Economic Commission for Europe
Committee on Sustainable Energy
Expert Group on Resource Classification

Third session
Geneva, 2-4 May 2012
Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Education and outreach and activities of the Communications Sub-Committee

Note by the secretariat

1. The Expert Group on Resource Classification agreed to establish a Communications Sub-Committee at its first session, April 2010. It was further agreed that the Sub-Committee would be established by and report to the Bureau of the Expert Group.

2. The mandate of the Communications Sub-Committee is to develop and implement a communications and education strategy to ensure that opportunities to promote the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC-2009) globally and to deliver a consistent message thereon are maximized, including through conferences, workshops, articles and technical papers. The Sub-Committee should also assist to identify experts in countries and organizations not already represented in the Expert Group.

3. Details of the membership and modus operandi of the Communications Sub-Committee are contained in its interim report prepared for the second of the Expert Group (document ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2011/6).

4. This document provides an update on the education and outreach activities undertaken since the second session of the Expert Group, including those by the Communications Sub-Committee.

I. Communications and education strategy

5. The agreed Communications and Education Strategy developed by the Communications Sub-Committee encompasses conferences and workshops; the relationship with other industry bodies and associations; publications, technical journals and articles; the media; website; and the membership of the Expert Group.
6. It is noted that no extrabudgetary funding is currently available to support the work of the Sub-Committee and hence implementation of the strategy continues to depend upon the voluntary contributions (travel and man hours) from members of the Expert Group. Efforts are being undertaken by the Sub-Committee to secure funding and should this be successful the strategy would then be modified accordingly.

II. Current activities

7. Since issuing its first report to the second session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, the Communications Sub-Committee conducted its work through regular e-mail correspondence, as well as via four meetings (one face to face meeting and three videoconferences).

8. The key education and outreach activities undertaken by the Communications Sub-Committee are outlined below. It is noted that these activities also serve to promote those widely used systems aligned to UNFC-2009, such as the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)/World Petroleum Council (WPC)/American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)/Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE) Petroleum Resource Management System (SPE-PRMS) for oil and gas and the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO) Template for solid minerals.

A. Conferences and workshops

9. The key focus of the Sub-Committee continues to be the promotion of UNFC-2009 at conferences, as well as the identification of expert speakers to deliver the presentations. A list of the conferences at which a presentation on UNFC-2009 and/or the work of the Expert Group was delivered in 2011 is provided in Annex I.

10. In order to deliver on the educational aspect of the Communications and Education Strategy, attention was paid to organizing capacity-building workshops. In particular, efforts were focussed on:

   (a) International Workshop on “UNFC and Resource Classification Systems” in London, United Kingdom, 7–8 February 2011. The event was organized by AAPG-Europe in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE);

   (b) International Workshop on UNFC-2009 in Ankara, Turkey, 29–30 September 2011. The event was jointly organized by UNECE, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkey – General Directorate of Mining Affairs (MIGEM), General Directorate of Turkish Coal Enterprises (TKI) and the Turkish General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration (MTA);

   (c) Workshop on UNFC Resource Classification (for oil, gas and minerals) in Bangkok, Thailand, 9–10 February 2012. The event was organized by the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and South-east Asia (CCOP) in cooperation with UNECE and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); and

   (d) Exploring the potential to organize workshops in India, Mexico and Russian Federation in 2012.

11. Following each workshop, a review is made of the event and those elements considered to be successful are then incorporated into future events. The programme for the workshops, as well as the standard presentations delivered, are continually reviewed and updated.
B. PowerPoint presentations, articles and other promotional and educational material

12. Work is ongoing on the development of standard PowerPoint presentations and texts for articles with differing degrees of technical content in order to appeal to and to educate different audiences.

13. An educational animated presentation with voice-over explaining the UNFC-2009 and how the three axes work has been developed and will be posted to the UNECE website when finalized.

14. Four short promotional videos to explain UNFC-2009 and the activities of the Expert Group were prepared in April 2011 and posted to the UNECE website. The videos comprise filmed interviews with three members of the Bureau of the Expert Group and the Director of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division. The videos include footage shot during the second session of the Expert Group.

15. A series of frequently asked questions (FAQs) on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group is being prepared for eventual posting to the UNECE website. The Communications Sub-Committee views this as an important area of work and one that will help users and potential users of UNFC-2009. Until the specifications are finalized the list of questions will initially be kept very general, for example, what is the role of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, who are the stakeholders of UNFC-2009, why is the United Nations involved in resource classification, what is the relationship with CRIRSCO and SPE, what commodities are covered by UNFC-2009, etcetera.

C. UNFC–2009 promotional poster and leaflet

16. A promotional poster on UNFC-2009 for use at conferences and workshops has been prepared in English and Russian.

17. The A4 tri-fold leaflet providing basic information on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group is now finalized. The leaflet, which is posted to the UNECE website, is distributed at conferences and workshops.

