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**Economic Commission for Europe**

Committee on Sustainable Energy

**Twenty-fifth session**

Geneva, 28–30 September 2016

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda

**International Fora on Energy for Sustainable Development and Energy Ministerial**

 Concept note and draft outcome document of the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and Energy Ministerial

 Proposal by the Governments of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan to the Committee on Sustainable Energy to endorse the suggested concept for a ministerial conference held at the auspices of the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and the process to lead to a ministerial outcome document. This document is to be seen in conjunction with document ECE/ENERGY/2016/8, Draft outcome document of the Seventh International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and its annexes.

 I. Introduction

1. The Committee at its twenty-fourth session welcomed and supported the offer by Kazakhstan to host a ministerial conference and the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (the Eighth Forum) on 11 June 2017 in Astana (ECE/ENERGY/99, para. 89). In consequence, the Governments of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan have been collaborating with the sustainable energy subprogramme under the oversight of the Bureau to develop a concept, process and draft outcome document to support the energy ministerial to be held on 11 June 2017, on the second day of EXPO 2017 “Future Energy” and on the first day of the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, kindly hosted by Kazakhstan in the framework of EXPO 2017 “Future Energy”.

2. The expectation is that ministers participating in the energy ministerial at the Eighth Forum on 11 June 2017 will commit to concrete actions to accelerate achievement of the energy-related Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Committee have already been invited to engage in a process that could lead to an endorsed statement and outcome document in support of the ministerial meeting (ECE/ENERGY/2016/8).

4. This document provides background information about the approach to the energy ministerial and the Forum, and countries are invited to comment and endorse the suggested concept and to engage in a subsequent consultation process.

 II. Time and venue

5. The Eighth Forum will be held in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 11–14 June 2017. It will begin with a ministerial event with the title “Meeting the challenge of sustainable energy” on 11 June 2017, in the framework of the EXPO 2017 “Future Energy”. It is jointly organized by the Government of Kazakhstan and the United Nations Regional Commissions. Other organizations, including, but not limited to, the International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Energy Charter, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the World Energy Council (WEC), and the United Nations Secretary General’s Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative will be approached to partner.

 III. Ambition and context

6. Following adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015, the United Nations and other international actors, countries and the private sector continue to explore how they can implement the Sustainable Development Goals and other aspirational pledges such as the Paris Agreement on climate change.

7. The new global sustainable development agenda requires countries to pursue concerted and accelerated action on energy in their national programmes in order to meet the challenge of sustainable energy. In order to understand the full implications of the development imperatives, countries need to understand what has been agreed both in their own national contexts and from others’ perspectives. Only then can the diverse development pathways be pursued efficiently.

8. The Eighth Forum provides the opportunity to reflect on the agreements and activities to date and further pursue a common agenda towards meeting the challenge. The objective of the Eighth Forum is therefore to build on the previous outcomes and experiences and to agree on potential solutions at an energy ministerial at the outset of the Eighth Forum, as a major stepping stone in the history of this international fora process.

9. The Fifth Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development[[1]](#footnote-2) called for a deep long-term transition to a sustainable energy future, and the Sixth Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development[[2]](#footnote-3) set out the following five concrete steps the United Nations Regional Commissions could take. The Seventh Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development[[3]](#footnote-4) (the Seventh Forum) will aim to define the challenges ahead and develop a concrete roadmap for the international community to achieve common goals.

10. The Seventh Forum to be held in Baku on 18–21 October 2016 has been designed specially to explore the gaps between country actions and nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and between NDCs and the desired outcomes in order to explore how far away the world is from achieving the 2030 Agenda.

11. The Eighth Forum in consequence will present ministers with a menu of options about what countries could do to attain the energy-related Sustainable Development Goals and implement the NDCs based on a thorough analysis of the gap and the challenges ahead. The Eighth Forum and the ministerial conference are about understanding and then closing the gap quickly, seeking to advance solutions that promote energy efficiency and existing low-carbon energy technologies and policies. The Eighth Forum can play an important role in advancing clean energy as part of the implementation of NDCs. Recommendations to advance NDC implementation include presentations on clean energy strategies and policies by the host and participating countries to achieve NDC goals, and the use of a format that allows a mix of high level presentations and technical working level discussions in order to allow learning across countries on specific measures. Potential partners include the “Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) Global Partnership Eastern Europe and Eurasian Platform”, as well as international and multilateral organisations active in the area of LEDS and NDCs as well as development financing.

