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. The Sub-Committee is a subgroup of the Expert Group. It was further agreed that the Sub-Committee would be established by and report to the Bureau of the Expert Group between meetings of the Expert Group.

2. Following the request of the Expert Group at its fourth session, the terms of reference of the Communications Sub-Committee were revised (see Annex I). The Expert Group will be requested to approve these terms of reference at its fifth session.

3. The modus operandi of the Communications Sub-Committee is contained in its interim report prepared for the second session of the Expert Group in 2011 (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2011/6).

4. The current membership of the Communications Sub-Committee is provided in Annex II.

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

I. Communications and education strategy

6. The agreed Communications and Education Strategy developed by the Communications Sub-Committee encompasses presentations on and/or promotion of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and
Resourses 2009 (UNFC-2009) at 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.

7. It is noted that there continues to be no extrabudgetary funding available to support
the work of the Sub-Committee and hence implementation of the strategy remains
dependent on the voluntary contributions (travel, man hours and sponsorship) 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

8. Since issuing its third report to the fourth session of the Expert Group on Resource
Classification, the Communications Sub-Committee has continued to conduct its work
through regular e-mail correspondence, as well as via six meetings (one face to face
meeting and five audio conferences). A copy of the minutes of all meetings is provided to
the Bureau of the Expert Group for information.

9. 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, notably the Committee for Mineral Reserves
International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO) Template for solid minerals and 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 (PRMS) for oil and gas, which has been endorsed
by SPE, WPC, AAPG, SPEE and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG).

A. Conferences and workshops

10. The key focus of the Sub-Committee continues to be the promotion of UNFC-2009
– including, in particular, an understanding of how the system works and its relationship to
the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS – at conferences and workshops, 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
2013 is provided in Annex III.

11. 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 the following three events:

(a) Workshop on UNFC-2009, Geneva, Switzerland, 23 April 2013

12. The event was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
(ECE) as part of the fourth session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification. This
timing of holding the workshop as the first item to be addressed on the Expert Group
meeting agenda allows newcomers to the Expert Group to be trained on UNFC-2009 and
the activities of the Expert Group prior to participating in the Expert Group substantive
discussions. The timing also offers a useful training opportunity for members of the Expert
Group who wish to deliver presentations on UNFC-2009 at future conferences or
workshops. A total of 85 experts attended this workshop, of which 19 were female.
(b) Interregional Workshop on “UNFC Applications in Uranium and Thorium Resources: Focus on Comprehensive Extraction”, Santiago, Chile, 9–2 July 2013

13. The event was organized jointly by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), ECE, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Ibero-American Programme for Science, Technology and Development (CYTED). A total of 60 experts attended this event, of which four were female.

(c) Workshop on “Sustainable Mining and the UNFC – Challenges and Opportunities in India”, New Delhi, India, 29–30 October 2013

14. The event was organized by the Government of India’s Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Coal in collaboration with ECE and the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI), with the support of the World Bank. A total of 230 experts attended, of which 10 were female.

15. 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.

16. A copy of all the presentations delivered at the workshops is posted to a dedicated page on the ECE website. Where appropriate, ECE press releases are issued either immediately prior to or immediately following the close of the event. Articles are also prepared for publication in the ECE’s weekly newsletter “UNECE Weekly”.

B. PowerPoint presentations, articles and other promotional and educational material

17. Work is progressing to develop a series of standard PowerPoint presentations on UNFC-2009 varying in length and technical content. Following approval by the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, the final drafts will be presented to the Expert Group for review and agreement.

18. Work continued on the development of an educational animated presentation with voice-over explaining UNFC-2009, how its three axes work and the relationship with the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS. The final presentation was posted to the UNFC web pages in December 2013. The animated presentation is being translated into other languages, including Chinese and Hungarian. The presentation is now shown at workshops and is also included in Pan-European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee (PERC) training courses. The Communications Sub-Committee is now looking to develop a second animated presentation to explain why UNFC-2009 is needed.

19. The Communications Sub-Committee discussed development of a series of frequently asked questions (FAQs) on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group for eventual posting to the ECE website. Whilst, the Sub-Committee viewed this as an important area of work and one that will assist users and potential users of UNFC-2009, it was agreed to delay this activity until the generic specifications were finalized and hence work will recommence in 2014.

