. EGRM-11 Outcomes (attachment 4)
5. Vision for EGRM
6. EGRM-12 (attachment 5)
 - EGRM-12 draft agenda
 - EGRM Work Plan for 2021-2022
7. EGRM Webinars
8. Technical Advisory Group Update
9. CRIRSCO Update
10. 29th Session Committee on Sustainable Energy (attachment 6)
11. ICE-SRMs Update
12. Education and outreach (attachment 7)
13. Date of next call
14. Any other business

Documentation:

1. Draft agenda for Bureau Call on 12 November 2020
2. Draft minutes of 14 September 2020
3. EGRM Bureau Contact List as at 2 November 2020
4. EGRM-11 Meeting Report
5. List of EGRM-12 Parliamentary Documents
6. Revised UNFC ECOSOC Decision Document
7. List of events promoting UNFC in 2020-2021 as at 2 November 2020

Item 1. Approval of Draft Agenda

Documentation: Draft Agenda for Bureau Call on 12 November 2020

1. The agenda was approved.

Item 2. Bureau Update and Welcome to New Members

Documentation: EGRM Bureau Contact List as at 2 November 2020

2. The Chair welcomed new members, who were elected during the 11th session of EGRM, 22-25 September:
 - Ms. Branka Knežević, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
 - Mr. Viktor Babashev, KAZAKHSTAN
 - Mr. Jianhua JU, CHINA
3. The updated Bureau contact list was circulated as part of the documentation for the call. Members were requested to advise Charlotte of any changes to contact details.
4. At EGRM-11, the Expert Group agreed to the term of the existing Bureau members being extended until the end of the twelfth session (April 2021). The Expert Group also noted that nominations from Norway, Serbia, Australia and IAEA are awaited.
5. Bureau elections will be held at EGRM-12 for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chairs. This was also announced in the "Update on EGRM Activities" email sent to the EGRM mailing list on 29 October.

6. "Draft rules of procedure for the Committee on Sustainable Energy" (ECE/ENERGY/2020/5) have been prepared by the Bureau of the Committee for consideration and approval by the Committee at its 29th session, 25-27 November. The objective of the document is to streamline the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, to provide a basis for accelerated delivery of the sustainable energy subprogramme, and to solidify ECE's reputation as a credible, relevant, and responsive partner. The document amongst other issues also seeks to clarify the nomination process for members of the Bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies i.e. the six group of experts.

7. As per this document, candidates for the Bureaux of the subsidiary bodies shall be nominated by ECE member States where possible. The Bureaux of the subsidiary bodies can nominate additional Vice-Chairs from the expert community based on their expertise, professionalism, and support as appropriate. Elections to Bureaux will take place in accordance with the Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe.

8. Branka Knežević, Viktor Babashev and Jianhua JU are elected for two years from the end of the eleventh session. All other Bureau members need to stand for re-election at EGRM-12 in April 2021 should they wish to do so. The Chair requested members to advise Charlotte should they wish to stand for re-election. The Bureau will review all nominations at a future meeting and will discuss all those not submitted by a member State.

9. The Chair underlined that nominations for the position Chair are invited and welcome. The CRIRSCO representative noted that he had previously, on behalf of CRIRSCO, put forward a nomination for the Chair position. Following a discussion, there was agreement that people not in the Bureau or the EGRM could also be nominated as Chair as there was no precedent for doing otherwise. It was noted that any nominated Chair would need to demonstrate understanding of UNFC and the workings of the Expert Group etc.

Item 3. Draft minutes of call on 14 September 2020

Documentation: Draft minutes of call on 14 September 2020

10. The revised draft minutes were circulated with the documentation for the call. The draft minutes were approved.

Item 4. EGRM-11 Outcomes

Documentation: EGRM-11 Meeting Report

11. The report of EGRM-11 was circulated and is available in English, French and Russian on UNECE website.

12. EGRM-11 was essentially a virtual meeting held from 22-25 September. In spite of the challenges, it was well organised with good participation and good engagement in the chat function. It was held in cooperation with the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy which was also a very positive outcome for our work to apply UNFC to renewables.

13. The highlights of the meeting were included in the "EGRM Update" email circulated on 29 October. Two substantive sessions were organised on 23 and 24 September as part of the EGRM-11 meeting:

- Overcoming barriers to scaling up Renewable Energy
- The role of nuclear energy resources in sustainable development .

