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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Expert Group on Resource Management

Fourteenth session

Geneva, 25-28 April 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fourteenth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 25 April 2023.*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Opening remarks: Assuring sustainability in resource management.
3. Seminar: Deploying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in Europe and beyond to assure information for sustainable resource management.
4. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Expert Group on Resource Management.
5. Activities of the Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development – Towards a new model for global collaboration on critical raw materials.
6. The United Nations Resource Management System: Sustainable Resource Management Transformation Pathway to 2030.
7. Development and Implementation Road Map for the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources: The next five years:
 - (a) Minerals;
 - (b) Petroleum;

* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to register online. Please register at <https://indico.un.org/event/1002123/>. Should you experience difficulties with registering online, please send a message to: reserves.energy@un.org. Delegates participating in person are requested to present themselves at least 45 minutes prior to the start time at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, temporarily located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, Avenue de la Paix 13, Geneva. Please see [UN Geneva Guidance on accessing the Palais des Nations](#) (including security information, maps, and information on transportation). Registration is open every working day at the Villa Les Feuillantines from 8.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

- (c) Renewable energy resources;
 - (d) Nuclear fuel resources;
 - (e) Injection projects;
 - (f) Anthropogenic resources;
 - (g) Groundwater resources;
 - (h) Social and environmental considerations;
 - (i) Commercial aspects and financial reporting;
 - (j) Hydrogen and other potential applications;
 - (k) Women in Resource Management;
 - (l) Youth.
8. Work plans for 2022-2023 and 2024-2025 and strengthening the Expert Group on Resource Management.
 9. International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects supporting implementation the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System.
 10. Communications, promotion and outreach.
 11. Election of officers.
 12. Other business.
 13. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.
 14. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the first item on the provisional agenda is adoption of the agenda.

Documents for the session will be published on the ECE website¹ as they become available. A detailed timetable will be posted on the website closer to the meeting.

2. Opening remarks: Assuring sustainability in resource management

In the opening remarks, the importance of sustainability in resource management will be highlighted, and an overview of the current status of the development and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) will be provided. How UNFC and UNRMS can assist governments, industry, investors and international organizations to address the modern challenges in the sustainable development of energy and mineral resources, such as addressing the impacts of climate change, will be discussed. UNFC and UNRMS provide a comprehensive and standardized approach to managing resources, helping to ensure that they are used sustainably for the benefit of current and future generations.

¹ <https://unece.org/sustainable-energy/events/unece-resource-management-week-2023>

3. Seminar: Deploying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in Europe and beyond to assure information for sustainable resource management

This one and a half-day seminar will focus on deploying UNFC in Europe and other regions to ensure sustainable resource management. The speakers will discuss the benefits of using UNFC as an information source for the sustainable management of resources, with a focus on primary and secondary raw materials, including assisting in decision-making for different stakeholders (governments, industry, investors, and international organizations). They will also discuss the challenges of implementing UNFC in different regions, countries, economic sectors (industry, finance) and how these can be overcome. The seminar will provide an opportunity to learn about best practices for implementing UNFC, as well as share experiences and exchange information. The seminar will be organized together with the European Commission and two ongoing Horizon Europe projects that support the implementation of UNFC, namely A Geological Service for Europe (GSEU) and the Future Availability of Secondary Raw Materials (FutuRaM).

The Expert Group will be invited to take note of the increasing adoption of and interest in applying UNFC and UNRMS in various countries, sub-regions, regions and continental unions, including the European Union, Central Asia, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) region, North America, African Union, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to propose future work to manage regional and global implementation of UNFC and UNRMS.

4. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Expert Group on Resource Management

The secretariat will provide an overview of recent activities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy following its thirty-first session (Geneva, 21-23 September 2022), as well as decisions taken by the Committee related to the work of the Expert Group. These will include creating an ECE Platform on Resilient Energy Systems; the recommendation to the Economic Commission for Europe (the Commission) to propose a draft decision to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) inviting the application of the UNRMS Principles and Requirements worldwide; and the request to look into the application of UNFC to hydrogen projects and production technologies.

5. Activities of the Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development – Towards a new model for global collaboration on critical raw materials

This session will be led by the UN Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development.