20. The following articles and documents related to UNFC-2009 and/or the Expert Group on Resource Classification or including a reference to UNFC-2009 were published in 2013:
(a) Australia’s Identified Mineral Resources 2012\(^1\), as published by Geoscience Australia. The correlation of Australia’s national mineral resource system with that of UNFC-2009 is described in Figure A3 of Appendix 2;

(b) Global Review of Geothermal Reporting Terminology\(^2\) (February 2013) prepared by Graeme Beardsmore and Hot Dry Rocks Pty Ltd for members of the International Energy Agency (IEA) Geothermal Implementing Agreement. This document investigates whether UNFC-2009 is an appropriate framework upon which to base a geothermal energy classification scheme; examines how existing geothermal energy reporting and classification schemes map to the definitions within the UNFC-2009 framework, and hence to each other; and investigates how the UNFC-2009 might provide the basis for an entirely new global classification scheme for geothermal energy assessments and reporting;

(c) The report Renewable Reserves: Testing the Concept for the United States and Brazil\(^3\) (19 March 2013) by Bloomberg New Energy Finance was commissioned by BP;

(d) The expert opinion “Why “unified” reporting of the world’s energy and mineral resources is important” written by Brad Van Gosen of the United States Geological Survey was published on the ECE website on 3 June 2013, as part of the ECE’s Expert Opinion initiative;

(e) The article “UNFC-2009 for fossil energy ready for full-scale application, SPE recommendations aside” was published in the Ryder Scott newsletter ‘Reservoir Solutions’, July–September 2013, Volume 16, Number 3;

(f) The article “Getting Uranium Producers on the Same Page” was published on the occasion of the IAEA General Conference and posted to the IAEA website on 18 September 2013;

(g) UNFC-2009 is referenced in the Extractive Industries Source Book\(^4\), Autumn 2013;

(h) The expert opinion “Mapping the flow: from “uranium in the ground” to “uranium in the can”” written by Hari Tulsidas of the International Atomic Energy Agency was published on the ECE website on 25 October 2013, as part of the ECE’s Expert Opinion initiative;

(i) The article “PERC, CRIRSCO, and UNFC: minerals reporting standards and classifications”\(^5\) by Stephen Henley and Ruth Allington was published in European Geologist 36 November, 2013, p.49-54;

(j) UNFC-2009 was posted on 7 November 2013 in its entirety to the European Commission website\(^5\) in the form of a white paper in the context of the EC European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) on Raw Materials;

(k) UNFC-2009 is referred to in the World Energy Outlook 2013 published by IEA, 12 November 2013;

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\(^3\) http://about.bnef.com/white-papers/renewable-reserves-testing-the-concept-for-the-us-and-brazil/
(l) The article “Can renewable energy reserves be defined” was published by the Examiner.com on 21 November 2013;


22. Discussions were held with the Editor of the International Journal of Coal Geology during 2013 to explain UNFC-2009. An editorial on UNFC-2009 will be published in 2014.

23. The following press releases, which are available to view on the ECE website, were issued by ECE in 2013:

(a) UNFC – the tool of choice for optimizing natural resource management, issued on 12 July 2013;

(b) UNFC is key to sustainable development in India, issued on 31 October 2012; and

(c) UNFC now operational: a new era for energy and mineral reserves reporting, issued on 25 November 2013.

24. The following articles were published in the ECE’s weekly newsletter “UNECE Weekly” during 2013:

(a) Now available in Bulgarian: UN Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources, issue number 511, 14–18 January 2013;

(b) United Nations Framework Classification soon to be operational, issue number 525, 15–19 October 2012;

(c) India to apply UNFC as tool for global good-practice based reporting of mineral resources, issue number 549, 21–25 October 2013.

C. UNFC-2009 promotional poster and leaflet

25. The promotional poster on UNFC-2009 prepared in English and Russian continues to be displayed at conferences and workshops.

26. The Communications Sub-Committee noted that the existing information leaflet “Resource Classification and UNFC” provides comprehensive background information on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group and is a useful promotional tool to distribute at conferences and workshops. Now that the specifications are finalized, the Sub-Committee is working on revising the leaflet.
D. Website

27. Changes continue to be made to update and improve the Expert Group and UNFC web pages on the ECE website\(^8\), notably with regard to accessibility, re-organization of existing information and the addition of new material as regularly as possible. A survey was sent to the Expert Group on Resource Classification in January 2014, which including questions seeking feedback on use of the web pages and how they could be improved. All feedback will be reviewed by the Communications Sub-Committee and where appropriates changes to the web pages will be implemented.

III. Future work plans

28. The Communications Sub-Committee will work according to its Terms of Reference and continue its efforts to implement the agreed Communications and Education Strategy.