 In the context of further movement towards Sustainable Development Goals, ministers

reaffirm their support and readiness to facilitate to the country that will host the Ninth

Forum.

 IV. Objective of the energy ministerial conference

12. The proposed ministerial dialogues are intended to enhance the understanding of sustainable energy and possible policy drivers to achieve a common goal on sustainable energy, promote a policy dialogue and provide awareness-raising of different outcomes that could emerge over time. It will further provide an opportunity to explore how the United Nations system can help implement or pursue sustainable agendas putting to the fore the regional context. Can we design a pathway to a sustainable energy system whereby a successful regional outcome is a composite of national choices?

13. In particular, the ministerial dialogue has the following objectives:

(a) Raise the importance of the regional context in attaining sustainable energy goals;

(b) Solidify the understanding of the role of clean fossil fuels in future energy systems in the short- and medium-term;

(c) Raise awareness about different plausible pathways for countries;

(d) Bring the voice of Central Asia and the Caucasus to energy and climate discussions;

(e) Launch a “regional centre for development of green technologies and investment projects” under the United Nations umbrella.

14. The energy ministerial conference will offer the possibility to ministerial participants to share thoughts and experiences in plenary, followed by moderated roundtables on two key topics of their choice: 1. Understanding the challenges of sustainable energy, 2. Closing the gaps quickly, and 3. Making decisions in times of risk and uncertainty.

15. Ministers will be presented with a short document containing a number of concrete priority actions they are willing to make (see Annex I for a suggestion and also document ECE/ENERGY/2016/8, Annexes). Ministers will be requested to sign the document in a ceremony on stage, followed by a press conference and Q&A. The recommendations and solutions could further be integrated into a “Manifesto of Values of Expo 2017”, which is planned to consolidate proposals of private sector, governments, academia and environmental organizations, business-structures to create a new model of energy. It is hoped that the ministers will agree to become ambassadors for the key messages and recommendations at subsequent ministerial and high-level meetings that they will participate in, including, but not limited to, meetings organized by the IEA, theUnited Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), G20 etc.

 V. Topical focus of the energy ministerial

16. The following themes represent a mere selection of topics based on the mandate of the sustainable energy subprogramme to support all technology options and market signals to reduce the net carbon intensity of the energy sector. Discussions do not need to be limited to this selection. The Committee is invited to comment for an optimal and holistic approach of interest to all member States:

 A. Understanding the challenge of sustainable energy

(a) Energy outlook and appropriate indicators – the trend, the gap, the challenge;

(b) Energy balance and energy security;

(c) The role of fossil fuels in future energy systems;

(d) Impacts of oil and gas price developments on achieving the energy related sustainable development goals;

(e) Future sustainable energy systems and balancing markets;

(f) Regional integration and cooperation, interconnectivity of systems in the region;

(g) Regional specificities in reaching the energy-related sustainable development goals.

e) The role and challenge of renewable energy in combating global warming

(x) Multiple perspectives of the transition to a sustainable energy efficient and energy innovation-led economy.

 B. Closing the gap quickly

(a) Reducing the carbon intensity of the energy sector: Priority action areas;

(b) The role of existing and new technologies and innovation to meet the SDGs;

(i) Enhancing energy efficiency and the uptake of energy efficiency saving measures;

(ii) Improving the efficiency of coal fired-power stations;

(iii) Promoting renewable energy within future energy systems;

(iv) Reinforcing synergies between renewable energy, gas and between RES and the demand side - both energy efficiency and demand response/storage

(v) Methane management in extractive industries;

(vi) Carbon capture and storage;

(c) National action plans and holistic energy policies;

(d) Overcoming investment barriers at the national and regional level; infrastructure finance;

(e) Enhancing market conditions, the right way to reduce carbon intensities;

(f) Water, food and energy nexus;

(g) Human and institutional capacities for energy policy and technology development and implementation;

*Potential role of energy efficiency and new energy technologies in investment process and behavioural constraints for this processes.*

*ICT-enabled online training course (massive open online course, MOOC) on entrepreneurship in rational energy use.*

(h) Improving country capacity for data availability, collection, interpretation, and transparency.

(x) NDCs under the Paris Agreement and sustainable energy planning and development.

 C. Making decisions in times of risk and uncertainty

(a) Choosing the right indicators;

(b) Energy productivity: measuring and tracking progress;

(c) Creating the conditions to make medium- and long-term decisions in times of risk and uncertainty;

(d) Green finance mechanisms: trends and impacts;

(e) Regional specificities in finance and investments.

