

# UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CLASSIFICATION AS A SUPPORT TOOL FOR WORLDWIDE ENERGY RESOURCE EVALUATION

## - UNECE contribution to WEC Survey of Energy Resources -

### Summary

During the recent years considerable progress has been made in finalizing uniform classification systems for fossil fuel resources of coal, uranium and petroleum covering the specific aspects of each fuel resource and having thus differing terms and definitions.

An Ad Hoc Group of Experts within the UN/ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy has endeavoured to harmonise these three energy resource classifications, which are: UN/CMMI for coal, SPE/WPC/AAPG for petroleum and IAEA/NEA for uranium in terms of the UN Framework Classification (UNFC), with the intention of assisting in the revision of the SER questionnaire to be used for the 2004 Survey of the World Energy Council (WEC). This allows improvements in the coverage, clarity and usefulness of SER, while maintaining continuity with SER 2001.

The codification of the UNFC is applied to the individual classes of the fossil fuel resources. This allows direct comparison and harmonisation of as seen in the table.

Joint class	Codes		
	Coal	Petroleum	Uranium
Reserves/Economically extractable quantities	111,121,122	111,112,	111,121,122
Contingent Resources /Potentially economically extractable quantities	211,222	121,122,123,221,222,223	211, 221, 222,311,321,322
Prospective quantities in place /intrinsicly economic in place quantities	331,332,333,334	234,321,322,323,334	331,332,333, 334

The worldwide survey of WEC aims to provide an overall picture of energy resources availability. For this purpose the individual classes are summarized in three main reserve/resource categories. A reconciliation of SER and UNFC resource terminology by means of codification is proposed in the attached table. This proposal slightly modifies the one given by WEC in its comment dated 7 November 2002. It appears that a reconciliation of both terminologies is achievable by means of codification.

One issue of concern is the term “proved” which is used with differing content in the classifications.

The attached enclosure contains all details of terms and definitions as used in the classifications of uranium, coal and petroleum as well as a description of UNFC codification. These details might be of interest to WEC national committees.

## Reconciliation of Resource Terminology (25.3.2003)

SER Terminology	UNFC Code	UNFC Terminology and Definitions
<b>Proved Recoverable Reserves</b>	<b>1r xx</b>	<p><b>Reserves respectively Economically Recoverable Quantities</b>  Quantities of petroleum, coal and uranium that are commercially recoverable from a given date forward as result of development and production commitments. Geological, technical and economic viability have been resolved including all relevant legal environmental and other relevant aspects of commercialisation.</p>
<b>Proved Amount in Place</b>	<b>1i xx</b>	In Place quantities from which Reserves respectively Economic Quantities are recovered
<b>Estimated Additional Reserves Recoverable</b>	<b>2r xx</b>	<p><b>Contingent Resources respectively Potentially Economically Recoverable Quantities</b>  Quantities of petroleum, coal and uranium which are not currently considered being commercially recoverable but estimated to be potentially so in the future. Geological, technical and economic viability have been assessed but not resolved, including all relevant legal environmental and other relevant aspects of commercialisation. They may include, for example, accumulations for which there is currently no viable market or where commercial recovery is dependent on the development of new technology. Quantities of petroleum where evaluation of the accumulation is still at an early stage are included.</p>
<b>Estimated Additional Amount in Place</b>	<b>3ixx</b>	<p><b>In place quantities from which Prospective Resources respectively Intrinsically Economic in Quantities may be produced:</b>  Quantities of petroleum that are postulated from geological information and theory to be potentially recoverable from outside of known oil and gas fields. In the case of coal and uranium, quantities of geologically assessed deposits that have not yet been subject to extraction and economic assessment, are covered, and (for uranium) quantities that are expected to occur in deposits for which the evidence is mainly indirect and which are believed to exist in well-defined geological trends or areas of mineralization (Speculative Resources). The common aspect is that these quantities warrant further assessment.</p>

Note to the code

The letter “i” stands for “in place” and the letter “r” for “recoverable”

xx is used as symbol for summary of the individual classes listed in table on the first page