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

30. Efforts will continue to prioritize events to attend in 2014 and 2015 (Annex IV).

31. Now that the specifications are finalized, the Communications Sub-Committee will develop a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on UNFC-2009 and the Expert Group on Resource Classification, which will be posted to the UNFC web pages.

32. Focus will also be given to seeking new members for the Expert Group, particularly from the renewable energy sector.

33. Efforts will be undertaken to secure extrabudgetary funding.

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\(^8\) [http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html](http://www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html)
Annex I

Expert Group on Resource Classification
Communications Sub-Committee
Terms of Reference

1. The Expert Group on Resource Classification agreed to establish a Communications Sub-Committee at its first session, April 2010 (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2010/2, paragraph 58(i)) and recommended at its fourth session (April 2013) that the mandate be updated (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2013/2, paragraph 80).

A. Objectives

2. The Communications Sub-Committee is tasked by the Expert Group to develop and implement a communications and education strategy. The strategy should ensure that opportunities to promote UNFC-2009 globally and to deliver a consistent message thereon are maximized, including through conferences, workshops, articles and technical papers. The Sub-Committee is to co-ordinate its work with the Technical Advisory Group (a subgroup of the Expert Group on Resource Classification) once established (and the Specifications Task Force in the interim), in particular in relation to any events that focus on capacity building on UNFC-2009. The Sub-Committee should also assist to identify experts in countries and organizations not already represented in the Expert Group.

B. Stakeholders

3. The Sub-Committee works with the global constituency of the Expert Group on Resource Classification representing all users of resource information from the solid minerals, petroleum and renewable energy sectors: UNECE and non-UNECE Governments; international organizations; business community; professional societies and associations; financial sector, including standard setters; academia; and individual experts.

C. Resources

4. Until extra budgetary resources can be identified the Sub-Committee will rely exclusively on voluntary contributions from experts (time, travel, sponsorship of events etc). Administrative support will be provided by the Secretary of the Expert Group.

D. Deliverables

5. The Communications Sub-Committee will work on promotional activities related to UNFC-2009, including but not limited to promotional material (leaflets, videos, articles etc), a series of standard presentations on UNFC-2009, and identification of conferences at which UNFC-2009 should be presented and/or promoted, as well as opportunities for national, regional and/or international workshops or conferences. The Communications Sub-Committee will prepare a written report of its activities and outputs annually.

E. Timeline

6. The Communications Sub-Committee reports on its works and findings to the annual meeting of the Expert Group at which time the Expert Group will review the need or otherwise for the Sub-Committee to continue.

F. Reporting

7. The Communications Sub-Committee is a subgroup of the Expert Group on Resource Classification and reports to the Bureau of the Expert Group between Expert Group meetings. All outputs of the Sub-Committee are to be reviewed and approved by the Bureau prior to submission to the Expert Group. The Sub-Committee reports annually on its work to the Expert Group.
Annex II

Communications Sub-Committee Members

Chair
John Brooks, American Association of Petroleum Geologists European Region (AAPG-Europe)

Members
Stephen Henley, Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO)
David MacDonald, Chair, Expert Group on Resource Classification and BP
Jan Roelofsen, IHS CERA
Tim Smith, Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE)
Daniel Trotman, Ernst & Young LLP

Secretary, Expert Group on Resource Classification.
Annex III

Conferences and other events in 2013 at which UNFC-2009 was presented and/or promoted

