

**To: Members of the Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

**From: Dario Liguti and Iva Brkic**

**Call of the Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy**

Via Teams – 13:30 CET, 20 March 2024

**MINUTES**

**I. ATTENDANCE:**

- **Bureau Members in attendance:** Juergen Keinhorst (Germany, Chair), Admir Softic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Chokan Laumulin (Kazakhstan), Morten Evjenth Lindbaeck (Norway), Denise Mulholland (United States), Stefan Buettner (Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency – GEEE), Francisco de la Flor Garcia (Group of Experts on Gas – GEG), Raymond Pilcher (Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition), Jim Robb (Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems – GECES), Karen Hanghøj and David MacDonald (Expert Group on Resource Management) and Kostiantyn Gura (Group of Experts on Renewable Energy).
- **UNECE Secretariat staff in attendance:** Iva Brkic (Secretary), Michal Drabik, Oleg Dzioubinski, Charlotte Griffiths, Nadejda Khamrakulova, Igor Litvinyuk, Branko Milicevic, Gianluca Sambucini, Slavko Vekoslav Solar, Harikrishnan Tulsidas
- **Apologies:** Tofiq Hasanzade (Azerbaijan), Romeo Mikautadze (Georgia), Farhod Bilolzoda (Tajikistan), Yaroslav Demchenkov (Ukraine)

**II. PROPOSED AGENDA:**

1. Planning the 33rd Committee Session
2. Update on recent and upcoming events
3. AoB

**Item 1. Planning the 33rd Committee Session**

*All*

- This year's Sustainable Energy Week will comprise of the 33<sup>rd</sup> session on the Committee on Sustainable Energy, the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency, the 11<sup>th</sup> session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, and the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems.
- This draft week overview was presented and discussed with the Bureau members. Day 1 of the week will focus on the administrative matters and the discussions related to the respective Groups of Experts. Day 2 of the Sustainable Energy Week will be focused on the cross-cutting areas of work that the three Expert Group share: i) Integrating energy efficiency and renewable

energy in distributed power systems; ii) Electrification of mobility: development of infrastructure, integration with grid, resource planning; and iii) Digitalization in energy.

- Day 3 will be dedicated to the discussion on Just Energy Transition for the Resilient Energy Systems, what would be the theme of this year's Committee Session. The discussion will be divided into 3 main parts:
  - **Session 1: Policy dialogue on a role of resilient and carbon neutral energy systems for a just energy transition** → the Chair of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition, Mr Raymond Pilcher, will set a scene with a technical presentation on the concept of just transition and findings from the technical background document. The member States will be invited to share some concrete examples of good practices in just transition across the UNECE region. The dialogue will be aimed to discuss how can resilient and carbon neutral energy systems create favourable conditions for a just energy transition.
    - *Guiding questions may include:* How can we tackle the economic challenge? What aspects should a just energy transition pay attention to? Can we afford not to do it and what is the cost of not doing it? What does a just energy transition mean for people, for different energy sectors, and for geopolitics and the new distribution of power?
  - **Session 2: Experts meet policymakers: Identifying opportunities for a just energy transition in the UNECE region** → the Chairs of the Committee Subsidiary Bodies (EGRM, CMMJT, GEEE, GERE, GECES, GEG) will share insights on how their respective areas of work are ready for a just energy transition and how can the UNECE Expert Community shape the just energy transition for resilient energy systems.
    - *Guiding questions may include:* Is your respective area of work ready for a just energy transition? What technologies and resources are needed? What is the availability of these technologies and resources for a just energy transition? How can the subsidiary bodies interact over certain type of tasks?
  - **Session 3: Prioritizing social equity and inclusivity for a just energy transition** → the Committee will be invited to look into the issue of gender parity and youth engagement in the context of just energy transition for resilient and carbon neutral energy systems. These two issues are mandated at UNECE level across all Commission's subsidiary bodies.
    - *Guiding questions may include:* What are the barriers and challenges faced by women and youth in accessing opportunities in the energy sector? What are the solutions that empower women and youth to actively contribute to the transition towards resilient, carbon neutral and equitable energy systems? How can we empower women and youth and prioritize social equity and inclusivity for marginalized and underserved communities in building resilient and carbon neutral energy systems and accelerating energy transition?