14. The Chair thanked the Bureau, Renewable Energy Working Group and Nuclear Fuels Working Group for its support in organising the sessions. The presentations delivered during these events are posted to the UNFC website.

15. Other highlights of the meeting are:

- (i) The updated UNFC published at the end of 2019 was noted (ECE Energy Series Number 61 and ECE/ENERGY/125 now available in English, French, Russian, Arabic, Chinese and Spanish). Underlined during the meeting that the updated text includes optimised language suitable to all resources, while the classification system itself remained fundamentally unchanged.
- (ii) EGRM-11 recommended accelerated development of the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS), based on the objectives, requirements, users, outline and way forward as discussed in the Concept Note.
- (iii) The Chair of the Technical Advisory Group presented an update on activities of the Technical Advisory Group. The presentation is posted to the EGRM-11 meeting web page. The progress in developing specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to minerals and to petroleum was noted.
- (iv) The Draft Report: Application of UNFC and UNRMS: The Role of Nuclear Energy in Sustainable Development - Entry Pathways prepared by the Nuclear Fuels Working Group was approved to be issued for public comment. The Concept note on Integrated life cycle management of nuclear fuel resources for sustainable energy was approved. EGRM requested the development of the report in 2021.
- (v) The draft text of the updated UN Economic and Social Council Decision 2004/233 on the global application of UNFC (EGRM-11/2020/INF.2) was approved. This includes inviting the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Executive Committee to consider submitting the draft revised Decision on UNFC to ECOSOC for consideration and possible endorsement.
- (vi) The two documents prepared by the Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group were reviewed. EGRM members were encouraged to apply the document "Principles of resource classification". EGRM requested the Working Group to finalise the document "Guidance for social and environmental considerations for UNFC" for presentation to EGRM-12.
- (vii) The document "Use of UNFC & UNRMS for sustainable development: Global values, regional circumstances, priorities and needs for resource management in the age of big data & AI" prepared by the SDGs Working Group was noted. EGRM requested the development of detailed specifications, guidelines and best practices on the effective use of UNFC and UNRMS for sustainable development.
- (viii) The work of the Commercial Working Group was noted. The EGRM requested that the document "UNFC applied to Commercial Assessments – Update" be finalised and submitted to EGRM-12.
- (ix) The establishment of the Working Group on Women in Resource Management to promote positive benefits of diversity and inclusion in resource management was noted.

(x) The progress made to create a UNFC Young Professional and college community was also noted.

(xi) Several Case Studies were prepared for EGRM-11

- Bridging from the National Standard of the People's Republic of China Classification for Petroleum Resources/Reserves (GB/T 19492-2004) to UNFC.
- Bridging from the National Standard of the People's Republic of China Classification for Resources/Reserves of Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities (GB/T 17766-1999) and UNFC.
- UNFC Case Studies from Finland/Estland, Sweden and Norway - Nordkalk limestone and Forsand sand and gravel mines

(xii) EGRM noted the establishment of the extrabudgetary project funded by the European Commission "Supporting UNECE member States in the development and implementation of UNFC and UNRMS" (2020-2024).

(xiii) The growing interest to establish national and/or regional centres of excellence on sustainable resource management worldwide based on UNFC and UNRMS, with technical support from UNECE, was noted. EGRM approved the document "Criteria for Designation of International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM) and Terms of Reference for ICE-SRM".

(xiv) The document "Pathways to Sustainable Energy – Policy recommendations from EGRM" was approved for submission to the 29th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

16. The Bureau agreed that EGRM-11 was well organised. The Bureau was unanimous that EGRM and its Working Groups are doing impressive work. The Bureau thanked Igor Shpurov and his team for kindly supporting translation of documents into Russian.

Item 5. Vision for EGRM

17. The Chair noted that EGRM could add more value to attainment of the SDGs by providing guidance and advice on how to fully evaluate resource-based projects, looking not just at quantities but also at the environmental and social footprint. Collective efforts over the last few years have placed UNFC as a multi-resource classification and management system that is designed with the requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the SDGs) at its core. Noting that development of UNRMS as the multi-resource toolkit for integrated and sustainable development of all resources has started, it was proposed that this is a good moment for EGRM formalise a vision statement.