 VI. Participants

17. The Forum will assemble up to 300 international energy experts, government officials, and representatives from the business community, financial sector, academia and civil society to share perspectives on how the Sustainable Development Goals can be implemented.

18. The private sector plays an important role in achieving the goals of sustainable development. Now, more than ever, there is a need for proper regulation, measurement and communication as part of a transparent sustainability reporting process to allow the private sector to contribute optimally to the current developments. The energy ministerial offers an international and neutral platform that brings public and private decision makers together to explore a concerted approach based on mutual strengths.

19. The Government of Kazakhstan and the Executive Secretary of ECE will invite all member States of the United Nations regional commissions and key organizations working in the pan-European region on the aspects of energy-related Sustainable Development Goals, including, but not limited to, the Governments of Brazil, China, India, the European Union, the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Organization of Economic Development (OECD), development banks, representatives from interested organizations, private, public, financial and academic institutions and all aforementioned partners (see para.5). The Committee is invited to encourage their national energy institutions and companies to participate and to propose participants.

 VII. Organization and format

20. The conference will be officially hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan. The Bureau will oversee the preparations. The Committee has been invited to engage in a consultation process.

21. The Eighth Forum will combine a ministerial meeting followed by a high-level plenary session with parallel workshops and site visits over four days. The energy ministerial conference will kick-off the Eighth Forum on 11 June 2017 and follow the official presidential opening of the EXPO 2017 “Future Energy” on 10 June 217, which expects more than 5 million visitors over three months, more than 100 participating countries and international organizations and the private sector. EXPO 2017 “Future Energy” seeks to address global energy related challenges and presents therefore a unique opportunity for ministers to jointly discuss immediate solutions and quick fixes to global energy related challenges.

 VIII. Draft programme of the energy ministerial

22. The draft programme will be developed based on recommendations and reflections provided by ECE member States during the 25th session of the Committee on 28–30 September 2016. The final programme will be based on the topical focus areas developed under section V and will be presented to the Committee on 19 January 2017 for approval, if so desired by the Committee.

 IX. Timeline and next steps

23. **28–30 September 2016**: The Committee is invited to endorse the proposal for a consultation process with member States about the outcome document in preparation for an energy ministerial to be held at the auspices of the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development on 11 June 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

24. **October to December 2016**: A web-based consultation process begins.

25. **18–21 October 2016**: Seventh Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Baku, Azerbaijan. This meeting will bring together the five United Nations Regional Commissions with partners and will allow additional consultations to the proposed documents.

26. **December 2016**: Final drafting of the document to be endorsed by the Committee on Sustainable Energy in the second part of the twenty-fifth session.

27. **19 January 2017**: Second part of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, closure of the session with the adoption of the report by the Committee and potential endorsement of the ministerial outcome document.

28. **April 2017**: Sixty-seventh ECE Commission session for potential further endorsement of the Committee approved recommendations and outcome document.

29. **11 June 2017**: Energy ministerial conference hosted by Kazakhstan in collaboration with partners.

30. **11–14 June 2017**: Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, Astana, Kazakhstan.

31. **10 June – 10 September 2017**: EXPO 2017 “Future Energy”, Astana, Kazakhstan.

32. **26–28 September 2017**: Twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy to report on progress made and present concrete action outcomes from the ministerial meeting.Annex

 [Draft 1] Ministerial Statement

1. We, the Energy Ministers of [countries], met in Astana, Kazakhstan on 11 June 2017, to explore how to accelerate the transition to a new, sustainable and fair energy system. Energy plays a crucial role in global economic growth and underpins all areas of development. We recognize that it is essential for our nations to secure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector to develop the world sustainably.

