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**Economic Commission for Europe****Committee on Sustainable Energy****Thirtieth session**

Geneva, 22–24 September 2021

Item 7(d) of the provisional agenda

**Future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy:****Approval of documents****Work Plan of the Expert Group on Resource Management  
for 2022-2023****Prepared by the Expert Group on Resource Management**

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Executive Committee (EXCOM), in addressing matters related to the Committee on Sustainable Energy (ECE/EX/2019/L.10), has mandated the Expert Group on Resource Management to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities to develop, promote and support the implementation of a global system which can be used as a tool for the sustainable management of natural resources to support attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (EXCOM/CONCLU/108 of the 108th meeting of EXCOM).<sup>1</sup>
2. According to its Terms of Reference, the Expert Group concentrates on the development and deployment of a United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) grounded in the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) comprising principles, specifications, guidelines, application protocols (procedures and checklists) and best practices to aid sustainable management of energy, raw materials and other resources.
3. The mandate for the Expert Group is approved until 31 December 2024.

**I. Concrete activities**

4. The Expert Group has noted the powerful and positive benefits of diversity and inclusion in resource management. The Expert Group will, to the extent possible and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, ensure that diversity and inclusion in resource management are reflected in its membership and during the implementation of this work plan and any capacity-building or training activities.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Agenda/2020/EXCOM\\_109\\_17\\_Feb\\_2020/Item\\_2\\_EXCOM-Conclu-108.pdf](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Agenda/2020/EXCOM_109_17_Feb_2020/Item_2_EXCOM-Conclu-108.pdf).

## A. Sustainable resource management

### Description:

5. The Expert Group will develop, maintain and promote a comprehensive framework for sustainable resource management based on UNFC and UNRMS, which is under development, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in support of ECE's proposed five-point action plan to secure needed resources, including on (a) a comprehensive social contract to operate; (b) sustainable finance principles; (c) a sustainable resource management system; (d) supply chain traceability; and, (e) strategic environmental assessment for global adoption. The work will involve improving and further developing principles, requirements, guidelines, application protocols, project information framework, best practices and case studies to support the sustainable, integrated, transparent and equitable management of resources within UNFC and UNRMS frameworks (including, but not restricted to, minerals and critical raw materials, petroleum, renewable energy, nuclear fuel resources, injection projects, anthropogenic resources and groundwater resources) in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change mitigation. UNFC can be described as a system of project classification and presentation of the associated quantities of sources and products. It accounts, in its classification, for project maturity as well as for social, environmental and financial considerations. It is unique amongst resource classification schemes in this respect. It brings great value to the stakeholders in understanding the projects being evaluated. However, quantities of sources and future production is only one piece of the considerations that may need to be made in the choice of projects to progress. Stakeholders need a management system that consistently provides this additional data. UNRMS will provide this additional information and more guidance on key issues such as competency and quality measures in the estimates, and of particular importance, education within communities on the impact of different project choices.

6. UNRMS will have a project classification component to describe the readiness or maturity of a project, and UNFC will clearly inform this. It will also capture additional measures and data that stakeholders need to make decisions. This could include data such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, number of indigenous community jobs created, and the length of the project to understand the timeframe of impacts. UNRMS will be an "instrument" in a broad sense to manage resources to support the attainment of the 2030 Agenda. UNRMS will provide the framework to gather this data consistently and have two facets: a practical data tool or project information system and a broader view of how to perform management in a new manner. The Expert Group will explore and develop additional applications of UNFC and UNRMS to resources,<sup>2</sup> including critical raw materials, as required and address the challenges of the food-energy-water-land nexus and progress towards a more circular economy. The Expert Group will develop UNFC and UNRMS principles to support policymaking, national resource management planning and execution, business process innovation, capital allocation, financial reporting, and sustainable development implementation, considering technical, environmental, social and economic factors and local needs and priorities in sustainable resource management. Hydrogen is expected to become a significant resource in sustainable energy production and consumption in the near future. The Expert Group will explore possibilities of applying UNFC and UNRMS to hydrogen and other resources subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding.

