

# 19th session of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition



ENERGY



## MORNING COFFEE

9:30-10:00



**PLEASE STANDBY**

**SESSION WILL START AT 10:00**



# Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition

19th Session

18 March 2024



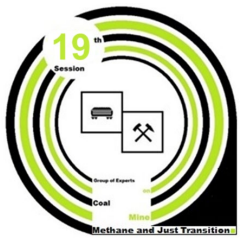


# Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition

19th Session

18 March 2024



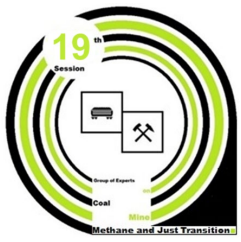


# Housekeeping

## ENERGY

### Secretariat

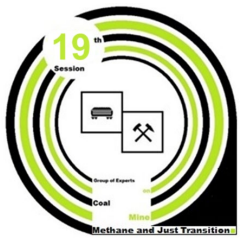
- Group's meeting times:
  - Today, **Monday, 18 March 10:00-13:00 and 15:00-18:00 Geneva Time**, Tempus
  - Tomorrow, **Tuesday, 19 March 10:00-13:00 and 15:00-18:00 Geneva Time**, Tempus and online
- Coffee breaks
  - **Monday** at **9:30** and **16:30** in front of the room
  - **Tuesday** at **9:30**, **11:20** and **16:20** in front of the room
- Interpretation
  - **Monday**: English, Russian, French, and Chinese
  - **Tuesday**: English, Russian, French, Spanish and Chinese
- Receptions
  - **Monday and Tuesday** at 18:30 in the Serpent Bar area in E Building



# Housekeeping

## Secretariat

- **Documents** on the web at: <https://unece.org/sustainable-energy/events/global-methane-forum-2024>.
- **Conclusions and recommendations** were shared with you before the session and will be discussed after each item.
- As per Bureau decision it is suggested that **the report** from the session is adopted at the end of the first day of the 19th session, i.e. on Monday 18 March, apart from the item on the Forum (item 8 of the provisional agenda), which is to be adopted together with the adoption of the report from the 11th meeting of the Group of Experts on Gas that is to take place at the conclusion of the Forum on Thursday 21 March.



# Housekeeping

## Secretariat

- Other Global Methane Forum 2024's meeting times:
  - Today, Monday, **18 March 15:00-18:00**
    - **Technical Sessions on Biogas**, CICG room 4 and online
  - Wednesday, **20 March 10:00-13:00** and **15:00-18:00**
    - **11th session of the Group of Experts on Gas**, Tempus
    - **Technical Sessions on Biogas**, CICG room 4 and online
    - **Technical Sessions on Coal** , CICG room 3
  - Thursday, **21 March 10:00-13:00** and **15:00-18:00**
    - **11th session of the Group of Experts on Gas**, Tempus





# Item 1: Adoption of Agenda



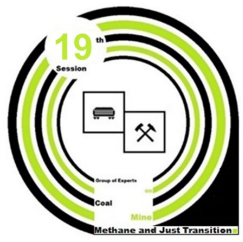
ENERGY

*Documentation:* **ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2024/1** Draft Agenda

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair*

*Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition*



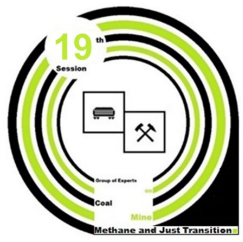


# Item 1: Adoption of Agenda

## ENERGY

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Opening remarks.
3. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Group of Experts.
4. Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023.
5. Work of Task Forces.
6. Work plan for 2024-2025.
7. Fourteenth joint meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition and the Global Methane Initiative Coal Subcommittee.
8. Global Methane Forum 2024
9. Preparations for the twentieth session of the Group of Experts.
10. Any other business.
11. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations





# Item 1: Adoption of Agenda

ENERGY

## Report:

9. The provisional agenda as contained in document ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2024/1 was adopted without amendment.



ENERGY

# Item 2: Opening Remarks

**Mr. Dario Liguti**, *Director, SED, UNECE*

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition*

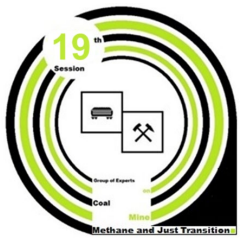


# Item 2: Opening Remarks

ENERGY

## Report:

11. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation the work of the Bureau and the secretariat and their efforts to manage and direct the Group's work plan between annual sessions despite human and financial resource constraints and the challenging situation caused by the multiple ongoing global crises.