(c) Black Sea and Caspian Energy Conference, London, United Kingdom, 14 February 2013.
(d) EuroGeoSource Congress, Brussels, Belgium, 12 March 2013.
(g) Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) and IAEA Interregional Training Course on Uranium Exploration, Mining and Processing Techniques, Jamshedpur, India, 8–11 April 2013.
(h) ECE Workshop on UNFC-2009, Geneva, Switzerland, 23 April 2013.
(i) General Assembly of the Latin American Mining Organization (OLAMI) and ARMINERA Seminar on Mining Development in Latin America and Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 8 May 2013.
(j) Statistical Information on Raw Material Deposits, First Stakeholder Workshop, Brussels, Belgium, 14 May 2013.
(l) Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP), Department of Mineral Resources of Thailand and Department of Primary Industries and Mines of Thailand Seminar on Best Practices on Mining Activities, Bangkok, Thailand, 28–30 May 2013.
(m) European Geothermal Energy Congress, Pisa, Italy, 3–7 June 2013.
(n) 75th EAGE Conference & Exhibition incorporating SPE EUROPEC 2013, London, UK, 10–13 June 2013.
(p) IAEA, CYTED, ECLAC and ECE Workshop on “UNFC-2009 Applications in Uranium and Thorium Resources: Focus on Comprehensive Extraction”, Santiago, Chile, 9–12 July 2013.
(s) IAEA Regional Workshop on “Uranium Mining and Opportunities for Socio-
Economic Development in Africa”, Kinshasa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo,
26–30 August 2013.
(t) AAPG International Conference and Exhibition, Cartagena, Colombia, 8–11
September 2013.
(u) IAEA General Conference, Vienna, Austria, 16–20 September 2013 (FoRUM
(Friends of Responsible Uranium Mining): ‘Resourcing the source: human and geological
resources for responsible uranium mining’ on 18 September will include a presentation on
UNFC).
(v) SPE Workshop Petroleum and Unconventional Resources Reserves: Understanding
the Economic, Technical, Environmental, and Regulatory Aspects, Bogota, Colombia,
23–24 September 2013.
(w) Risks Associated with Mining, National University of Colombia, Medellín,
Colombia, 25 September 2013.
(x) IX Colombian Mining Fair, Medellín, Colombia, 25–27 September 2013.
(y) Technical Meeting on the Thorium Resources and Provinces, Vienna, Austria,
(z) 6th International Conference on Coal 2013, Zlatibor, Serbia, 2–5 October 2013.
(aa) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Second Conference, Las Vegas,
USA, 29 September 2013.
(bb) International Lead and Zinc Study Group, Lisbon, Portugal, 4 October 2013.
(cc) 2013 European Mediterranean Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Summit,
Limassol, Cyprus, 7–9 October 2013.
(dd) Centro de Tecnologia Mineral (CETEM) Conference on Sustainability 2013, Rio de
Janeiro, Brazil, 9 October 2013.
(ee) OLAMI General Assembly, Acapulco, México, 15 October 2013.
(ff) Workshop on “Uranium Exploration and Mining: The Front End of the Nuclear Fuel
(gg) Black Sea and Caspian Energy Conference “Unconventional Resources – Central
and Eastern Europe”, London, United Kingdom, 22 October 2013.
(hh) SPE Applied Technology Workshop on Petroleum Reserves and Resources
Estimation and its Impact on Business Decisions, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 22–23
October 2013.
(ii) Resource Classification Meeting with Cuban Government Officials and Advisors,
28 October 2013, Havana, Cuba.
(jj) Conference on “Sustainable Mining and UNFC – Challenges and Opportunities in
India”, New Delhi, India, 29–30 October 2013.
(ll) 36th Application of Computers and Operations Research in the Mineral Industry
(APCOM) Symposium, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 4–8 November 2013.
(mm) Diploma in Risks Associated with Mining, in cooperation with the Ministry of
Energy and Mines and the National University of Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia,
5 November 2013.
(nn) Mining Forum, in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the National University of Colombia, Cali, Colombia, 6 November 2013.

(oo) Mining Forum, in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the National University of Colombia, Manizales, Colombia, 8 November 2013.


(rr) CRIRSCO Annual General Meeting, Bogota, Colombia, 18–22 November 2013.


Annex IV

Conferences and other events in 2014 and 2015 at which it is anticipated UNFC-2009 will be presented and/or promoted


(e) UNFC-2009 and Sustainable Mining Workshop, Nagpur, India, 2–3 April 2014.

(f) AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition, Houston, Texas, United States, 6–9 April 2014.

(g) EAGE Fourth CO₂ Geological Storage Workshop, Stavanger, Norway, 23–25 April 2014.


(i) IAEA and ECE Consultancy Meeting “Preparing a guidebook for application of UNFC-2009 to uranium and thorium projects”, Geneva, Switzerland, 28–29 April 2014.

(j) ECE Workshop on UNFC-2009, Geneva, Switzerland, 29 April 2014.

(k) Fifth session, ECE Expert Group on Resource Classification, Geneva, Switzerland, 29 April–2 May 2014.


(m) 21st World Petroleum Congress, Moscow, Russian Federation, 15–19 June 2014 (including a special session on Reserves and Resource Classification and Reporting moderated by the Chair of the Expert Group).


(o) UNFC-2009 Workshop for Minerals and Oil and Gas (CCOP, Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) and Department of Mineral Fuels), Bangkok, Thailand, June 2014.

(p) AAPG International Conference and Exhibition, Istanbul, Turkey, 14–17 September 2014.


(r) SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition 2014, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 27–29 October 2014.
It is anticipated that the ECE and State Commission of Ukraine on Mineral Resources Workshop on “National and International Classifications of Subsoil Resources, State and Prospects of Usage– Adaptation to UNFC-2009” will be organized in Kiev, Ukraine in 2014.