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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels

Tenth session

Geneva, 21 October 2014

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth session¹

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 October 2014

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Opening remarks from the Chair.
3. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
4. Report and recommendations from the workshops and stakeholder consultations on carbon capture and storage and energy efficiency in electricity production.
5. Survey of carbon capture and storage: landscape, recent developments and stakeholders.

¹ Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations need to either register online or complete the registration form posted to the website of the ECE Sustainable Energy Division (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35130>) and transmit it to the ECE secretariat, if possible at least two weeks prior to the session, either by e-mail (clean.electricity@unece.org) or fax (+41 22 917 0038). Prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves, at least 45 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting, at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix opposite the Red Cross Building (see the map on the Energy Division's website) for the issuance of an identification badge. Registration is open every work day at the Pregny Gate from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The secretariat can be contacted by telephone (extension 72443 or 73728).

6. Recommendations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the use of carbon capture and storage in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
7. Assessing the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region.
8. Other activities in the field of cleaner electricity production.
9. Lessons learnt from the completed United Nations Development Account project: “Mitigating Climate Change through Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies”.
10. Work plan for 2014–2015.
11. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.
12. Preparations for the eleventh session of the Group of Experts.
13. Other business.
14. Adoption of the report of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

1. The first item of the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda. An updated agenda, detailed timetable, and other documents will be posted on the cleaner electricity production website of the Sustainable Energy Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).²

Item 2: Opening remarks from the Chair

2. The Chair will deliver opening remarks. He will provide an overview of the key deliverables of the Group of Experts’ work plan for 2014–15 (provided in the Annex to this agenda) that was approved by the Executive Committee (EXCOM) of ECE at its sixty-eighth meeting, 30 April 2014.

Item 3: Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Documentation : ECE/EX/2014/L.13
ECE/ENERGY/91, Annex II

3. The secretariat will update the Group of Experts on the relevant decisions adopted by EXCOM, including on the Group of Experts' work plan. The secretariat will also inform the Group of Experts on the preparations for and the possible outcomes of the twenty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy to be held on 19–21 November 2014.

² <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cep.html>.

Item 4: Report and recommendations from the workshops and stakeholder consultations on carbon capture and storage and energy efficiency in electricity production

4. The secretariat will present a report and recommendations from the workshops and stakeholder consultations on carbon capture and storage (CCS) and energy efficiency in electricity production held in Washington D.C, United States, on 2 June 2014; in London, United Kingdom, on 23 July 2014; and in Geneva, Switzerland, on 20 October 2014.

Item 5: Survey of carbon capture and storage: landscape, recent developments and stakeholders

5. According to the Group of Experts' work plan for 2014–2015, one of the activities is the preparation of a survey of CCS covering the landscape, recent developments, and principal actors. The secretariat will present the results of the survey.

Item 6: Recommendations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the use of carbon capture and storage in reducing greenhouse gas emissions

6. According to the Group of Experts' work plan for 2014–2015, one of the activities is to assist the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in assessing CCS technologies by preparing a communication to UNFCCC on the use of CCS in reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). The task force working on this issue is expected to submit a document including the communication for formal endorsement by the Group of Experts.

Item 7: Assessing the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region

Documentation: Room document: A baseline analysis of the efficiency of fossil fuel-fired plants in the ECE region.

7. According to the Group of Experts' work plan, one of the activities is to assess the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants in the ECE region. An update will be provided on progress made by the informal task force working on this topic.

Item 8: Other activities in the field of cleaner electricity production

8. The Group of Experts will review other activities in the field of cleaner electricity production and, if appropriate, propose new ones.

Item 9: Lessons learnt from the completed United Nations Development Account project: “Mitigating Climate Change through Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies”

9. The secretariat will present an overview of the lessons learnt from the completed United Nations Development Account project: “Mitigating Climate Change through Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies.”³

Item 10: Work plan for 2014–2015

10. Progress in implementation of the work plan will be presented. The Group of Experts will be invited to propose modifications as needed in the timeline, deliverables or activities proposed.

Item 11: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

11. The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations.

Item 12: Preparations for the eleventh session of the Group of Experts

12. The Group of Experts will discuss preparations for its eleventh session. Possible topics for the substantive portion of the session will be proposed and discussed. The eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels is tentatively scheduled for 30 October 2015 in Geneva.