18. The secretariat commented that there should be clarity on the objectives of UNFC and UNRMS. UNFC is a standard to classify and report resources; UNRMS is a management framework for sustainable progression of resources from one UNFC class to the next class. Today, major stakeholders such as EU and AU and countries including Russia, China and Mexico are committing to not only use UNFC and UNRMS but also provide adequate funding for their development and implementation. These stakeholders are fully convinced that UNFC and UNRMS are where the future of resource management should go. Some industry stakeholders are also starting to take UNFC and UNRMS seriously, mostly following the footsteps of governments and regulators.

19. The secretariat added that confusion and misunderstanding still exist on who should use UNFC, why it should be used and how it should be used. Some of these questions were reiterated during the large number of virtual UNFC-related events organised recently. UNFC and UNRMS could bring about a new approach to resource classification and reporting with sustainability and integrated resource management at the core. This means the systems should support:

- governments in attaining SDGs
- companies in ensuring their business models are also aligned to attaining SDGs
- financial institutions and investors identify sustainable options and portfolios for investments.

20. An extensive discussion then followed:

- The Chair of the Technical Advisory Group proposed that a written vision followed by a strategy as to how EGRM will achieve that vision is needed. EGRM could consider whether all ongoing activities are appropriate, whether any should be refocused, combined or stopped, and whether any new ones are needed. EGRM could then identify a few short-term goals. As a first step comments could be sought from the EGRM Working Groups with the aim to share the vision, strategy and goals with EGRM and seek agreement at EGRM-12. Other members supported this approach, including establishment of a task force to develop a clear statement of vision and strategy for EGRM as well as an outline of the objectives of the various parties that make up EGRM. This would mean the Task Force should ideally comprise representatives of all stakeholders.
- Whilst supporting the need for both a vision and a clear mission for EGRM, a member noted that it is important to make the UNFC methodology simple to understand and to apply. SDGs-based financial reporting is being prompted by a number of Swiss banks so having a vision for UNFC and EGRM will be a step forward to assist with that. The Bureau member has a Masters student working on a project related to this however, there is a lack of relevant data and case studies to support the work. More tangible data and information is needed so that governments and industry can understand the value of UNFC.
- The First Vice-Chair highlighted the Russian Federation's support to create an ICE-SRM with its primary purpose being to apply UNFC and UNRMS to attract investments from banks.
- Another member agreed that SDGs and CSR are a priority for UNFC and EGRM to focus on. The ICE-SRM's offer an opportunity to train and educate specialists who can then manage resources in a responsible way. In his view, UNFC is not an ideal code or standard to perform financial reporting to stock exchanges and the public. The CRIRSCO Template and PRMS are there for that purpose. Standards should be developed where appropriate and not where standards exist that are working well.
- It was observed that UNFC and the CRIRSCO Template are designed for different purposes. The Chair underlined that there is no competition between UNFC and the CRIRSCO family of codes and this was supported by the CRIRSCO representative and others. Collaboration and cooperation with CRIRSCO has always been welcomed by EGRM.
- A member observed that she finds it helpful in her work on UNFC to have technical reports and feasibility studies from CRIRSCO. The current increased interest from the EU in UNFC also means that case studies are essential.

- The Chair agreed with other Bureau members that reporting on the impact on SDGs is where UNFC could add significant value. This would mean expanding the EGRM membership to include experts on the SDGs.
- A member raised the issue of who is the audience for UNFC and EGRM i.e. whether UNFC and EGRM is to serve governments, international institutions, state institutions and the international community more effectively (in order to better and holistically capture the world's resources of raw materials so that they can be more easily and rationally managed with future generations in mind), or mostly corporations and private entities in order to multiply capital and develop the raw materials market. This was left as a question for the vision of EGRM that is to be developed.
- The representative of Kazakhstan noted the growing interest in UNFC in Kazakhstan. He proposed an outline of the range issues that could be included in the EGRM vision and strategy.
- In offering support for the need to focus on the SDGs, a member observed that UNFC and UNRMS are different from other systems due to their emphasis on sustainability and not just economic factors.
- It was also noted that the Geological Surveys of Europe have a lot to benefit from UNFC and UNRMS. Several EU-funded projects have demonstrated the usefulness of UNFC.

21. The Bureau was unanimous in the need for a vision statement for EGRM.

22. It was agreed to set up a small Task Force led by the Chair to clarify the vision of EGRM. The first draft will be circulated to the Bureau for comment.

