



Agenda Item 4 – 31st Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Achieving high performance in buildings

21 September 2022, 16:15 – 17:00 CEST (Geneva time)

Objective: Review activities aimed to achieve high performance in buildings, implemented by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in the member States, and to discuss ongoing and future regional cooperation in the area of high-performance buildings.

Context: Achieving superior performance in buildings and the built environment contributes to enhanced health and quality of life; improved employment, affordability, social equity, and resilience; reduced carbon intensities, increased clean energy and climate change mitigation; management of water and land resources; mobility and technology access; and facilitates implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Rather than addressing efficiency on a component-by-component basis, UNECE takes an integrated approach to building design, delivery, and operation, and develops and maintains, through the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE), its principles-based Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings (the Framework Guidelines, ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2020/4) with their outcomes-based vision of building performance. To disseminate and deploy the Framework Guidelines, ECE launched High-Performance Buildings Initiative (HPBI) that focuses on capacity development and impact in the field, developing the intellectual, material, and financial resources to educate, advocate and advise for transformation to high performance buildings, and on the outreach required to create a worldwide urban shift to sustainable buildings. The ultimate objective is to improve health and quality of life within the built environment, while simultaneously decarbonizing building-related energy requirements, thus breaking the historic link between improved health, quality of life and atmospheric carbonization.

Tentative timeline

16:15	– Update on the progress and related developments in the area of high performance in buildings and the built environment	Igor Litvinyuk <i>Secretary, GEEE</i>
16:20	– Report on activities under the High Performance Buildings Initiative	Dragomir Tzanev <i>Executive Director, EnEffect Centre for Energy Efficiency, Bulgaria</i>
16:50	– Research and education for the built environment	
	– Development of case studies on application of high-performance buildings principles	Esther Obonyo (pre-recorded) <i>Executive Director, Global Building Network Penn State University</i>
	– Elaborating the outcomes expected of high-performance buildings	
16:50	– National plans of UNECE member States	UNECE member States
17:00	Future work on high performance buildings	Igor Litvinyuk <i>Secretary, GEEE</i>
	Conclusions and recommendations	Stefan M. Buettner <i>Chair a.i., GEEE</i>
17:00	<i>End</i>	