*to consider the possibility of replacing of* "Energy Services" *expression* *to term either “Energy supply” or “Energy sources” «энергоснабжение», так как в контексте данного документа иные энергетические услуги не существенны, либо на «энергию», «источникиin the entire text of the document, as other energy services are not essential in the aspect of energy markets due that fact availability of products is more important, not the services. По тем же основаниям предлагаются к исключению пункты 16 и 25. Кроме того, в указанных пунктах предполагается переход поставщиками энергии к продаже не энергетических продуктов, а энергетических услуг и создание на всем протяжении производственно-сбытовой цепочки в энергетической области условий, поощряющих эффективное оказание энергетических услуг, чем потребление энергетических ресурсов, что, на наш взгляд, снизит прозрачность энергетических рынков. For the same reasons we consider to exclude of the paragraphs 16 and 25*

2. Recognizing that energy is at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement, we emphasize the following points:

* ***Equitable access to modern energy services requires mobilizing adequate resources.*** Ensuring physical and economic access to quality energy services requires investment throughout the energy value chain, from primary energy development to end use. Enabling investment requires that governments have a long-term vision for providing sustainable energy services, and that we promulgate sustainable policies and regulations that are based on rational economics and that allow producers and consumers to respond to a dynamically changing energy market. The vision includes provision of access to modern energy services for vulnerable groups as part of national poverty reduction strategies and social development policy. Renewable energy offers the prospect of safe affordable power to the people currently off the electricity grid, where renewable technologies are now the most economic option for off-grid electrification.
* ***The net carbon intensity of the energy sector must be reduced.*** The amount of CO2 that can be emitted in a scenario that keeps global temperature rises well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, the so-called carbon budget, has been estimated1 trillion tons . If the ambition is to keep the temperature rise well below 2°C, then that budget is necessarily lower CO2 emissions from energy production, transformation, and use are at the heart of the challenge. In order to avoid overshooting the remainder of the carbon budget and in order to set the stage for future reductions in atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations, it is imperative that all options for reducing carbon emissions are developed and deployed urgently to reduce the carbon intensity of providing energy services. Renewable energy and energy efficiency are the most effective way to deliver all emission reductions needed to keep the temperature rise below 2°C.
* ***Energy efficiency gains need to accelerate***. Improving energy efficiency across the economy is one of the most cost effective options for meeting sustainable development goals, but much of its potential still remains untapped. A variety of barriers exist such as artificially low energy prices and energy subsidies which encourage inefficient and wasteful activities. Energy efficiency regulations and energy management systems also need to be strengthened at the household and industry levels. In addition, a focus on how greater energy productivity can help put energy to its highest value use through diversification and innovation plans can help governments move their industries up the economic value chain promoting better quality jobs and growth, while reducing emissions. To achieve this potential, better recognition of the multiple benefits of energy efficiency such as greater energy access, improving electricity reliability, and in the case of energy exporting countries, fiscal sustainability, must be better understood. and Investors in energy efficiency face unnecessary barriers .
* **Enhanced deployment of renewable energy technologies.** ***.*** Renewable energy is becoming cost-competitive with conventional resources and offer significant potential for further cost reduction. They offer a sustainable way to reduce the net carbon intensity of the energy sector, improve energy security and environment , encourage economic development, create local value and jobs, improve public health, and bolster water and food security. With the right policies, renewable energy could generate over 24 million jobs worldwide by 2030. For energy exporting countries, renewable energy also offers a path to meet growing domestic energy demand, while supporting stronger fiscal and environmental sustainability. Increased integration of renewables into the global energy mix will be important as future energy systems are optimized both on- and off-grid. However, wider uptake of renewables requires addressing barriers to fair competition vis-à-vis conventional technology, reflecting true costs of energy prices to society (particularly the cost of pollution), implementing stable energy policy frameworks in a future energy system context, and deploying innovative and targeted financial and risk mitigation mechanisms. Moreover new innovative solutions are needed for renewable energy deployment in buildings, industry and transportation sector. Tailor-made p olicies to promote renewable energy development should be designed in light of the economic circumstances and development challenges of different countries with. Assessment of the potential role of energy efficiency and new energy technologies in countries’ economic development and identification of the key sectors of the national economies, where this potential is concentrated has significant importance. In this light, it will be crucial to map and analyse the investment and behavioural constraints on energy innovations and energy efficiency and to identify mechanisms to facilitate diversification from resource-led growth to innovation-led energy efficient growth.
* ***National and regional circumstances vary substantially.*** While each country will make its contribution to the 2030 Agenda and implement ambitiously its National Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement, there is no one-size-fits-all solution and each country will choose its approach optimally given its national circumstances. We see significant value in international cooperation, strategic partnerships and functioning energy markets across regional corridors in the interest of all. We encourage the sharing of experiences and technologies to increase the successful uptake of clean energy technologies.

3. In light of the foregoing observations, we commit to the following actions to the extent they are relevant for our national circumstances:

 A. Access to Modern Energy

4. Significantly accelerate the required energy transition including a significant increase in and/or continued development of renewable energy, respective of the deployment state of the country, while ensuring a high level of energy service reliability and equitable energy access.