### Work to be undertaken:

7. The Expert Group will continue developing and maintaining UNFC, UNRMS, and other relevant instruments to assist countries in resource management and aligning it with the SDGs. The SDG context and the linkages of resource management to SDG goals, targets and indicators as appropriate will be explained in documentation on UNFC and UNRMS. The Expert Group will take fully into account the 18-point action plan included in the UN Policy

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<sup>2</sup> Where the term "resources" is used, this refers to all natural resources including anthropogenic resources either to be produced, stored, or managed.

Brief (2021): “Transforming Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development”<sup>3</sup> and will, in particular, align the further development of UNFC and UNRMS fully with recommendations 15, 16 and 17 of the Policy Brief. In that context, the Expert Group will focus on treating primary and secondary resources, including critical raw materials, eventually as a single system and explore the food-water-energy-land and other nexus linkages to aid the progress towards a more circular economy, as required by the Policy Brief. The Expert Group will explore innovative approaches in sustainable resource management, which will be integrated into UNFC and UNRMS. The Expert Group will seek extrabudgetary funding to realize the expanded scope of work needed to realize the SDGs and aid countries in the sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Expert Group will plan for a project information framework, reflecting UNFC and providing key information to support sustainable resource management, and further developing UNFC and other instruments as necessary. The Expert Group will develop international standards for hydrogen classification and management, including labelling according to its origin and CO<sub>2</sub> footprint. The scope and extent of the activities will depend on the availability of extrabudgetary resources and will be aligned with ongoing initiatives in this field.

8. The Bureau of the Expert Group will work between annual sessions of the Expert Group and guide the work of Subgroups, Working Groups, Task Forces, and the Technical Advisory Group.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated vision and mission statement of the Expert Group, by April 2022;
- (b) Report on the strategy and roadmap for UNFC and UNRMS maintenance and improvement, by April 2022;
- (c) Updated UNFC, UNRMS and other relevant frameworks, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Updated plan for the development of the project information tool, by April 2022;
- (e) Detailed plan for the development of international standards for hydrogen classification and management based on UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (f) Report on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to other resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (g) Report on the support delivered to the project on “Enhancing the understanding of the implications and opportunities of moving to carbon neutrality in the ECE region across the power and energy intensive industries by 2050” (Carbon Neutrality project) led by the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems, April 2022 to ongoing;
- (h) Report on collaboration with other stakeholders on sustainable resource management for the realization of the 2030 Agenda, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **B. UNRMS principles, requirements, and guidelines**

**Description:**

9. The Expert Group, through the UNRMS Sub-group, will develop, maintain and promote UNRMS as a global framework to support integrated and sustainable resource management. UNRMS will offer both a universal information framework to provide stakeholders with the information they need and guidance on increasingly circular and sustainable management of resources that will benefit society in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in line with the proposals outlined in the document “Draft UNRMS: Provisional structure and guidelines” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2021/10). UNRMS will support ECE’s proposed five-point action plan to secure needed resources,

<sup>3</sup> UN Policy Brief (2021) Transforming Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development. <https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/SG%20Policy%20Brief%20Extractives%20NOemb.pdf>.

including critical raw materials. The UNRMS Sub-group will consider what issues need to be considered and how a truly circular and sustainable resource economy can be attained.