The extractive industries have the potential to drive economic growth and reduce poverty, but they also come with financial, economic, governance, social, and environmental concerns. The UN Secretary-General's 2021 policy brief, "Transforming Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development",² set out recommendations to transform the extractive industries sector and presented these to Member States and high-level representatives during a Global Roundtable on Extractive Industries, including the recommendation to establish a Working Group. The United Nations Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development was established in 2022 to coordinate extractives-related work across the UN and beyond through joint work, planning and collaboration. The Working Group serves as an information and knowledge hub to scale-up and replicate good practices and provide policy advice and technical assistance to stakeholders. The Working Group also will assist in integrating the extractive industries'

² https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_extractives.pdf

work into other UN-wide initiatives. The UN Regional Economic Commissions, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) coordinate the Working Group.

The Expert Group is a major stakeholder in the Working Group. The Expert Group will discuss the major opportunities and issues in extractive industries, focusing on the supply of critical raw materials and the need for a new model for global collaboration. The Expert Group will further discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with the sustainable management of critical raw materials and the role of UNFC and UNRMS in addressing these challenges. The session will also explore the potential for a new model for global collaboration – one that aims to promote sustainable resource management and development – and how such a model could be implemented in practice. The Expert Group will review and discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations on how to contribute effectively to the activities of the Working Group.

6. The United Nations Resource Management System: Sustainable Resource Management Transformation Pathway to 2030

The United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) is a comprehensive framework for the sustainable management of resources that aims to support attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The document “United Nations Resource Management System: Principles and Requirements”³ was finalized and published in 2022. The Expert Group will discuss UNRMS as a sustainable resource management transformation pathway to 2030. The key components of UNRMS, the need for complementary documentation for operational aspects and how they can be used to sustainably manage resources will be discussed. Concepts for several complementary documents, such as a clean energy index; service orientation; a resource supply system; a blockchain and machine learning/artificial intelligence model for resource management; and a critical raw materials dashboard, will be presented. The Expert Group will discuss the deployment of UNRMS, including the development of case studies.

A case study on the application of UNRMS: Critical Raw Materials Servitization, United Kingdom, will be presented. The traceability and audit sharing work of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) will also be presented. Details of the Horizon Europe Project “Material and Digital Traceability for the Certification of Critical Raw Materials (MaDiTraCe)” will also be presented. A UNRMS development and global implementation roadmap will also be presented for discussion.

The Expert Group will review and discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

7. Development and Implementation Road Map for the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources: The next five years

The United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) is a comprehensive framework for the sustainable management of resources, which aims to support attainment of the SDGs. The Technical Advisory Group will present its activities, challenges and opportunities, as well as a development and implementation road map for UNFC for the next five years. The ensuing discussion will cover the current status of UNFC and the next steps in its development, including the key milestones that need to be achieved over the next five years to ensure its successful implementation. The challenges that need to be addressed to implement UNFC and the strategies to overcome those challenges will also be discussed.

The Expert Group will be briefed on the progress made since its thirteenth session on the development, maintenance and application of UNFC for the sustainable management of resources, including any recommendations from the Bureau of the Expert Group. The Expert Group is tasked to develop and maintain UNFC through rigorous testing, review, and periodic

³ <https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/pub/374676>

updating. Applications and expansion of UNFC for the sustainable management of mineral, petroleum, renewable energy, nuclear fuel, anthropogenic and groundwater resources, injection projects and hydrogen will be discussed and reviewed. Extending the UNFC standard to include IT standards for inventories and resource management analyses may be considered.

(a) Minerals

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to mineral resources and the activities of the Minerals Working Group. A case study on the application of UNFC to titanium resources in the Piampaludo area of Italy will be presented. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(b) Petroleum

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to petroleum resources and the activities of the Petroleum Working Group. A revised Bridging Document between the Petroleum Resources Management System and UNFC will be presented (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2023/4). The revised Bridging Document between the Oil and Fuel Gas Reserves and Resources Classification of the Russian Federation and UNFC will also be presented (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2023/5). The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(c) Renewable energy resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to renewable energy resources and the activities of the Renewable Energy Working Group. The Expert Group will discuss avenues for enhanced cooperation with the ECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy to support the application of UNFC and UNRMS to renewable energy and be invited to make recommendations.

(d) Nuclear fuel resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to nuclear fuel resources and the activities of the Nuclear Fuel Resources Working Group. The collaboration with the ECE Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems in implementing the Project “Enhancing the understanding of the implications of and opportunities for moving to carbon neutrality in the ECE region across the power and energy-intensive industries by 2050” (Carbon Neutrality project) will be presented. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(e) Injection projects

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to injection projects and the activities of the Injection Projects Working Group. The status of the update of the Specifications for the Application of UNFC to Injection Projects for the Purpose of Geological Storage will be presented. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(f) Anthropogenic resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to anthropogenic resources and the activities of the Anthropogenic Resources Working Group. The Expert Group will discuss the case studies under development and be invited to make recommendations.

