

UNECE Group of Experts Coal Mine Methane Bureau Call

6 March 2023

16:00 - 17:30 (Geneva time)

MINUTES

Participants:

Bureau Members:

Present

- Mr. Ray Pilcher (Chair)
- Mr. Clemens Backhaus
- Mr. Yuriy Bobrov
- Mr. Neil Butler
- Mr. David Creedy
- Mr. Lukasz Kroplewski
- Ms. Volha Roshchanka
- Mr. Jacek Skiba
- Mr. Clark Talkington

Apologies

- Ms. Aida Haracic
- Mr. Zhixin JIN
- Mr. C. Ozgen Karacan
- Mr. Sergey Ivanovich Shumkov
- Mr. Igor Yashchenko

Secretariat:

- Mr. Michal Drabik

Draft agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Update on preparation for the 18th session
3. Update on Bureau nominations
4. Approval of the candidates for the Chairs of the Task Forces
5. AOB

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The agenda was adopted without any changes.

Item 2. Update on preparation for the 18th session

2. The secretariat updated the Bureau on the state of preparation for the upcoming session.
3. The Bureau was informed that over 80 experts registered for the meeting.
4. It was highlighted that some speakers will not be able to attend the session in person and that their presentations will be pre-recorded and shown to the Group as video addresses.
5. The Bureau was informed that so far only a few presentations were received, but that much more was expected to be collected shortly.
6. The secretariat informed the Bureau that two substantive parliamentary documents have been already finalized and posted online, and that two others are being in the stage of last review. The missing documents are to be posted on the webpage dedicated to the 18th session over the next few days.

7. The secretariat informed the Bureau that the Director of the Division will not be present at the meeting, but that the video on which he addresses the Group will be presented in the room at the end of the session

8. The Bureau was informed that the session will be opened by the Deputy Executive Secretary.

Item 3. Update on Bureau nominations

9. The secretariat informed the Bureau that so far three Vice-Chair nominations from member States were received, namely from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Ms. Aida Haracic), Poland (Mr. Jacek Skiba), and the United States of America (Mr. Özgen Karacan and Ms. Volha Roshchanka).

10. While the Bureau has already discussed non-State nominations at its previous call, one more Vice-Chair candidature, of Mr. Julien Moulin from Française de l'Énergie, was put forward and approved by the Bureau. The secretariat was requested to communicate with Mr. Moulin and confirm his readiness to serve at the Bureau.

Item 4. Approval of the candidates for the Chairs of the Task Forces

11. Following a discussion on the organization of the Group that was presented at the 17th meeting in Geneva, the Bureau approved the names of the three task forces, as well as their chairs. It was decided that Ms. Bobbie Foot will chair the task force on Just Transition, Ms. Alicja Krzemien the task force on Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines, and Ms. Volha Roshchanka the task force on Methane Emissions Reduction.

12. The chairs of the task forces will be presented to the Group at the upcoming meeting, during which they will engage with the Group and present their plans for the work of the task forces.

13. Bureau Members were encouraged to join the task forces and to help their chairs as well as the secretariat with the recruitment process.

Item 5. Any other business

14. Referring to the discussions that took place during the meeting the secretariat informed the Bureau that the full list of nominations looks as follows:

CHAIR:

Raymond Pilcher (Raven Ridge Resources) (renomination)

VICE-CHAIRS:

State nominations:

Bosnia and Herzegovina (Ms. Aida Haracic) (renomination)

Poland (Mr. Jacek Skiba) (renomination), and

United States of America (Mr. Özgen Karacan and Ms. Volha Roshchanka) (nominations).

Non-State nominations:

Mr. Yuriy Bobrov (Association of Donbass Mining Towns) (renomination),

Mr. Neil Butler (Independent expert) (renomination),

Mr. David Creedy (Sindicatum Sustainable Resources) (renomination),

Mr. Lukasz Kroplewski (Independent expert) (renomination),

Mr. Julien Moulin (Française de l'Énergie),

Ms. Felicia Ruiz (Clean Air Task Force),

Mr. Clark Talkington (Advanced Resources International). (renomination), and

Mr. Zhixin JIN (International Centre of Excellence on CMM China) (renomination).

EX-Officio as Task Forces' Chairs:

Ms. Bobbie Foot (BHP)

Ms. Alicja Krzemien (Central Mining Institute of Poland)

Ms. Volha Roshchanka (U.S. EPA) (also nominated by the U.S. directly to the Bureau - see above)

15. The Chair and the secretariat thanked participants for their time and involvement in the call, and closed the meeting.