**Work to be undertaken:**

10. The Expert Group will continue developing and maintaining UNRMS such that it applies to all resources and assist countries in aligning management of their resources with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UNRMS Sub-group will consult and cooperate with other Working Groups as may be needed and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated plan for development and adoption of UNRMS, by April 2022;
- (b) Updated UNRMS principles and requirements, by April 2022;
- (c) UNRMS principles and requirements based on stakeholder feedback, by April 2023;
- (d) Regional guidance on the application of UNRMS, including in support of a circular economy and the food-water-energy and other nexuses, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (e) Pilot testing and case studies on the application of UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## C. UNFC specifications and guidelines for application

**Description:**

11. The Expert Group will develop, maintain and update the UNFC specifications, guidelines, best practices and case studies to apply UNFC to specific resource types aligned with the 2030 Agenda. UNFC will be improved and maintained as a system of project classification and presentation of the associated quantities. UNFC accounts for project maturity as well as for social, environmental and economic considerations.

**Technical Advisory Group:**

12. The Expert Group will maintain a Technical Advisory Group consisting of various sectoral Working Groups to develop the UNFC principles, specifications and guidelines that will apply to all natural resources, including anthropogenic resources and develop case studies within specific national and regional contexts.

**Work to be undertaken:**

13. The Technical Advisory Group will support the development and application of UNFC principles, specifications, guidelines, best practices and case studies for all resources to aid policy formulation, national resource management, company business process innovation and capital allocation. The work will be done in line with the Technical Advisory Group recommendations on UNFC update, including developing a common glossary and updating sectoral specifications to be aligned with UNFC (2019).

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Annual report to the thirteenth session of the Expert Group, by April 2022;
- (b) Annual report to the fourteenth session of the Expert Group, by April 2023;
- (c) Updated versions of UNFC, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Best practice documents and case studies on the application of UNFC, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (e) Reviews of sectoral documents and recommendations to the Bureau, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **D. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Mineral Resources**

### **Description:**

14. The Expert Group, through its Minerals Working Group, will develop additional documentation that supports the use of UNFC and UNRMS for sustainable management of mineral resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

### **Work to be undertaken:**

15. Development and maintenance of specifications, guidelines, application protocols, best practices and case studies to apply UNFC to mineral resources, including critical raw materials. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with the Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

### **Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated UNFC specifications, bridging documents and guidelines for mineral resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Best practices and case studies for applying UNFC and UNRMS to mineral resources, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **E. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Petroleum Resources**

### **Description:**

16. The Expert Group, through its Petroleum Working Group, will develop and update documentation that allows the application of UNFC and UNRMS to petroleum resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

### **Work to be undertaken:**

17. Maintenance of specifications, bridging documents, guidelines, application protocols, best practices and case studies to apply UNFC and UNRMS to petroleum resources. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, cooperate with the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

### **Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated specifications, bridging documents and guidelines for application to petroleum, including coal seam gas and other unconventional resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Best practices and case studies for application to petroleum, including coal seam gas and other unconventional resources, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **F. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Renewable Energy Resources**

### **Description:**

18. The Group of Experts, through its Renewable Energy Working Group and Sub-groups, will continue to develop documentation that will allow UNFC and UNRMS to be applied to renewable energy resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

**Work to be undertaken:**

19. The Working Group and its Sub-groups will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed and cooperate with the ECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group. The Working Group will:

- (a) Maintain specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to geothermal energy;
- (b) Maintain specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to bioenergy;
- (c) Maintain specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to solar energy;
- (d) Maintain specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to wind energy;
- (e) Develop specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to hydro and marine energy;
- (f) Develop case studies and best practices for applying UNFC and UNRMS to renewable energy.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated Geothermal energy specifications and guidelines, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Updated Bioenergy specifications and guidelines, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Updated Solar energy specifications and guidelines, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Updated Wind energy specifications and guidelines, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (e) Hydro-marine energy specifications and guidelines, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (f) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (g) Guidelines, best practices and case studies for the application of UNFC and UNRMS to renewable energy, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**G. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Injection Projects****Description:**

20. The Expert Group, through its Injection Projects Working Group, will develop additional documentation to support the use of the Specifications for the Application of UNFC and UNRMS to Injection Projects for Geological Storage (for example, storage of carbon dioxide, natural gas storage, hydrogen or other fluid waste disposal projects) in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

