



Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

Meeting of the Bureau

Online, 27 August 2021

Report of the Meeting

Introduction

Meeting of the Bureau of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (the Group of Experts) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) was held online, on 27 August 2021, from 10:00 to 11:00 CEST.

Attendance

Chair

Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Macedonian Centre for Energy Efficiency

Vice-Chairs (ECE member States)

Mr. Andrei Miniankou, Belarus

Mr. Petr Bobylev, Russian Federation, represented by Ms. Anna Belinson

Mr. Kostiantyn Gura, Ukraine, represented by Ms. Dana Galimuk

Vice-Chairs (Organizations)

Dr. Alisa Freyre, PAN DATA

Mr. Benoit Lebot, French Ministry of the Ecological Transition

Mr. Martin K. Patel, University of Geneva

Dr. Romanas Savickas, UNEP-DTU Partnership, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency

Mr. Zlatko Pavicic, Croatian Innovators Network

Vice-Chairs *ex officio*

Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency:

Mr. Hannes Mac Nulty, Co-Chair, Green Growth Knowledge Partnership,

Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings:

Ms. Irena Perfanova, Co-Chair, Real Estate Tribune / AIIC Ltd

Mr. Vahram Jalalyan, Co-Chair, United Nations Development Programme in Armenia

Task Force on Digitalization in Energy:

Dr. Piyush Verma, Chair, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Secretariat, ECE Sustainable Energy Division

Mr. Scott Foster

Ms. Stefanie Held

Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski

Ms. Mariia Sorokina

Mr. Igor Litvinyuk

Apologies received:

Mr. Stefan M. Buettner, Co-Chair, Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency, Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production

Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

The provisional agenda of the meeting as circulated to the members of the Bureau was adopted.

The agenda comprised the following items:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Preparations for the eighth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (20-21 September 2021), including:
 - (a) Update on the status of implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2020-2021;
 - (b) Documentation;
 - (c) Timetable and sequence of thematic events;
 - (d) Practical arrangements and assignments;
 - (e) Administrative matters.
3. Any other business.
4. Close of the meeting.

Preparations for the eighth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (20-21 September 2021) (agenda item 2)

(a) Update on the status of implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2020-2021

The secretariat informed the Bureau on the progress in implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts for 2020-2021 ([ECE/ENERGY/2019/8](#)), which is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

Concrete activities of the Group of Experts as per its Work Plan for 2020-2021

| <i>Activities</i> | <i>Deliverables (shortened)</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Reference</i> |
|--|---|-------------------------|---|
| A. Improving energy efficiency in industry | (a) An industrial energy efficiency action plan | Implemented | ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2020/3 |
| | (b) An assessment of the roles of ECE and stakeholder organizations in delivering on the action plan | Implemented | |
| B. Improving energy efficiency in buildings | (a) Improved Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings | Implemented | ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2020/4 |
| | (b) A set of workshops and train-the-trainer seminars on high performance energy efficiency standards in buildings in line with Framework Guidelines ^{XB} | Implemented, continuing | See: Meetings and Events |
| C. Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency | (a) A report on barriers, options, and best practices for energy efficiency improvements ^{XB} | Implemented | ECE/ENERGY/135 based on GEEE-7/2020/INF.4 |
| | (b) A report on gender equality in energy efficiency ^{XB} | Ongoing | - |
| | (c) A report on viable energy efficiency policies to reach "Pathways to Sustainable Energy" scenarios ^{XB} | Implemented | ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2020/5 |
| D. Energy consumption and emissions of electric vehicles | (a) Form a joint task force to develop the procedures for energy consumption and emissions that could be applied by electric vehicles manufacturers ^{XB} | Planned | - |
| | (b) Organize a set of activities to bring together vehicle and energy experts to streamline the development of energy consumption and emissions of EV ^{XB} | Implemented | See: Workshop on Real-Time Upstream Emissions of EV During Recharge |

Abbreviations: XB, extrabudgetary; EV, electric vehicles.

The planned regular budget activities of the Group of Experts (A(a), A(b), B(a)), as well as most of the planned activities pending extrabudgetary resources (B(b), C(a), C(b), C(c), D(b)), were timely implemented driven by in-kind contributions by the experts. Implementation of certain activities, including B(b) and C(b) (ongoing), was supported by the Regional Advisory Services.

The Bureau acknowledged the progress of the Group of Experts in implementing its Work Plan for 2020-2021 and took note with satisfaction that the Group of Experts approaches the end of its 2020-2021 cycle having delivered, to the extent possible, on all its mandated activities.

(b) Documentation

The secretariat informed the members of the Bureau on the documents prepared by the Group of Experts for its eighth session, namely:

1. Annotated provisional agenda for the eighth session ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/1](#));
2. A pathway to reducing the greenhouse gas footprint in manufacturing: determinants for an economic assessment of industrial decarbonization measures ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/3](#));
3. Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings: analysis of progress towards the performance objectives ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/4](#));
4. Improving Efficiency of Buildings through Digitalization – Policy Recommendations from the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/5](#)).

These were developed, approved, submitted, translated, and posted to the website timely, along with the draft Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2022-2023 ([ECE/ENERGY/2021/10](#)) that will be considered by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its 30th session (22-24 September 2021)

The secretariat also informed the Bureau members that draft Conclusions and recommendations arising from the eighth session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE-8/2021/INF.1) are being prepared and will be distributed by the secretariat to all participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the meeting. In this regard, the secretariat encouraged the Bureau to provide inputs to the draft, not later than 3 September 2021 to allow time for review.