D. Website

18. Changes continue to be made to update and improve the Expert Group and UNFC web pages on the UNECE website, notably with regard to accessibility, re-organization of existing information and the addition of new material as regularly as possible.

III. Future work plans

19. The Communications Sub-Committee will continue its efforts to implement the agreed Communications and Education Strategy.

20. Regular and/or annual meetings of relevant societies and professional associations will be identified to ensure that a presentation on UNFC-2009 is included.

21. Efforts will continue to prioritize events to attend in 2012 (Annex II) and 2013.

1 http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html
22. The animated and standard presentations and texts on UNFC-2009 with varying degrees of technical content will be finalized and posted to the UNECE website, as will the FAQs on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group.

23. Focus will also be given to seeking new members for the Expert Group, particularly oil and gas producers.

24. Efforts will be undertaken to secure extrabudgetary funding.
Annex I

Conferences and other events in 2011 to February 2012 at which UNFC–2009 was presented and/or promoted

(a) UNECE Working Party on Gas, 21st Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 19 January 2011;
(b) UNFC and Resource Classifications Workshop, organized by AAPG-Europe in cooperation with UNECE, London, United Kingdom, 7–8 February 2011;
(d) SPE Petroleum Reserves Estimation Workshop "Sharing the Vision", Moscow, Russian Federation, 28–30 March 2011;
(f) SPE Offshore Technology Conference, Houston, United States, 2–5 May 2011;
(g) 73rd European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE) Conference and Exhibition, Vienna, Austria, 23–26 May 2011;
(h) SPE/AAPG/SPEE Multi-Disciplinary Symposium “Reserves and Resources Estimation and Reporting – Moving Forward”, Houston, United States, 19–20 July 2011;
(j) International Workshop on UNFC-2009, Ankara, Turkey, 29–30 September 2011 (jointly organized by UNECE, MIGEM, TKI and MTA);
(k) AAPG 2011 International Conference & Exhibition, Division of Professional Affairs Session, Milan, Italy, 23–26 October 2011;
(l) Ninth Global Reserves Summit, London, United Kingdom, 25–26 October 2011;
(m) CRIRSCO annual and related meetings, London, United Kingdom, 31 October–3 November 2011;
   • Competency and International Minerals Reporting Seminar, 31 October
   • CRIRSCO Annual Meeting, 1–2 November
   • International Minerals Reporting: Globalisation and Regulation Workshop, 3 November
(n) Confederation of British Industry Conference “Living with Minerals”, London, United Kingdom, 7 November 2011;
(p) 20th Session, Committee on Sustainable Energy, Geneva, Switzerland, 16–18 November 2011;
(q) 20th World Petroleum Congress, Doha, Qatar, 4–8 December 2011 (Round Table Session 05 “Reserves and Resources Classifications: Lessons of New Regulations”);

(r) Conference “Uzbekistan and Europe: perspectives for development of cooperation in the fields of transport and energy”, Geneva, Switzerland, 17 January 2012;

(s) UNECE Working Party on Gas, 22nd Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 24–25 January 2012;

(t) Workshop on UNFC Resource Classification (for oil, gas and minerals) organized by CCOP in cooperation with UNECE and ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand, 9–10 February 2012.
Annex II

Conferences and other events in 2012 at which it is anticipated UNFC–2009 will be presented and/or promoted

(a) Hanson Wade Conference “Reserves Estimation for Unconventional Resources”, London, United Kingdom, 1–2 March 2012;

(b) EuroGeoSource International Workshop “Security of Energy and Minerals Supply – Political and Economic Aspects”, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 8 March 2012;

(c) German Society for Petroleum and Coal Science and Technology/Austrian Society for Petroleum Science Spring Meeting “Environmental Protection in the Exploration and Production Industry, a Daily Commitment”, Celle, Germany, 19–20 April 2012;

(d) AAPG 2012 Annual Convention and Exhibition, California, United States, 22-25 April 2012;

(e) 34th International Geological Conference, Brisbane, Australia, 5–10 August 2012;

(f) 19th Annual India Oil & Gas Review Summit, Mumbai, India, 6–7 September 2012;

(g) AAPG International Conference and Exhibition, Singapore, 16–19 September 2012;

(h) SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition, San Antonio, Texas, United States, 8–10 October 2012;

(i) AAPG-Europe Conference and Exhibition, Barcelona, Spain, October 2012 (exact title and date to be confirmed);

(j) PETEX 2012, London, United Kingdom, 20–22 November 2012;

(k) UNFC Workshops – it is anticipated events will be organized in India, Mexico and the Russian Federation in 2012.