Item 6. EGRM-12

Documentation: List of EGRM-12 Parliamentary Documents (attachment 5)

23. The dates for EGRM-12 are 26-30 April 2021. Due to the Strategic Heritage Plan at the UN in Geneva and repercussions from COVID-19 continuing, we need to plan on having 2 x 2-hour sessions per day.

24. Due to the high costs of the Interprefy platform which UNECE uses to provide simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian, UNECE now has only one meeting per day interpreted instead of three. This situation will continue until the end of April 2021. This means there will be simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian for only 4 sessions out of 10 during EGRM-12. It is likely EGRM will be given an interpreted session at the start of the week with interpretation, followed by one full day mid-week and then one session at the end of the week to allow decisions to be taken.

25. All other sessions will be held in English only via Webex unless funds can be secured to pay for interpretation. The costs of interpretation will be shared with the Bureau. Sequential interpretation is also a possibility but this brings in time issues.

26. The Bureau will need to work with the secretariat to put together a week of meetings that could be held 100% virtually if needed and that accommodate the potential lack of interpretation for all sessions.

27. A list of proposed documents was circulated with the documentation for the call. A total of 18 parliamentary documents are currently on the list, but not all are expected to be

delivered. Some of the suggested documents could be replaced with others, but this needs to be decided 14 weeks before the meeting, so by mid-January. The list is as follows:

- (i) Provisional agenda
- (ii) Report of meeting
- (iii) Draft Work Plan for EGRM for 2022-2023
- (iv) Draft Specifications and Guidelines for Application of UNFC to Petroleum
- (v) Draft Specifications and Guidelines for Application of UNFC to Minerals
- (vi) Guidance for Social and Environmental Considerations for UNFC
- (vii) Application of UNFC and UNRMS for furthering sustainable development
- (viii) UNFC applied to Commercial Assessments – Introductory Guidance
- (ix) UNFC applied to Commercial Assessments – Impact of alternative UN policies on valuation, reporting, data structures and quality
- (x) UNRMS: Structure and Guidelines
- (xi) Draft Specifications and Guidelines for Application of UNFC to Nuclear Fuel Resources
- (xii) Draft Specifications and Guidelines for Application of UNFC to Groundwater
- (xiii) Application of UNFC to Renewable Energy
- (xiv) UNFC Case Study
- (xv) UNFC Case Study
- (xvi) Women in Resource Management Report
- (xvii) UNFC Case Study
- (xviii) UNFC Case Study

28. The EGRM-12 draft agenda and EGRM draft Work Plan for 2022-2023 will need to be developed over the coming weeks. The Bureau, TAG and WGs are asked to submit suggestions for both the documents by the first week of December.

29. Professor Rob Perrons from Australia has offered to deliver a lecture during EGRM-12. His proposed topic is "Climate Change and the Oil & Gas Industry: Transitioning to a Zero-Carbon World". He delivered a lecture at EGRM-10 and presented during the Sustainable and integrated natural resource management webinar. He is Professor of Technology Management and Strategy at the Queensland University of Technology. The Bureau supported Professor Perrons delivering such a lecture.

30. In the ensuing discussions, it was proposed that a report back from the GeoERA project which uses UNFC would be interesting and useful. It was agreed that a special session focused on Europe would be valuable and feedback on EuroGeoSurveys activities could be. There was also support for a training event on UNFC. The vision and mission statement of EGRM should be a significant theme for discussions. The EGRM Work Plan for 2022–2023 needs to develop and agreed. Alistair suggested that the proposed document on "Application of UNFC and UNRMS for furthering sustainable development" could be replaced by the vision document. The Bureau also agreed that chairing of the various sessions during the week should be split amongst its membership.

Item 7. EGRM Webinars

31. Six virtual events (apart from the 2 sessions during EGRM-11) have been organised so far:

- Workshop on Phosphates for sustainable development: Fertilisers and phosphogypsum in the circular economy, 22 October 2020
- Webinar on Women in Mining: Global Perspective, 15 October 2020
- Online Training Workshop on Guidelines and best practices for MSMEs to assure resiliency and progress towards a circular economy in sustainable resource management and critical raw material supply chain solutions, 8 October 2020
- Webinar on Sustainable and integrated natural resource management, 10 September 2020
- Webinar on Application of UNFC to Minerals and Anthropogenic Resources: Sustainable management of raw material resources, 26 August 2020
- Webinar on Application of UNFC to Petroleum Total Resource Management: Status and Outlook, 29 July 2020.