Item 13: Other business

13. The meeting may discuss other issues that arise before or during the session and that fall within the scope of the Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts. To the extent possible, delegates are encouraged to notify the secretariat or the Chair in advance of any issue they may wish to raise under this agenda item.

Item 14: Adoption of the report of the meeting

14. The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the agreed conclusions and recommendations and close the meeting. The meeting report is expected to be adopted at the meeting. If it is not adopted at the meeting, the draft report of the meeting and the list of participants will be drawn up by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau and circulated for comments and approval to the members of the Group of Experts and the Geneva Permanent Representations. After approval, the report will be posted on the ECE website⁴

³ http://www.unece.org/energy/se/docs/unda_sed/unda_sp1.html

⁴ <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cep.html>.

III. Tentative timetable

Below is a tentative timetable. It is subject to change; an updated timetable will be posted on the ECE website⁵

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
21 October 2014	
10:00	Item 1: Adoption of the agenda
10:10	Item 2: Opening remarks from the Chair
10:20	Item 3: Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and EXCOM
10:30	Item 4: Report and recommendations from the workshops and stakeholder consultations on CCS and energy efficiency in electricity production
11:10	Item 5: Results of survey of CCS: landscape, recent developments and stakeholders
12:10	Item 6: Recommendations to UNFCCC on the use of CCS in reducing GHG emissions
12:30	Item 7: Assessing the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants in the ECE region
13:00	Lunch break
15:00	Item 8: Other activities in the field of cleaner electricity production
15:30	Item 9: Lessons learnt from the completed United Nations Development Account project: "Mitigating Climate Change through Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Advanced Fossil Fuel Technologies"
15:50	Item 10: Work plan for 2014-2015
16:10	Item 11: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations
16:40	Item 12: Preparations for the eleventh session of the Group of Experts
17:00	Item 13: Other business
17:10	Item 14: Adoption of the report of the meeting
18:00	End of the session

⁵ <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35130>

Annex

Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels for 2014–2015

I. Introduction

1. Annex V of the Executive Committee decision on Terms of Reference of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and Mandates and Terms of Reference of its subsidiary bodies (ECE/EX/2013/L.15) mandates the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels to carry out concrete, result-oriented activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity production from fossil fuels. These activities are to be developed and implemented with the active participation of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States, representatives from the energy and financial sectors and civil society, independent experts and academia. The mandate is approved until December 2015, with a possibility of extension.

2. According to its Terms of Reference, the Group of Experts will concentrate on the following areas of work:

- (a) Regulatory and policy dialogue;
- (b) Sharing best practices on cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels in the ECE region;
- (c) Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), as well as carbon utilization;
- (d) Enhanced oil recovery with CO₂;
- (e) Advanced fossil fuel technologies for power generation;
- (f) Evaluation of efficiency enhancing measures for coal-fired power plants including steam generators, air and flue gas systems, steam turbines, generators.

3. The Clean Coal Centre (CCC) of the International Energy Agency (IEA), Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute (GCCSI) and Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) each conduct a wide range of activities related to CCS, many of which should be of interest to various ECE member States and are closely related to the proposed activities for the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from fossil fuels. ECE should engage in close contact with these organizations in order to create synergies and avoid duplications.

II. Concrete activities

4. At its meeting⁶ held in November 2013, the Group of Experts agreed to a self-imposed deadline of November 2014, in other words for the first year of its current two-year mandate, to address CCS and to conduct an analysis of other approaches to increasing conversion efficiency through the following four activities (see paragraphs 20, 26 and 27 of the report ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2013/2):

⁶ The Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels, as it was called then, held its ninth session in Geneva on 18 November 2013.

A. Prepare a survey of carbon capture and storage (CCS): landscape, recent developments and stakeholders

Description: At the 18 November 2013 meeting a consensus emerged that during 2014 CCS should be a focus of work in the first year. As a first step, the Group of Experts agreed to prepare a report on CCS covering the landscape, recent developments, and principal actors so that the role for the Group of Experts could be precisely defined and duplication of efforts undertaken elsewhere be avoided.

Work to be undertaken:

- Initial review of existing literature on CCS technology developments and policy frameworks (first bibliography and short report by 1 May 2014);
- Secretariat and the Bureau of the Group of Experts identify and contact principal stakeholders from government and nongovernmental sectors, academia and international organisations;
- Secretariat and bureau of the expert group map who does what in CCS in an intergovernmental context;
- Bureau of the expert group and experts identify possible areas where the Group of Experts could provide value added;
- The secretariat and Bureau draft a report for consideration by the Group of Experts by September 2014.