## Item 3: Activities and priorities of CSE & matters for consideration by GoEs



### ENERGY

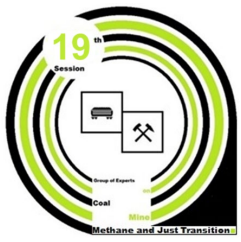
*Documentation:* **ECE/ENERGY/149** - Report of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on its thirty second session

- *Update on the recent decisions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy concerning the Group*

**Ms. Iva Brkic, Secretary, Committee on Sustainable Energy**

- *Q&As*

**All Participants**



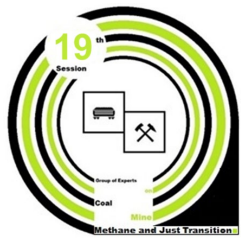
## Item 3: Activities and priorities of CSE & matters for consideration by GoEs



ENERGY

### Report:

12. The secretariat briefed the Group of Experts on the outcomes of the thirty-second session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (the Committee) (Geneva, 13-15 September 2023). The Group of Experts took note that its work plan for 2024-2025 (ECE/ENERGY/2023/5) was endorsed by the Committee at its thirty-second session and by the Executive Committee of ECE at its 131st meeting (Geneva, 4 December 2023).



## Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023



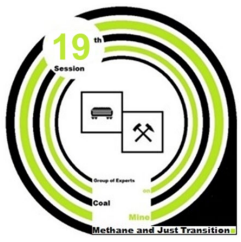
ENERGY

### *Documentation:*

- **ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2024/5** - *Mapping Albania's readiness for green and just transition in post-coal mining areas*
- **ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2021/3** - *Work plan for the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition for 2022-2023*
- *Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023*

### **Secretariat**

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT*



## Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023



ENERGY

- *Since the last annual session, the Group delivered:*
- **Four** meetings of the *Task Force on Just Transition*
- **Three** meetings of the *Task Force on Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines*
- **Two** meetings of the *Task Force on Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines*
- **Two** Methane Mondays series meetings





# Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

## ENERGY

*11 December 2023*

**Workshop on Mapping Albania's readiness for green and just transition in post-coal mining areas, Tirana, Albania**

*14 - 16 November 2023*

**Natural Mining Hazards 2023, Wisla, Poland**

*6-7 November 2023*

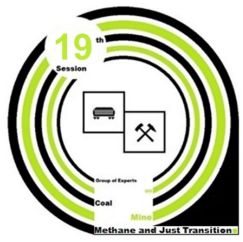
Sessions on:

- Developing effective policy frameworks for reducing methane waste and emissions in the context of international cooperation, and
- Developing human capital for a just energy transition in Central Asia

and

- Workshop for Methane Policymakers in Central Asia

within the framework of the **3rd Almaty Energy Forum**, Almaty, Kazakhstan



# Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

## ENERGY

*18 October 2023*

Session on Net Zero Mining and Energy Transition Agenda, at **MINEX Europe 2023**, Wroclaw, Poland (online)

*18 - 20 September 2023*

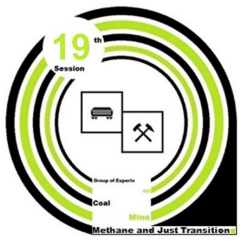
**Fact-Finding Mission to Albania**

*15 September 2023*

Sessions on

- Just Transition, and
- Methane

within the framework of the **32nd Session of the Committee of Sustainable Energy**, Geneva, Switzerland



## Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

### ENERGY

*24 July 2023*

**47th International Technical Conference on Clean Energy**, Sand Key Clearwater, FL United States of America (online)

*05 July 2023*

**The Eurasian Business Forum "Green Energy & Waste Recycling Forum"**, Astana, Kazakhstan (online)

*03 - 14 July 2023*

**Graduate Study Programme**, Geneva, Switzerland

*20 June 2023*

**Workshop on Just Transition in Mining Communities and Potential for Development of Geothermal Energy**, Tirana, Albania



# Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

## ENERGY

06 June 2023

Meeting with students from University of Gdansk, Geneva, Switzerland

- *Altogether:*

22 events over 9 months.



## Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

### ENERGY

- *Reports by the International Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane*

Report by the International Centres of Excellence on CMM in Poland  
**Mr. Piotr Kasza**, *ICE-CMM Poland*

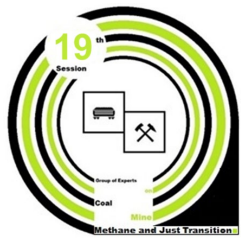
Report by the International Centres of Excellence on CMM in China  
**Mr. Jin Zhiqing**, *ICE-CMM China*

- *Completed studies*

Mapping Albania's readiness for green and just transition in post-coal mining areas  
**Mr. Hans Rudiger Lange**, *UNECE Consultant* (Video)

- *Q&As*

**All Participants**



# Item 4: Report on implementation of the work plan for 2022-2023

## ENERGY

### Report:

13. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation successful implementation of its work plan for 2022-2023. The Chair and the secretariat thanked the members of the Group for their contributions to delivering on the mandated activities.

