

Economic Commission for Europe
Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels
Twelfth session

Geneva, 26–27 October 2016

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of Conclusions and Recommendations

**Draft Conclusions and Recommendations arising from the twelfth session of the
Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels¹**

Draft for discussion

Agenda Item 2: Election of Officers

1. The Group of Experts noted that at its eleventh session a new Bureau was elected to serve for a term of two years. Mr. Aleksandar Puljevic from Serbia was elected to serve for a term of one year to be line with the existing Bureau membership.

Agenda Item 4: Workshop “The Sustainability Credentials of Coal and its Role in the UN Sustainable Development Goal 7”

2. The Group of Experts noted with appreciation the collaboration with the World Coal Association (WCA) in the development of and expert participation in the workshop. The Group of Experts recommended that cooperation with WCA be strengthened.

3. The Group of Experts noted the conclusions of the workshop on the importance of fossil fuels in global sustainable energy systems but that improving power plant efficiency and reducing emissions will be essential to meet regional and global environmental goals. Low-carbon solutions such as carbon capture, use and storage and flexible operation of power plants in support of variable renewable generation technology are essential to decarbonize the electricity system whilst still using fossil fuels.

4. The Group of Experts recommended that the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop and stakeholder consultations be considered in its ongoing work and the development of its 2018–2019 work plan.

5. The Group of Experts recommended that a one-day workshop and stakeholder consultations be organized as part of the thirteenth session.

¹ The draft conclusions and recommendations will be reviewed by the Group of Experts after each agenda item and updated as needed.

Agenda Item 7: Report and recommendations from the work of the Task Forces

6. The Group of Experts noted that it is delivering on the concrete activities of its Task Forces², as well as its mandate and work plan for 2016–2017. The Group of Experts will report on achievements and key milestones at the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

Agenda Item 8: Mandate, Terms of Reference and work plan for 2018–2019

7. The Group of Experts reviewed and took note of the expiry of its existing Mandate, Terms of Reference and work plan at the end of 2017. The Group of Experts recommended that its Mandate be renewed for a period of two years and tasked the Bureau to draft a revised Terms of Reference and work plan for 2018–2019. The Group of Experts noted that the draft documents should be submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-sixth session in 2017.

8. The Group of Experts agreed to work by written procedure during inter-sessional periods for topics that are time sensitive.

9. In such a written procedure, approval of documents, including work plans and documents that require endorsement by the Committee on Sustainable Energy, should conform to the following procedure:

(a) A “task force”, supported by the secretariat, should prepare a draft document. During the preparation, the Bureau should be involved in periodic review and consultation.

(b) The draft will be subject to a minimum 21-day comment period by the Group of Experts. Not submitting comments during this period is considered as tacit approval. Comments submitted to the secretariat should be considered for possible inclusion and the draft modified as appropriate. Reasons for not acting on specific comments should be documented.

(c) Once comments have been considered, the Bureau should review the revised draft for approval. Any significant changes in the revised draft should be highlighted to the Group of Experts for consideration as per step 9(b).

(d) The final draft should be submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement.

Agenda Item 9: Preparations for the thirteenth session of the Group of Experts

10. The Group of Experts recommended the following topics for the substantive portion of its twelfth session: *to be added during the meeting.*

² (a) Task Force to assess a future role for thermal power plants in sustainable electricity systems
(b) Task Force on increasing flexibility in coal power generation
(c) Task Force on decreasing emissions and increasing efficiency from new and existing coal power generation using best practices across the ECE region and globally
(d) Task Force to assess means for development and deployment of carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS) technology and know-how

11. The thirteenth session of the Group of Experts will be held **on 26–27 October 2017 in Geneva.**

Agenda Item 10: Other business

12. The Group of Experts recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy that its annual sessions be supported by parliamentary documents and reports as needed in relation to the implementation of the work plan 2016–2017. The Group of Experts further recommended to the Committee on Sustainable Energy that the secretariat be invited to continue supporting its work by, inter alia, the following: organizing planned work plan activities, preparing formal documentation required for the development, approval, implementation and reporting of work plan activities, including the translation of official documents in the three official ECE languages (English, French, Russian) to service the Group of Experts' meetings.

13. The Group of Experts highlighted the need for extrabudgetary funds to support its work plan.

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

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