The secretariat further encouraged submission of unofficial documents, specifically highlighting the document on Recommendations for an economic assessment of industrial decarbonization options” (GEEE-8/2021/INF.2) referenced in the official document [ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/3](#).

(c) Timetable and sequence of thematic events, and (d) Practical arrangements and assignments

The secretariat informed the Bureau that certain thematic events of the eighth session of the Group of Experts (Improving energy efficiency in industry (item 5 of the Annotated provisional agenda for the eighth session, [ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/1](#)), Improving energy efficiency in buildings (item 6), and Unlocking energy efficiency potential through digitalization (item 7)) are scheduled to be held under the umbrella of [the eleventh International forum on Energy for Sustainable Development](#) (virtual, September-November 2021).

The following tentative timetable, developed in consultation with the Task Forces, was presented (Table 2). The timetable remains work in progress and is subject to modifications; the latest version will be posted to the website closer to the session.

Table 2

Tentative timetable and sequence of thematic events

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> | <i>Responsible</i> | <i>Alternate</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Monday, 20 September 2021 | | | |
| 10:00–10:05 | Welcome and housekeeping | Secretariat | |
| 10:05–10:10 | Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/1) | Chair | In-person Vice-Chair |
| 10:10–10:30 | Item 2. Election of officers | Chair | In-person Vice-Chair |
| 10:30–10:40 | Item 3. Opening remarks | Chair | In-person Vice-Chair |
| 10:40–13:00 | Item 4. Introductory plenary session | Chair and TF leads: Industry, Buildings, Digitalization | |
| 13:00–15:00 | Lunch | - | |
| 15:00–16:30 | Item 6. Improving energy efficiency in buildings. Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings: analysis of progress towards the performance objectives (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/4) | Buildings JTF, EESB project team | |
| 16:30–18:00 | Item 5. Improving energy efficiency in industry. A pathway to reducing GHG footprint in manufacturing: determinants for an economic assessment of industrial decarbonization measures (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/3 , GEEE-8/2021/INF.2) | Industry TF | |
| 18:00 | End of the first day | - | |
| Tuesday, 21 September 2021 | | | |
| 10:00–11:30 | Item 8. Addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency | Chair and TF leads | Designated speaker and rapporteurs |
| 11:30–13:00 | Item 7. Unlocking energy efficiency potential through digitalization (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/5) | Digitalization TF | |
| 13:00–15:00 | Lunch | - | |
| 15:00–16:00 | Item 9. Work Plan for 2020-2021 and draft Work Plan for 2022-2023 (ECE/ENERGY/2019/8 , ECE/ENERGY/2021/10) | Chair and secretariat | In-person Vice-Chair and secretariat |
| 16:00–16:10 | Item 10. Other business | - | |
| 16:10–16:15 | Item 11. Dates of the next meeting | Secretariat | |
| 16:15–16:30 | Item 12. Adoption of C&R (GEEE-8/2021/INF.1) | Chair, secretariat | |
| 16:30–17:30 | Item 13. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/2) | Chair, secretariat | |
| 17:30–18:00 | Closing remarks | Chair, secretariat | |
| 18:00 | End of the second day; end of the session | - | |

Note: titles in the table are shortened; please refer to [ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/1](#) for full titles.

(e) Administrative matters

The Bureau was reminded, with reference to the Report of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency on its seventh session ([ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2020/2](#)), of the need to expand membership of the Group and identify new members, including those who could potentially strengthen the Bureau and bring new expertise amid expanding scope of activities of the Group of Experts. In this context, the secretariat reminded the participants of the need to re-elect the currently serving Bureau members whose two-year term of office ends at the conclusion of the eighth session of the Group of Experts, should there be their intention to do so.

The Chair of the Group of Experts further informed the Bureau of his resignation from the office effective conclusion of the eighth session of the Group of Experts, and proposed the Bureau to consider that the selected Chairs (Co-Chairs) of the Task Forces that report to the Group of Experts (namely, the Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency, the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings, and the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy) step in as Co-Chairs of the Group of Experts and guide its activities during the intersessional period until the ninth session.

After a discussion, the following *ex officio* members of the Bureau confirmed their readiness to step in as Co-Chairs of the Group of Experts: Mr. Stefan Buettner, Co-Chair of the Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency (in writing after the meeting); Mr. Vahram Jalalyan, Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings (verbally during the meeting); and Dr. Piyush Verma, Chair of the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy (verbally during the meeting). The Bureau recommended to proceed with the received nominations under the respective agenda item at the eighth session of the Group of Experts.

Notwithstanding vacation of the office, the currently serving Chair of the Group of Experts confirmed readiness to report on the overseen accomplished activities of the Group of Experts in the period of 2020-2021 (as per the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2020-2021, [ECE/ENERGY/2019/8](#)) and on the planned activities (as per the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2022-2023, [ECE/ENERGY/2021/10](#)), as appropriate, to the [Committee on Sustainable Energy at its 30th session](#) scheduled to take place 22-24 September 2021.

Any other business (agenda item 3)

There were no issues raised under this item.

Close of the meeting (agenda item 4)

The Chair closed the meeting at 11:00 CEST.