**Work to be undertaken:**

21. Provide detailed specifications, guidelines and case studies to apply UNFC and UNRMS to Injection Projects for Geological Storage. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated specifications and guidelines and case studies on injection projects, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to underground hydrogen storage, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Case studies and best practices on applying UNFC and UNRMS to carbon capture and storage projects, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**H. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Nuclear Fuel Resources****Description:**

22. The Expert Group, through its Nuclear Fuel Resources Working Group, will develop additional documentation that supports the use of UNFC and UNRMS for sustainable management of nuclear fuel resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

**Work to be undertaken:**

23. The Nuclear Fuel Resources Working Group will produce documentation on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to nuclear fuel resources. Particular attention will also be given to the integrated resource management requirements of the nuclear fuel cycle of small modular reactors coupled to integrated energy systems such as renewable energy and hydrogen that contribute to attaining carbon neutrality. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, cooperate with the ECE Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Finalize the specifications for application to nuclear projects, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Best practices and case studies for life cycle assessment of nuclear fuel cycle projects in the context of UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Concept note on advanced nuclear fuel cycle projects in the context of UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**I. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Anthropogenic Resources****Description:**

24. The Expert Group, through its Anthropogenic Resources Working Group, will develop documentation that will allow UNFC and UNRMS to manage the use of anthropogenic resources generally, including critical raw materials, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action. Anthropogenic resources, primarily mining residues, processing and other residues, have assumed importance in the current scenarios related to the circular economy. The strategy to reduce, reuse, and recycle material is being emphasized globally. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Work to be undertaken:**

25. Provide specifications, detailed guidelines and case studies to apply UNFC and UNRMS to anthropogenic resources.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Updated specifications and guidelines for the application of UNFC to anthropogenic resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(c) Best practices and case studies for application to anthropogenic resources, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**J. UNFC and UNRMS applications for commercial assessments and financial reporting****Description:**

26. UNFC and UNRMS have been designed to meet, to the extent possible, the needs of commercial applications and financial reporting standards, including those conforming to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action.

**Work to be undertaken:**

27. The Commercial Working Group will produce documentation on UNFC and UNRMS for commercial applications, information quality, valuation and data reporting. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Specifications and guidelines for commercial applications, information quality, valuation and data reporting, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(c) Best practices and case studies for application to commercial applications, information quality, valuation decision analyses and support and data reporting, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**K. UNFC and UNRMS applications for Groundwater Resources****Description:**

28. The Expert Group, through its Groundwater Resources Working Group, will develop documentation that will allow UNFC and UNRMS to manage groundwater resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and support the UN Decade of Action. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Work to be undertaken:**

29. Provide specifications, detailed guidelines and case studies to apply UNFC and UNRMS to groundwater resources.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Finalize specifications and guidelines for application to groundwater resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;



- (b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Best practices and case studies for application to groundwater resources, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **L. UNFC-UNRMS guidelines for supporting diversity in resource management**

### **Description:**

30. The Expert Group, through its Women in Resource Management Working Group, will support activities that will allow the inclusion of relevant specifications and guidelines in UNFC and UNRMS pertaining to women and diversity in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action. The Expert Group on Resource Management recognized the powerful and positive benefits of diversity and inclusion in resource management and has stepped up its activities to support the achievement of the following targets of SDG 5 and SDG 8:

- 5.5 – Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
- 8.3 – Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), including through access to financial services.