14. The Group of Experts thanked the International Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane (ICE-CMM) in Poland and in China for their efforts and initiatives supporting the Group's work on disseminating and promoting best practices in methane detection, monitoring, capture, and use, and approved their annual reports for 2023, and their work plans for 2024.

15. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation the development of the study *Mapping Albania's readiness for green and just transition in post-coal mining areas*, and expressed its readiness to develop similar assessments in other ECE member States. The Group of Experts called interested member States to engage with the secretariat in exploring possibilities for conducting such work in their coalmining and post-coal mining areas.

16. The Group of Experts thanked the Regional Advisor on Sustainable Energy for his help in developing the above-mentioned study and expressed its concern with limited availability of RPTC funds for 2024, caused by the liquidity crises resulting from not honouring commitments towards the Organization by certain UN Member States that is currently faced by the United Nations.



## Item 5: Work of the Task Forces

### ENERGY

- *Reports on activities by the Task Forces*

On Just Transition

**Ms. Bobbie Foot, TF Chair**

On Methane Emissions Reductions

**Ms. Volha Roshchanka, TF Chair**

On Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines

**Ms. Alicja Krzemien, TF Chair**

- *Q&As*

**All Participants**



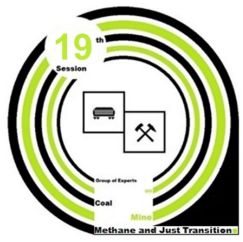


## Item 5: Work of the Task Forces

### ENERGY

### Report:

17. The Group of Experts listened to the reports of its Task Forces (on (i) Methane Emissions Reduction, (ii) Just Transition, and (iii) Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines) delivered by their Chairs, approved their proposed work plans, and thanked the Chairs and members of the Task Forces for their efforts and initiatives supporting the Group's work in their respective focus areas.



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025

### ENERGY

#### *Documentation:*

- **ECE/ENERGY/2023/5** – Work plan for the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition for 2024-2025
- **ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2024/3** – *Best Practice Guidance on VAM Processing*
- **ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2024/4** – *Coal in the 21st Century; Meeting Sustainable Development Goals and Managing Investor Expectations*



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025



ENERGY

- *Events delivered*
- **Two** Meetings of the *Task Force on Just Transition*
- **One** Meeting of the *Task Force on Methane Emissions Reduction*
- **One** Meeting of the *Task Force on Safe Operations and Closure of Coal Mines*

*26 - 28 February 2024*

**XXXIII School of Underground Mining, Cracow, Poland**



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025

### ENERGY

- *Work on Just Transition*

Platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange between Universities in Central Asia

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT Secretariat*

- Q&A

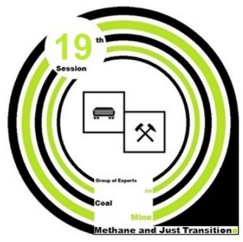
#### All Participants

New Approach to coal (*Coal in the 21st Century; Meeting Sustainable Development Goals and Managing Investor Expectations*)

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT Secretariat*

- Q&A

#### All Participants



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025

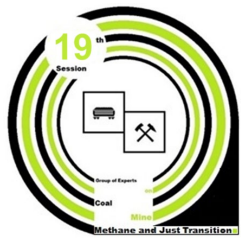
### ENERGY

- *Work on Methane*

Best Practice Guidance on VAM Processing  
**Mr. Richard Mattus, *RM Business Consulting***

- *Q&A*

**All Participants**



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025

### ENERGY

## Report:

18. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation the progress in implementation of its work plan for 2023-2024. The Chair and the secretariat thanked the members of the Group for their contributions to delivering on the mandated activities and asked for their further engagement to effectively deliver on the remaining tasks.

19. The Group of Experts thanked the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) for providing funds to deliver the project Strengthening national capacities to reduce coal mine methane (CMM) emissions from active and abandoned coal mines and to measure and manage methane emissions across the natural gas value chain.

20. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation progress in the development of the study on processing ventilation air methane (VAM) and thanked its principal author, Mr. Richard Mattus, as well as all the experts involved in drafting, editing, and reviewing the document for their work and valuable contributions.



## Item 6: Work Plan for 2024-2025

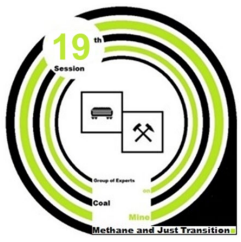
### ENERGY

## Report:

21. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation progress in development of the publication titled: *Mapping Just Transition and Identifying Barriers to its Implementation and Progress in the ECE Region* (new title as per ECE/ENERGY/2023/3 approved during the 32nd session of the Committee; mandate approved in the report from the Committee's 32nd session ECE/ENERGY/149 Item X.B para 52). The document is to present a new approach that sees coal mining not as a fuel provider, but a multipurpose platform that might be an important component of the green economy, and therefore promises to facilitate the process of just transition of the fossil-based energy sector.

