



Agenda Item 2 – 31st Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

High-level Segment: Building Resilient Energy Systems in the UNECE Region

21 September 2022, 10:30 CEST (Geneva time)

Objective: Identify and discuss technology and policy options for policymakers to design and create resilient energy systems in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region and how the Committee can best support these efforts

Context:

The UNECE region is facing a number of economic, geopolitical, supply chain, and environmental challenges that pose significant risks to the current regional energy systems, exposing its vulnerabilities. This is alarming as all these challenges may divert policymakers' attention from the longer-term objectives of meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development the Paris Agreement targets. It is essential to focus efforts, resources and expertise on addressing the range of crises in an integrated way, considering both the short- and long-term objectives. The current challenges provide a unique opportunity for member States to rethink the existing energy infrastructure and design more resilient energy systems that deliver on energy security, economic and climate goals.

Introduction and Moderation:

- *Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst; Chair, Committee on Sustainable Energy*

Setting the scene:

Keynote to introduce the three main challenges of energy security, economic recovery/affordability and environmental sustainability that the region is currently facing and the importance of addressing them quickly and strategically with a vision for the long-term.

- *Angela Wilkinson, Secretary General and CEO, World Energy Council*

Update from the UN Global Crisis Response Group: focus on Energy

- *Carlos Razo, Chief, Office of the Director, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD*

Perspective from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change:

- *Mr. Gajanana Hegde, Team Lead, Mitigation Division, UNFCCC Secretariat*

Recommendations and solutions from the UNECE Expert Community:

The Committee will be given an overview of preliminary technical recommendations and solutions on behalf of the expert groups' bureaux, including (i) sector-specific recommendations for actions member States can implement to achieve greater energy security, affordability and environmental sustainability, (ii) key considerations for member States, and (iii) suggestions for where the Committee can collectively promote specific actions to speed up achievement of a secure, affordable and sustainable energy future.

- *Presentation by Jim Robb, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and Chair of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems*

Statements by UNECE member States:

All member States will be invited to intervene and share their (i) their priorities, (ii) their greatest needs and opportunities, and (iii) the concrete actions they believe are most important for the Committee to focus on collectively in order to build more secure, affordable and sustainable energy systems in the ECE region.

Facilitated multistakeholder discussion among member States and experts: What new or different actions can/should the Committee prioritize collectively to solve the challenges faster? What are the priorities for the UNECE Sustainable Energy Programme for 2023 and beyond to (i) respond to priorities and needs of member States, and (ii) support member States to achieve resilient energy systems?

- *Facilitated by Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE*

Conclusions and recommendations

- *Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst; Chair, Committee on Sustainable Energy*
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