32. The event “Women in Mining: Global Perspective” on 15 October featured the following speakers:

- Ludivine Wouters, International Women in Mining (IWIM), UK
- Bjanka Korb, SRK Consulting, South Africa
- Jules Brown, BHP and Jennifer Purdie, Queensland Resources Council, Australia

The webinar was moderated by Maria and Cristina, Co-chairs of the Women in Resource Management Working Group.

33. All webinars attracted good participation and interaction through comments in the chat.

34. The next virtual workshop will be on 19 November "UNFC Europe: Ensuring sustainable raw material management to support the European Green Deal". The workshop will feature perspectives and experiences in the application of UNFC for raw material management in Europe. The workshop is split into two sessions. The first session is a high-level policy panel that will focus on the vision and strategy for sustainable raw material management. This session will be moderated by the EGRM Chair and will include participation of:

- Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE -- Sustainable natural resource management and the UN Decade of Action
- Peter Handley, Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials, DG GROW - How can UNFC contribute to the European Green Deal and the EU raw materials policy?
- Emil Högberg, State Secretary to Minister for Business, Industry and Innovation, Sweden – National perspectives on raw material resource sustainability
- Zdenek Venera, President, EuroGeoSurveys, Director of Czech Geological Survey – EuroGeoSurveys Members' Contribution to UNFC and UNRMS
- Peter van de Ven, OECD Statistics Directorate – SEEA Framework and raw materials reporting
- Tom Butler, CEO, International Council of Mining & Metals (ICMM) – Global mining outlook, sustainability initiatives and challenges

35. The second session moderated by Slavko Solar, Secretary-General of EuroGeoSurveys will feature expert insights and case studies on the application of UNFC for raw material resource assessment and management. Speakers are:

- Hari Tulsidas – UNFC Mineral specifications and UNFC Europe

- Zoltán Horváth, MBFSZ – UNFC in Europe: a review of good practices from Geological Surveys
- Soraya Heuss-Abbichler, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München and Ulrich Kral, Technische Universität Wien – UNFC for Anthropogenic Resources: Application examples
- Janja Knežević Solberg, NGU – UNFC case study on graphite
- Pasi Eilu, GTK – The Jouhineva Co-Cu-Au deposit, Finland: the 1984 mineral resource mapped into UNFC
- Erika Ingvald, Geological Survey of Sweden – UNFC case studies and industry perspectives from Northern Europe

Item 8. Technical Advisory Group update

36. Alistair Jones, TAG Chair, provided an update on TAG activities. Four sectoral specifications are under active development:

Petroleum Working Group (PWG): The draft Petroleum Specifications have been reviewed by the TAG. An updated draft was received on 11 November and TAG submitted its review and recommendations to the Bureau on 12 November. The proposal is for a two-week review by SPE OGRC and issuing for public comment. PWG is addressing the comments now.

Minerals Working Group (MWG): The draft of the minerals specifications has been reviewed by TAG and returned with suggestions for improvements. MWG is currently addressing TAG's review comments.

Groundwater Working Group: The Working Group is progressing with the development of draft specifications, which are hoped to be completed by December.

Nuclear Fuels Working Group: The Working Group is progressing with the initial draft of the UNFC nuclear fuel specifications.

UNFC Resource Specifications – Task Force review and Working Group updates: The Task Force (TF) is very active in reviewing all existing specifications and plans to make recommendations before end-December. This will include a draft common glossary.

37. The Chair thanked the TAG and all the Working Groups for their ongoing efforts and work and in particular during the COVID-19 period, which has been particularly challenging and continues to be. The Chair thanked Alistair Jones for taking the initiative to set up the Review Task Force and for generating such good interest from all the Working Groups.

Item 9. CRIRSCO Update

38. The CRIRSCO representative provided an update on the CRIRSCO Annual Meeting 2020. The first virtual meeting of CRIRSCO took place from 14-19 September chaired by Ken Lomberg the Chairperson of CRIRSCO. The virtual platform allowed the meeting to include additional delegates from the National Reporting Organisations (NROs) Various interested parties were also able to attend. This allowed a broader group to become familiar with the workings of CRIRSCO. Six 3-hour sessions were held over the 6 days with as many

as 75 participants on any given day joining from all corners of the world. Full details are posted to the CRIRSCO.com website.