5. Mobilize needed resources to provide universal access to modern energy services and ensure proper integration of other sectors and other development goals into our national energy plans.

6. Develop regional and international standards or other normative instruments throughout the energy system based on best-practice (national) standards and share relevant information across areas with similar conditions.

Establish the right policy and regulatory environment that can attract private sector into the off-grid renewable energy market which can pioneer the establishment of delivery channels, innovate with products and services, and unlock substantial private capital.

7. Promote the use of quality-of-service regulation as a means of aligning the needs of suppliers and consumers of energy services and encourage the introduction of business models based on competitive companies offering sustainable energy services.

8. Develop well-functioning, resilient and interlinked energy markets with market-based pricing and with greater transparency, flexibility and liquidity.

9. Rationalize the use of energy subsidies by exploring efficient and effective ways to protect vulnerable groups and phase out inefficient energy subsidies that create market distortions and encourage wasteful consumption by 2025.

 B. Energy and Climate Change

10. Implement strategic measures to develop energy systems that allow for sustainable economic growth alongside deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Reduce systems costs with market reforms, normative instruments (such as standards), and business models that embrace demand responses, renewable energy supply, enable distributed generation, storage, energy efficiency, efficient transmission and distribution.

11. Institute well-functioning carbon markets or other mechanism to establish a real price on carbon to promote low carbon growth. Mechanisms for carbon trading should be transparent and understandable for all.

Observe and encourage that projects reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which are not included in the national plan for allocation of carbon credits.

12. Ensure that policy supports the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals to increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix and double the global rate of energy efficiency improvements.

13. Deploy the best available technologies and practices in clean energy and enhance research and development of innovative technologies. Encourage both sustainable development of untapped national resource potential and of incumbent establish a roadmap for the gradual phase-out of fossil carbon emissions from thermal generation.

 All oil-producing nations to endorse the World Bank-introduced [“Zero Routine Flaring by 2030” Initiative](http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/zero-routine-flaring-by-2030#4), which was launched in 2015 by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim. The Initiative is designed to over time end the wasteful oil industry practice of routinely flaring associated gas at oil production sites around the world. Global gas flaring causes substantial emissions of CO2, methane, and black carbon, in addition to wasting vast quantities of a natural resource that could be conserved or put to productive use.

 C. Energy and Resource Productivity

14. Reshape energy markets so that energy price signals and energy policies are aligned with sustainable deployment and use of energy resources.

15. Implement economic growth strategies which support greater energy and resource productivity through energy efficiency measures, economic diversification and technological innovation plans to promote greater economic value from energy consumption while reducing carbon emissions. .

16. Explore ways and investigate existing best-practices for energy suppliers to sell energy services rather than energy products to accelerate energy efficiency uptake and promote the creation of strong energy services companies to implement large-scale energy efficiency programmes.

17. Enhance cross-sectoral national planning, both urban and rural, to improve energy efficiencyand energy management standards, including housing, transport, commercial activities, water, and municipal utility infrastructure.

18. Establish technology-driven energy performance standards and pursue ever-tightening, enforced minimum energy performance standards in all sectors. Establish institute testing and labelling standards and procedures that meet recognized international requirements and that generate transparent information about them. Implement official energy efficiency labelling for mass consumer equipment and public/private buildings.

19. Limit commercialization and sales of appliances and equipment that do not meet internationally agreed minimum standards by 2030.

20. Establish education programmes to train professionals in all economic sectors on ways to reduce energy use and provide information to the public with respect to energy efficiency and family budgets.

 D. Energy Investment Framework Conditions

21. Develop energy infrastructure, markets, and trading arrangements that are resilient in the face of natural or geopolitical disruptions, including through well-functioning and transparent markets, diversified energy fuels, sources and routes, enhanced energy efficiency, and enhanced price elasticities.

22. Facilitate investments in secure and sustainable energy, including investment to encourage clean energy technology uptake, energy efficiency, upstream investment, and quality infrastructure investment.

23. Maintain an appropriate dialogue among energy-producing, -transit and -consuming countries on energy security, technology and policy.

24. Promote regional connectivity of energy infrastructure projects to enhance energy efficiency, to integrate renewable energy, and to optimize energy resource utilization in a sustainable manner Enhance efforts to make regional energy integration a reality. Encourage interconnection infrastructure projects between countries with complementary energy resources as a cost-effective way to enhance mutual energy security and stabilize energy systems.