(g) Groundwater resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to groundwater resources and the activities of the Groundwater Resources Working Group. An update on finalizing the Supplementary Specifications for the Application of UNFC to Groundwater Resources will be provided (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2021/12). The Expert Group will discuss

the finalization of the supplemental specifications and the case studies under development and be invited to make recommendations.

(h) Social and environmental considerations

The Expert Group will be briefed on the activities of the Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group. Case studies on the application of UNFC and UNRMS for Environmental, Social and/or Governance will be presented. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(i) Commercial aspects and financial reporting

The Commercial Applications Working Group will update commercial aspects and financial reporting. An update on financial reporting related to the work of the Expert Group, including activities of financial regulators and other actors, will be provided. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(j) Hydrogen and other potential applications

The Expert Group will be briefed on the opportunities to develop documentation to apply UNFC and UNRMS to hydrogen projects (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2023/6). The Expert Group will discuss cooperation with the Groups of Experts on Gas and on Cleaner Electricity Systems to develop UNFC- and UNRMS-based international hydrogen classification and management standards.

The Expert Group will be invited to discuss other potential applications of UNFC and UNRMS.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make any recommendations.

(k) Women in Resource Management

The Expert Group will be briefed on the work of the Women in Resource Management Working Group and be invited to make any recommendations thereon.

(l) Youth

The Expert Group will be briefed on the status of the Resource Management Young Member Group (RMYMG) and opportunities to strengthen its membership and the impact of its activities. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make any recommendations.

8. Work plans for 2022-2023 and 2024-2025 and strengthening the Expert Group on Resource Management

The Expert Group will discuss the status of the implementation of its work plan for 2022-2023 (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2021/3).

The Expert Group will also discuss its draft work plan for 2024-2025 (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2023/3).

The Expert Group on Resource Management comprises a diverse spectrum of expertise, interests, regions and experience. It is a subsidiary body of the intergovernmental Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Expert Group is also a key stakeholder in the UN Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development. The Expert Group's main responsibilities are developing UNFC and UNRMS and supporting their implementation. The Expert Group will discuss how its activities could be strengthened and be invited to make recommendations. Proposals to streamline the work of the Expert Group will also be discussed.

9. International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects supporting implementation the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System

International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRMs) are being established for the global deployment of UNFC and UNRMS. The Centres are conceived to provide policy support, technical advice and consultation, research and development, education, training, dissemination, and other critical activities for managers and stakeholders involved in sustainable resource management. At its twenty-eighth session (25-27 September 2019), the Committee on Sustainable Energy noted the proposal to develop a Centre on Sustainable Resource Management (CSRSM) to coordinate the network of ICE-SRMs. It mandated the secretariat to try to seek extrabudgetary funding to support activities in this area. The Expert Group will be briefed on the various initiatives to implement ICE-SRMs.

An update will be provided on the European Commission-funded project to support ECE member States in developing and implementing UNFC and UNRMS. Efforts to secure additional extrabudgetary funding will be discussed.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to make any recommendations.

10. Communications, promotion and outreach

The activities of the Communications Working Group will be presented to the Expert Group.

The Expert Group will discuss its current and proposed cooperation with Member States, industries, capital allocators and other organizations and entities, including – but not limited to – African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC), African Union Commission (AUC), European Federation of Geologists (EFG), EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), European Investment Bank (EIB), Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), Geoscientists Canada, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation, International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB), Mining Association of Canada, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), and the UNEP International Resource Panel (IRP), to achieve synergies and complementarity of efforts and to avoid overlap and duplication.

The Expert Group will review and discuss activities and upcoming events in 2023 and 2024 to promote and educate on UNFC and UNRMS.

11. Election of officers

At its twelfth session, 26-30 April 2021, the Expert Group elected a Bureau to serve until the close of the fourteenth session in 2023. The Expert Group will be invited to elect Bureau members whose term ends in 2023 and who stand for re-election and any new nominations to serve until the end of the sixteenth session in 2025.

12. Other business

The Expert Group may discuss any other pertinent issues that arise before or during the session and that fall within the scope of the terms of reference of the Expert Group. Delegations are encouraged to notify the secretariat and the Chair in advance if they wish to raise any issues under this agenda item.

The Expert Group will discuss the dates for its fifteenth session in Geneva in 2024.

13. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

The Expert Group will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations.

Where possible, the draft conclusions and recommendations will be circulated to participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the meeting.

14. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the agreed conclusions and recommendations. The Expert Group will be invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau, following which the Chair will close the meeting.