Deliverables: A draft report/survey of CCS landscape, recent developments and stakeholders.

Timeline: September 2014.

B. Assist UNFCCC in assessing CCS technologies by preparing a communication to UNFCCC on the use of CCS in reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Description: At its 18 November 2013 meeting the Group of Experts offered its assistance to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in assessing CCS technology. To this end, the Group of Experts agreed to prepare recommendations for the UNFCCC on how CCS in cleaner electricity production, as well as CCS for enhanced oil recovery, could be used in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Building on the results of the survey in item (a) of this work plan, the Group of Experts would prepare a report containing recommendations and suggestions from ECE to be transmitted to UNFCCC, with a request that they be considered as a post-Kyoto, post-2015 Treaty is discussed and prepared. The Group of Experts would work with a self-imposed deadline of completing this action by November 2014, when this activity would be reviewed by the Group of Experts and a written report finalized and adopted. This work will be closely coordinated with the IEA's Clean Coal Centre (CCC).

Work to be undertaken:

- The secretariat and the bureau of the Group of Experts draft a report to UNFCCC with recommendations on the use of CCS and enhanced oil recovery as tools for climate change mitigation by November 2014;
- The secretariat organise a peer review of the recommendations to UNFCCC;

- The bureau of the Group of Experts drafts a note/letter to UNFCCC outlining the ECE position regarding the use of CCS in reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by April 2015;
- The secretariat organizes meetings between UNFCCC stakeholders and the Group of Experts to discuss and refine the recommendations as needed;
- The secretariat and the bureau of the Group of Experts submit the recommendations to UNFCCC as a parliamentary document for adoption at the next session of the Group of Experts and endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy in November;
- The secretariat and the bureau of the Group of Experts submit the recommendations and report formally to the UNFCCC.

Deliverables: Recommendations to the UNFCCC on how CCS in cleaner electricity production and through enhanced oil recovery could be used in reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Timeline: November 2014.

C. Assess the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants in the ECE region

Description: The secretariat and the bureau of the Group of Experts assess the current efficiency of the fleet of conventional power plants. This analysis should serve as a basis for developing best practices on the implementation of modernization measures from an economic and environmental perspective after November 2014.

Work to be undertaken:

- The secretariat and a task force of dedicated members of the Group of Experts conduct an initial review of actors and existing information to avoid duplication of efforts;
- The secretariat and the task force identify gaps in information on the efficiency of the existing fleet of conventional power plants;
- The secretariat and the task force prepare a background document for the next session of the Group of Experts on the status of conversion efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants in the ECE region;
- The secretariat and the task force present the findings at the next session of the Group of Experts;
- The Group of Experts consider possible next steps, including collaboration with qualified partners (international organizations, academia) in assessing and improving the conversion efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants in the ECE region.

Deliverables: A baseline analysis of the efficiency of fossil fuel-fired power plants in the ECE region.

Timeline: Review of actors and developments (May 2014); background document (September 2014), presentation to the Group of Experts (October 2014), possible follow up work (November 2015).

D. Define other activities through electronic exchanges among members of the Group of Experts

Description: In addition to CCS, the Group of Experts decided to explore other possible activities through an interactive electronic exchange among members of the Group of Experts. The additional activities should be concrete, tangible, and not duplicative with what other bodies and groups are doing and should be in line with the activities mandated by member States. In the past, the Group of Experts had examined ways of improving the conversion efficiency of coal-fired power plants through, for example, utilization of unconventional fossil fuels, pre-combustion treatment of coal and other fossil fuels, coal and electricity production clustering, and similar clean coal strategies that increase conversion efficiency.

Work to be undertaken:

- Organize teleconferences and electronic exchanges among members of the Group of Experts;
- Explore the possibility for the Bureau to physically meet and discuss and prioritize other activities;
- The secretariat and the bureau of the Group of Experts prepare a draft proposal for the tenth session on the work plan for 2015, including review and comment by and input from member States.

Deliverables: A work plan covering the period November 2014–December 2015 concerning the development of best practices.

Timeline: November 2014.