### **Work to be undertaken:**

31. This activity will explore how resource management can help attain SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and necessary specifications and guidelines be provided in UNFC and UNRMS. SDG 5 recognizes that providing women and girls with, inter alia, equal access to education, decent work, and representation in economic decision-making processes will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies. The work will also focus on COVID-19 recovery challenges and opportunities for women. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult, cooperate with other Working Groups as may be needed, and report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

### **Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Updated specifications and guidelines for women and diversity in UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Policy dialogue(s) on promoting gender participation in resource management, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) A network of women engaged in resource management projects, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (e) Case studies and recommendations on mainstreaming gender in resource management in various positions from young professionals to senior leadership, including in the post-COVID-19 recovery, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **M. UNFC and UNRMS guidelines for Social and Environmental Considerations**

### **Description:**

32. The Expert Group, through its Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group, will develop and maintain specifications and guidelines for Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) in UNFC and UNRMS in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in

support of the UN Decade of Action. The Working Group will work under the guidance of the Technical Advisory Group, consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed, and report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Work to be undertaken:**

33. Develop detailed specifications, principles, guidelines and best practices for ESG in sustainable resource management aligned with the SDGs. The work will be conducted in cooperation with as wide a range of the UNFC and UNRMS Working Groups and stakeholders as possible.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Updated ESG principles, specifications and guidelines in resource management, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(b) Best practice documents on technical, policy and legal aspects related to accommodating ESG for the management of resources in various sectors, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(c) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(d) Case studies on the application of UNFC and UNRMS specifications and guidelines for ESG, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **N. UNFC and UNRMS guidelines for Competency in Resource Management**

**Description:**

34. The Expert Group, through its Competency in Resource Management Working Group, will develop guidelines to support the transparency and accountability of UNFC and UNRMS for the classification and management of all natural resources, including anthropogenic resources in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action. The Working Group will focus on ESG-oriented competency requirements for producing qualified assessments. The Working Group will consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and the UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Work to be undertaken:**

35. Develop detailed guidelines to support transparency, reliability, and consistency of UNFC and UNRMS to classify and manage all resources. The work will be conducted in cooperation with as wide a range of UNFC and UNRMS Working Groups and stakeholders as possible.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Detailed competency guidelines for resource reporting, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(c) Report on alignment between UNFC and UNRMS competency requirements and existing international frameworks, by April 2022 to ongoing.

## **O. UNFC and UNRMS guidelines and best practices for the delivery of Sustainable Development Goals and support to the Food-Water-Energy Nexus and the Circular Economy**

**Description:**

36. The Expert Group, through its SDGs Delivery Working Group, will develop documents that will support the effective use of UNFC and UNRMS to help attain the relevant SDGs, especially in the context of integrated, multi-resource energy and raw material programmes and projects. The work will be conducted in cooperation with other relevant stakeholders and international organizations. The Working Group will consult and cooperate with other Working Groups and UNRMS Sub-group as may be needed and will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group.

**Work to be undertaken:**

37. The Expert Group, through its Sustainable Development Goals Delivery Working Group, will produce a carefully targeted set of principles, specifications, guidelines that will direct and focus the use of UNFC and UNRMS as support tools for delivering those SDGs most critically dependent on balanced and integrated resource management. The Working Group will develop detailed guidelines and best practices on the effective use of UNRMS for sustainable development, considering resource management as a public good and a transition vehicle to a circular economy. Specifications and guidelines development will be supported by related source or reference documents such as the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), the UN Environment Programme International Resource Panel report Mineral Resource Governance in the 21st Century and a selection of custom-built case studies. Primary technical and environmental drivers include nexus-based resource management, notably food-energy-water (FEW); priorities and pathways for reaching zero-waste using the principle of proportionality and the graded approach; transitioning to the circular economy; GHG emissions reduction and related emissions from the recovery, production, recovery and reuse of resources through their life cycles. Related social considerations include stakeholder consultation and engagement, particularly regarding conflict prevention, the rights of indigenous peoples, gender equality and equitable distribution of benefits. Related economic considerations include applications of materiality and double materiality concepts to ESG investments, sustainability accounting and financial reporting.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

- (a) Specifications and guidelines to support the sustainability and resilience of development of resources, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (b) Inputs for the development of UNRMS requirements, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (c) Compilation of case studies in applying transformative techniques and technologies to integrated resource management, by April 2022 to ongoing;
- (d) Guidelines for good governance, applications of materiality principles to ESG investment, reporting and environmental-economic accounting for transformative SDG-delivery projects, by April 2022 to ongoing.