39. As well as discussing the strategy of CRIRSCO, a review of the 15 Standard Definitions contained in the International Reporting Template was started. A total of 7 countries – China, the Philippines, Argentina, Peru, Kyrgyzstan, Ecuador, and Mexico, presented to the meeting on the status of their application to become a member of CRIRSCO. The level of interest, enthusiasm and professionalism applied bodes well for the future health of the CRIRSCO organisation.

40. The strategic relationships with the International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM), the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM), the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the International Seabed Authority (ISA) were discussed.

41. CRIRSCO will proceed in updating the Bridging Document between the Template and UNFC 2019. Representatives from the Pan European Reporting Code (PERC) will lead this initiative. Referenceing UNFC in CRIRSCO will be considered in the next update in five years time.

Item 10. 29th Session of Committee on Sustainable Energy, 25-27 November

Documentation: Revised UNFC ECOSOC Decision Document (attachment 6)

42. The Committee on Sustainable Energy is an intergovernmental body and is the parent body of EGRM. Its 29th annual meeting will be held back to back with the 16th session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems during the "Sustainable Energy Week: Pursuing carbon neutrality to advance the energy transition", 23-27 November 2020.

43. The Bureau was sent the draft Conclusions and Recommendations relating to EGRM on 11 September for review. No comments were received. Two EGRM documents have been submitted for consideration by the Committee meeting:

- (i) The text of the revised ECOSOC 2004/233 Decision recommending global use of the updated UNFC was approved by EGRM-11. The revised text (document ECE/ENERGY/2020/7) was circulated as part of the documentation for this call. This text will be presented to the Committee for approval.
- (ii) Pathways to Sustainable Energy - Policy recommendations from the Expert Group on Resource Management (document ECE/ENERGY/2020/10). This document was also approved by EGRM-11 for submission to the Committee.

Item 11. ICE-SRMs Update

44. EGRM-11 approved the ICE-SRM Criteria for Designation and Terms of Reference document and this is now posted to the UNFC website. The Committee on Sustainable Energy will be invited to take note of this document. The Chair also advised that he provided an update to the Bureau of the Committee at its meeting in early November.

45. Russia is progressing with internal approvals for creation of a Eurasian Centre for Sustainable Resource Management under the Russian State Committee on Mineral Reserves (GKZ) and Moscow State University (MSU). The objective of the project is to build

capacities in CIS and other developing countries with a possible further extension to other developing countries for sustainable and harmonious management of natural resources through the application of UNFC and UNRMS. The initial project duration is expected to be five years. Discussions on the activities required under this project are in progress. It is hoped to submit an extrabudgetary project proposal to the ECE Executive Committee at its meeting in December or early-2021.

46. A new non-commercial entity will be set up at the beginning of 2021 – this process takes around 4 or 5 months. All negotiations are now finished with Moscow State University (MSU) and the Ministry of Natural Resources. The ICE-SRM was discussed with other stakeholders in Russia including oil & gas companies and banks. The oil & gas companies have requested training and certification on UNFC, they see that UNFC can offer a methodology to audit their resources. The banks are interested to use UNFC to audit the oil and gas companies. The ICE-SRM will be open to collaboration with other countries.

47. CCOP remains committed to establishing an ICE-SRM for its member countries and is exploring the possibilities for funding.

48. The secretariat confirmed that the goal is to establish a network of ICE-SRMs that communicate and cooperate with each other. Oversight and governance of the ICE-SRMs will be done from Geneva.

Item 12. Education and outreach

Documentation: List of events promoting UNFC in 2020 as at 2 November 2020

49. The list of meetings promoting UNFC in 2020-2021 was circulated with the documentation for the call. The following upcoming meetings were noted:

- International Round Table on Materials Criticality (IRTC) Business virtual workshop and Round Table "Building resilient economies - the role of policy", 17 November 2020. The Director of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division is a speaker and panellist.
- UN Environment Management Group Nexus Dialogue on Mineral Resource Governance, 17 November 2020 – UNFC updates will be provided.
- UNECE, EC DG GROW and EuroGeoSurveys Joint Virtual Workshop "UNFC Europe: Ensuring sustainable raw material management to support the European Green Deal", 19 November 2020,

Item 13. Date of next Bureau Call

50. It was agreed that the next Bureau call will be organised during the weeks of 7 or 14 December, in particular to discuss the EGRM-12 provisional agenda and draft Work Plan 2022-2023. The usual doodle poll will be circulated.

Item 14. Any other business

51. No other business was discussed.
