

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 – 14:00 CET, 5 June 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:** Margalita Arabidze (Georgia)

II. PROPOSED AGENDA:

1. Comments & approval of the Annotated Agenda of the 33rd session of CSE
2. Discussion on the CSE-33 sessions
3. Update on the official documents submissions
4. Update on the preparations for the 71st Commission Session
5. Update on recent and upcoming events
6. AoB

Documents submitted:

1. Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-third session
2. Provisional calendar of meetings of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2025
3. Programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2025 & Publications Plan

Item 1. Comments & approval of the Annotated Agenda of the 33rd session of CSE

- No substantive comments were received on the Annotated Agenda

Item 2. Discussion on the CSE-33 sessions

- The 33rd session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy would be preceded by the technical discussions on the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency and the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems.
- Day 2 will be dedicated to the joint sessions by three Expert Groups, and the discussions will be focused on 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) Digital and data transformation in the energy sector.
- Day 3 will be dedicated to the discussion on Just Transition for Resilient Energy Systems. The Bureau discussed the objectives as well as expected outcomes from the session. The Bureau members highlighted that it is necessary to address the issue of affordability. The key questions that need to be taken into account when shaping the concept include: i) Can the UNECE region afford itself not to embrace the just energy transition? What would be the cost for the UNECE region of not adopting the concept of just transition for resilient energy systems? How do we finance a just energy transition?
- The discussion on Just Transition for Resilient Energy Systems will be divided into the following sessions:
 - i) Policy dialogue on just transition for resilient and carbon neutral energy systems during the representatives of member States will be invited to share examples from their countries on the good practices and challenges in conceptualizing and implementing just transition approaches. Where could we envisage possible pilot projects (Spain, Poland, Kazakhstan etc.)?
 - ii) Technical discussion with the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy who will share how the work of each Expert Group will contribute to advancing of the UNECE mandate on just transition for resilient energy systems. This dialogue is aimed to provide the content on advancing the UNECE mandate on just transition for resilient energy as there is a need for a unified theme and objective across the Expert Groups.
 - iii) Multi-stakeholder dialogue on strengthening partnerships on just transition for resilient energy systems with representatives from international organizations who will share how the stakeholders' initiatives are addressing the principles of Just Transition.
- Day 2 of the Committee would be dedicated to the administrative matters and will include:
 - The discussion on achievements since the 32nd session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Chairs of the subsidiary bodies will share the highlights from their respective Expert Groups.
 - Discussion on the future work of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. This will include the adoption of the Draft programme of work of the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2025, the review of the Outline of key components of the programme of work of the

sustainable energy subprogramme for 2026 and the approval of the mandates of some subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

Item 3. Update on the official documents submissions

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 programme 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
12. Advancing Intergenerational Justice in Critical Raw Materials Management: Assessing the Potential of Demand-side Interventions (English only)

Item 4. Update on the preparations for the 71st Commission Session

- 71st Commission session's cross-cutting theme: Climate action and resilient infrastructure for a sustainable future, to be held on 9 – 10 April 2025. The Bureau was informed that the EXCOM had invited relevant subsidiary bodies of the UNECE and the secretariat to consider how they may contribute, as appropriate, to the cross-cutting theme of the seventy-first Commission session within their respective mandates, ongoing work and existing resources. Secretariat will compile suggestions and inform the Secretary of the EXCOM.

Item 5– Update on recent and upcoming events

Recent events:

March

20: [Driving the Energy Transition: Connectivity, Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence](#) / ESCAP EWG-SDG 7: *The role of digitalization and artificial intelligence (AI) for the energy transition*

21: *UN Energy - Regional and Thematic Consultations in preparation of the Global Stocktaking on SDG7*

April

11: [Workshop on Integration of E-Mobility into Energy System](#)

16: [Energy Efficiency in Industry: Bi-monthly open discussion forum](#)

22-26: *UNECE Resource Management Week 2024, including EGRM-15*

May

1: [Innovation Zero 2024](#): “Accelerating a digitalised energy system for the future”

13: 2nd National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop: [Strengthening energy policies of Countries with Special Needs to build back better from COVID-19](#)

29: *First session of the UNECE Informal Task Force on E-mobility*

Upcoming events:

- HLPF:
 - UN Regional Economic Commissions Side Event on Critical Energy Transition Minerals to accelerate progress towards the SDGs, New York, USA, 16 July 2024
 - Governance of Energy System Digitalization, side event (tbc)
- [Sustainable Energy Week](#), 16-20 September
- [Thirteenth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development](#) (IFESD-13), Bangkok, 2-4 December 2024

Upcoming technical events:

- Regional Stakeholder Consultations on Energy Connectivity and Sustainable Energy in Central Asia, Astana, Kazakhstan, 12-13 June
- Energy Efficiency in Industry: Bi-monthly open discussion forum “[Triggering Investments towards resilience and net zero](#)”, online, 18 June 2024
- Workshop on Implementing the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) in Southeast Europe, Belgrade, Serbia, 4-5 July

Item 6 – Any other business

The next Bureau call will take place end of 19 August