25. Engage in dialogue with financial institutions to align investment incentives with the objectives of the sustainable development goals, including climate change. Create structural, institutional and regulatory framework conditions that enable investment throughout the value chain that reward efficient provision of energy services rather than use of energy resources.

26. Establish capacity building and qualification programmes for developers, engineers, technicians and workers involved in the design of bankable project proposals to be submitted to institutional, private investors, national and international financial institutions.

xx. Develop the continuous professional development scheme for entrepreneurs and key stakeholders in the sphere of energy efficiency and new energy technologies.

xx. Create ICT-enabled online training course (massive open online course, MOOC) on entrepreneurship in rational energy use.

 E. Technology

27. Increase government investment in clean energy innovation, private sector engagement, and dissemination of advanced technologies to facilitate joint research and information sharing. Encourage collaboration among relevant research laboratories and institutes to promote the development of innovative clean energy technologies.

Encourage transition of the governance systems of the electricity sector to enable innovative technologies and new business models to take advantage of the opportunities that renewables provide.

Improve the design, operation and planning of the power system in order to enable integration of higher shares of renewable power generation. Establish the regulatory frameworks to account for the cost structure of variable renewable energy integration, to allow for new services and revenue channels, and to support new business models.

28. Welcome a green energy technology center in Astana to achieve the goals of the Clean Energy Ministerial Mission Innovation and like approaches to encourage technology development, promotion, transfer and capacity building towards a green economy.

29. Support research and development and the commercial introduction of clean energy technology, capital, and management skills to support needed transitions.

30. Encourage sustainable manufacturing of energy efficient and cleaner energy equipment that contributes to cost-effective job creation.

31. Establish capacity building and qualification programmes for engineers, technicians and workers involved in the design and implementation of energy efficiency and cleaner energy solutions.

xx. Propose steps for overcoming barriers to energy efficiency and energy innovations.

xx. Encourage sustainable growth and so to increase social welfare through rational energy resource use, energy-efficiency job creation and lower environmental impact.

 F. Energy Data, Indicators, and Analysis

32. Collaborate with the United Nations regional commissions, agencies and other international partners to further progress of the energy-related sustainable development goals, and to track progress towards the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

33. Consider the different interactions involving energy policy, especially the water-energy nexus and the water-food-energy nexus, in order to provide appropriate sustainable policy approaches to address multidisciplinary energy-related issues.

34. Develop and implement the unified standard of reporting (under UN or UNECE aegis)

that will include performance indicators on sustainable energy deployment. With the help

of such standard to establish an effective mechanism for tracking progress and forecasting

achieving goals on time.

Creating a unified system of indicators of sustainable development will enable at regional,

national and international levels to assess the current status of the situation in the field of

sustainable energy and energy efficiency, as well as timely identify the threats and

opportunities. Such a system will allow developing strategic actions to achieve the goals.

35. In order to effectively develop a system of indicators it is proposed to establish an

intersectional Working Group that will be in charge of developing recommendations

concerning the methods of collecting the necessary data, analysis, synthesis and preparation

of proposals regarding the system.

36. Create under the UNECE aegis a unitary web resource that will contain all relevant

information (laws, regulations, standards, statistics, etc.) for achieving set goals by each

country.

The abovementioned system of indicators will be posted on this web-site.

1. The Executive Secretaries of the UN Regional Commissions signed a joint statement (the Hammamet Declaration) in 2014, a call for action in which three key components were highlighted: a) Energy efficiency in most countries needs to improve more quickly; b) Renewable energy policies need to be redesigned; and c) Equitable access to modern energy services requires mobilizing adequate resources. See: [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/ee21/Forum\_November\_Tunisia/Joint\_Statement\_Fifth\_Intern ational\_Forum\_Final\_All.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/ee21/Forum_November_Tunisia/Joint_Statement_Fifth_Intern%09ational_Forum_Final_All.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See: [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/eneff/6th\_Forum\_Yerevan\_Sept.2015/IFESD.6 \_Action.Plan\_Joint.Statement.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/eneff/6th_Forum_Yerevan_Sept.2015/IFESD.6%09_Action.Plan_Joint.Statement.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Needs to be further defined and adapted after the Seventh Forum in October 2016 in Baku, Azerbaijan. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)