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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Geneva, 15 October 2021

Item 10(b)

Informal Document 2021/29

Economic and Social Council – 2021 session

(for information)

Note by the Secretariat

At its 2021 session, the Economic and Social Council, under agenda item 15 entitled “Regional Cooperation”, took the following decisions^a related to the work of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE):

Decision number **2021/250**

Updated United Nations Framework Classification for Resources

“At its 12th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2021, the Economic and Social Council, noting that the Economic Commission for Europe, at its sixty-ninth session, held on 20 and 21 April 2021, endorsed the updated United Nations Framework Classification for Resources of 2019, recommended that the updated Framework Classification be disseminated widely, invited States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the updated Framework Classification in countries worldwide, and proposed to the Council that it recommend the application of the updated Framework Classification worldwide, noting also that this proposal does not have financial implications, and recalling its decisions 1997/226 of 18 July 1997 and 2004/233 of 16 July 2004, invited States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the updated Framework Classification worldwide.”

Decision number **2021/249**

Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Recovery and Use from Abandoned Coal Mines

“At its 12th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2021, the Economic and Social Council, noting that the Economic Commission for Europe, at its sixty-ninth session, held on 20 and 21 April 2021, endorsed the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Recovery and Use from Abandoned Coal Mines, recommended that the Best Practice Guidance be disseminated widely, invited States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the Best Practice Guidance in countries worldwide, and proposed to the Council that it recommend the application of the Best Practice Guidance in countries worldwide, noting also that this proposal does not have financial implications, and recalling its decision 2011/222 of 25 July 2011, invited States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the Best Practice Guidance in countries worldwide. “

^a The final edited text of the above decisions will be contained in the official records of the Council for 2021 (E/2021/99 (Supplement No. 1)) after editorial review.

Decision number **2021/262**

Further deferral of the consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” of the Economic Commission for Europe

“At its 13th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2021, the Economic and Social Council, upon the proposal of the Vice-President (Botswana), decided to further defer action on draft resolution VI contained in E/2019/15/Add.2 entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” to its 2022 session, with a view to completing its consideration and taking action, as it deems necessary, as soon as possible during its 2022 session, and no later than the end of 2021.”

Next steps

With regard to decision 2021/262 (related to the revised terms of reference of the ITC), ECE member States may wish to exchange views on how Geneva-based delegations may engage in the further consideration of the item in ECOSOC in the coming months.