22. The Group of Experts endorsed the idea of building a regional platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange on Just Transition among the universities in Central Asia, provided that the necessary extrabudgetary funds can be found for that activity.





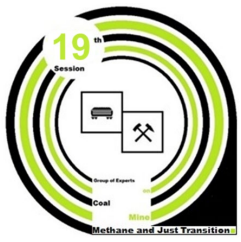
## ENERGY



# LUNCH BREAK

13:00-15:00





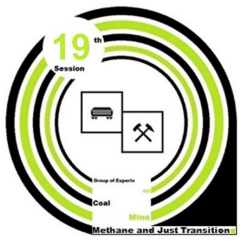
## Item 7: Fourteenth Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on CMM & JT and GMI Coal Subcommittee



ENERGY

- *Fourteenth Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on CMM & JT and GMI Coal Subcommittee*

**Ms. Volha Roshchanka, U.S. EPA**



# 19th session of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition



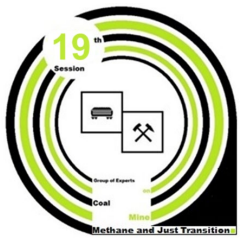
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## AFTERNOON COFFEE

16:30-16:45





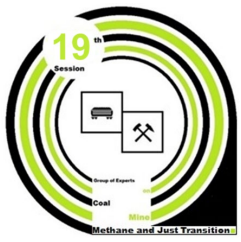
## Item 7: Fourteenth Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on CMM & JT and GMI Coal Subcommittee



ENERGY

- *Fourteenth Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on CMM & JT and GMI Coal Subcommittee*

**Ms. Volha Roshchanka, U.S. EPA**



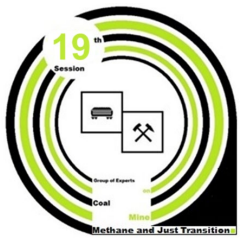
## Item 7: Fourteenth Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on CMM & JT and GMI Coal Subcommittee

### ENERGY

## Report:

23. The Group of Experts thanked the secretariat of the Coal Subcommittee of the Global Methane Initiative (GMI) and its members for their continued support and collaboration.

24. The Group of Experts expressed its interest to continue to develop and implement joint projects with GMI and requested the secretariat to ensure, facilitate, and coordinate continued cooperation between the two entities.



# Item 9: Preparations for the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Group

## ENERGY

- *20<sup>th</sup> Session*

### Secretariat

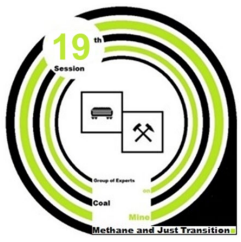
**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT*

- 20th session: April 2024, Geneva, Switzerland
- Together with the Group of Experts on Gas and the Expert Group on Resource Management

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### Report:

27. The twentieth session is to be held in April 2025 in Geneva.



## ENERGY

# Item 10: Any other business

- *Any other business*

## Secretariat

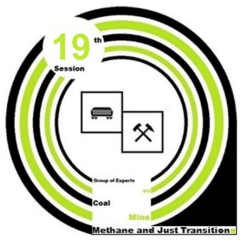
**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT*

**THANK YOU!**

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## Report:

28. The Group of Experts recalled that the delivery of a number of activities in the 2024-2025 Work Plan is dependent on the availability of extrabudgetary resources, and deemed securing such resources critical for attainment of the Group's objectives. The Group was invited to suggest potential sources of funding for the secretariat to explore.



# Item 11: Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations

## ENERGY

*Documentation:* **CMMJT-19/2024/INF.1** - Unofficial room document: Draft Conclusions and Recommendations arising from the Nineteenth Session of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition dated 1 March 2024.

- *Conclusions and recommendations*

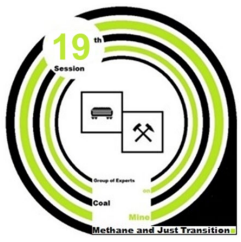
**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT*

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## Report:

29. The conclusions and recommendations were adopted and are included under the relevant agenda items highlighted in this report.





## Item 12: Adoption of the report and close of meeting

### ENERGY

- *Report*

**Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher**, *Chair, Group of Experts on CMM & JT*

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### Report:

30. The report of the meeting was adopted, including the conclusions and recommendations, subject to any necessary editing and formatting.



## Item 8: Global Methane Forum 2024



ENERGY

- *Meeting continues tomorrow*

*Room Tempus, 10:00-13:00, 15:00-18:00 and online*

# Thank you!

## See you tomorrow



Sustainable Energy Division

**UNECE**

Date 18 | 03 | 2024