	Day 1 (Monday 16 September)	Day 2 (Tuesday 17 September)	Day 3 (Wednesday 18 September)	Day 4 (Thursday 19 September)
10h00 – 11h30	Opening GEEE & GECES & GERE <i>Joint work of EGs on cross cutting themes – Chairs presentations</i>	Integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy in distributed power systems GEEE & GECES & GERE	Policy dialogue on a role of resilient and carbon neutral energy systems for a just energy transition CSE & mS & EGs <i>HL dialogue &amp; concrete examples by member States</i>	Reflecting on achievements, identifying priorities and planning next steps CSE
11h30 – 13h00	Administrative matters GEEE & GECES & GERE	Electrification of mobility: development of infrastructure, integration with grid, resource planning GEEE & GECES & GERE	Experts meet policymakers: Identifying opportunities for a just energy transition in the UNECE region CSE & mS & EGs <i>What aspects should a just energy transition pay attention to?</i>	
Lunch break				
15h00 – 16h30	Parallel sessions GEEE & GECES & GERE	Digitalization in energy GEEE & GECES & GERE	Prioritizing social equity and inclusivity for a just energy transition CSE & mS & EGs	Administrative matters CSE
16h30 – 18h00		Administrative matters & reports adoption GEEE & GECES & GERE	Shaping the UNECE mandate on resilient and carbon neutral energy systems for a just energy transition CSE & mS & EGs	

- The discussion on Day 3 will conclude with what the just energy transition means for the Committee and its subsidiary bodies and what concrete actions should be taken by the Expert Community to lead the just energy transition for a resilient and carbon neutral energy systems in the UNECE region.
- The following list of documents will be developed in preparation for the 33 session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Bureau members will be requested to review and approve them by the end of June 2024. Drafts will be shared in the coming weeks:
  1. Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-third session
  2. Report of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on its thirty-third session
  3. Provisional calendar of meetings of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2025
  4. Programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2025
  5. Outline of components of prog of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2026
  6. Publications Plan
  7. Report on regional advisory services in sustainable energy
  8. EGRM Mandate and ToR
  9. International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management - Criteria for Recognition and ToR
  10. Informal summary of practices for representation of and the use of titles within the Committee on Sustainable Energy and its Subsidiary Bodies
  11. Setting the scene document on Resilient Energy Systems for a Just Energy Transition in the UNECE region

## **Item 2 – Update on recent and upcoming events**

### **Recent events:**

- 5-9 February 2024 - Special mission to Mexico – raising awareness on UNFC and UNRMS
- 6 February 2024 - Energy Efficiency: Bi-monthly open discussion forum - [Shaping perception and inspiring sustainable energy action](#)
- 12-16 February 2024 - Special mission to Turkmenistan – Hard Talks on Methane Management, Scale up of Renewable Energy and Energy Connectivity
- 21 February - Workshop on Emerging Sustainability Standards: Challenges and Opportunities for Raw Materials in a Changing World , Turin, Italy, organized during the International Roundtable on Materials Criticality (IRTC) 2024
- 22 February - [Launch of the scenario modelling on energy connectivity in Central Asia](#)
- 15 March 2024 - UNFC for Beginners Webinar, organized by EGRM Resource Management Young Member Group
- 18-21 March 2024 - [Global Methane Forum](#)

### **Upcoming events:**

- [UNECE Resource Management Week 2024](#): 22-26 April 2024
- [Astana International Forum](#), 12-14 June
- Mapping Albania’s readiness in Just Transition for post-coal mining areas: 4 April 2024
- UNECE Energy Efficiency in Industry bi-monthly open discussion forum: 16 April 2024
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## **Item 3 – Any other business**

The next Bureau call will take place on Wednesday, 5 June March 2024 at 14.00 – 16.00 CET.

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