**P. Support to Implementation of UNFC and UNRMS and Partnerships in Sustainable Resource Management through a Global Network of International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management**

**Description:**

38. UNFC and UNRMS support the sustainable development of diverse energy, raw material and services sectors in different geographical locations in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and supporting the UN Decade of Action. UNFC and UNRMS users needed to be trained on an ongoing basis and made aware of any changes to the framework and its applications. Subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, the Expert Group will develop capacity-building programmes on UNFC and UNRMS through the potential establishment of International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM).

39. The Expert Group and the Bureau, to the extent possible, will provide technical support for the ICE-SRMs, including regional and national advisory services and international peer-review missions to ECE and other United Nations Member States. Initiatives such as "UNFC and UNRMS Europe", "UNFC and UNRMS Africa", "UNFC and UNRMS Eurasia and Asia-Pacific", "UNFC and UNRMS Latin America", and "UNFC and UNRMS Middle East" will be supported through the ICE-SRMs.

**Work to be undertaken:**

40. The ICE-SRMs will be provided technical support for the development of concept notes, detailed project design and implementation as necessary.

(a) Subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, provide technical support for the implementation of regional and national UNFC and UNRMS initiatives;

(b) Contribute to the development of UNRMS requirements for the integrated management of resources;

(c) Subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds, provide support to the implementation of ICE-SRMs.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) National and regional capacity building initiatives on UNFC and UNRMS, by 2022 and 2023;

(b) Annual reports on the status of support to implement ICE-SRMs, by April 2022 and April 2023;

(c) Annual reports on capacity-building activities presented to the Expert Group, by April 2022 and April 2023.

## **Q. Communications, Promotion and Outreach**

**Description:**

41. Through its Communications Working Group, the Expert Group will implement the agreed promotion and outreach strategy in alignment with the 2030 Agenda and in support of the UN Decade of Action. The Working Group will support communications, promotion and outreach in coordination with other Working Groups. It is noted that many of the activities of the Working Group will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources. The Working Group will report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between annual sessions of the Expert Group and will consult and cooperate with other Working Groups as may be needed.

**Work to be undertaken:**

(a) Support the development of the vision and mission statements of the Expert Group;

(b) Develop and implement a strategy to attract experts to voluntarily work in the various Working Groups of the Expert Group;

(c) Develop, maintain and update standard presentations on UNFC and UNRMS;

(d) Conduct webinars on UNFC and UNRMS helping to promote updates on the specifications and guidelines;

(e) Contribute to workshops, seminars and other outreach events on UNFC and UNRMS, e.g. development of programmes and agendas. Participation in events is subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

(f) Identify events at which papers on UNFC and UNRMS could be presented. Contribute to writing the papers and presentations and promote Expert Group involvement;

(g) Support the development of news stories and other material for ECE's web pages on sustainable resource management;

(h) Develop promotional materials such as brochures and leaflets;

(i) Support newly established groups such as the Resource Management Young Member Group and the Women in Resource Management Working Group;

(j) Support to activities related to surveys and other initiatives requiring stakeholder engagement.

**Deliverables and Timeline:**

(a) Annual reports of the Communications Working Group presented to the Expert Group, by April 2022 and April 2023;

(b) Updated standard presentations and other promotional materials on UNFC and UNRMS posted to the ECE website, by April 2022 and ongoing;

(c) Webinars on the application of UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(d) Contributions related to UNFC and UNRMS to conferences, workshops and seminars, by April 2022 to ongoing;

(e) News stories and brochures on UNFC and UNRMS, by April 2022 and ongoing;

(f) Support to the Resource Management Young Member Group , by April 2022 and ongoing;

(g) Support to the Women in Resource Management Working Group, by April 2022 and ongoing.

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