

From ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2005/2

AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON HARMONIZATION OF  
FOSSIL ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES TERMINOLOGY

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(approved by the Ad Hoc Group at its Second Meeting, 9-11 November 2005, and now requiring approval by the Committee)

Background: The Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Harmonization of Energy Reserves and Resources Terminology was created by the decision of the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy at its eleventh session in November 2001 (ECE/ENERGY/47, para.13).

Mandate: The decision of the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, November 2003 (ECE/ENERGY/53/ para. 16(viii)), which requested that the Ad Hoc Group continue its work for a period of two years starting in 2004 and report its achievements and plans yearly.

The objectives of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts are:

(a) to seek to continue developing the harmonization code of the UN Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources (UNFC) with the existing commodity definitions, bearing in mind ECOSOC Resolution 2004/233, which encourages Member States of the United Nations, the UN regional commissions and international organizations to consider taking appropriate measures for ensuring worldwide application of the UNFC. It would be appropriate to ensure that the development of a harmonization code be based upon cooperation with recognized industry professional societies by use of the framework facility provided by the UNFC.

(b) to facilitate the development of the *Specifications* and *Guidelines* to the UNFC, through cooperation with the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) for petroleum and the Combined Reserves International Reporting Standards Committee (CRIRSCO) for coal, uranium and minerals; (ii) in facilitating the development of these Specifications and Guidelines the Ad Hoc Group of Experts recognizes that it is useful that they be tailored to meet, to the extent possible, the needs of applications pertaining to energy studies, resources management functions, corporate business processes and financial standards.

(c) to encourage the development of education programmes on the UNFC, using in particular industry professional societies capabilities.

(d) to invite and facilitate development of *case studies* on a *voluntary basis*, using the *developed Specifications and Guidelines*, to fully assess the suitability of applying the UNFC to a comprehensive range of individual deposits of fossil energy and mineral resources. Such case studies would serve to demonstrate the various strengths of the UNFC under diverse applications.

(e) to seek to strengthen inter-agency cooperation and to cooperate and collaborate with all stakeholders, including other governmental and non-governmental organizations and the business community/private sector and professional associations in order to realize the above objectives. The international organizations include the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Energy Forum (IEF), the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the World Petroleum Council (WPC) and the World Energy Council (WEC). The professional associations include the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the Combined Reserves International Reporting Standards Committee (CRIRSCO), the European Federation of Geologists (EFG), the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the International Valuation Standards Committee (IVSC) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE).