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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project
Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21

First session
Geneva, 20 April 2010
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK (2010-2011)

I. BACKGROUND AND MANDATE

1. The Committee on Sustainable Energy, at its eighteenth session held on 18-20 November 2009, by its decision in ECE/ENERGY/80 paragraph 18(h) approved the terms of reference to establish the Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21 (Group of Experts) and in paragraph 18(i) requested the secretariat to organise the first meeting of the Group of Experts to elect its officers, determine its programme of work for 2010-2011 and to consider recent developments in financing global climate change mitigation. The Executive Committee requested the secretariat to prepare the meeting of this group (EXCOM/CONCLU/33).

2. The draft programme of work has been prepared in accordance with the terms of reference of the Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21 (see Annex) taking into account progress achieved in implementing the Global Energy Efficiency 21 Project (GEE21 Project) a sub-project of the Energy Efficiency 21 Programme.

II. ROLE OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON GLOBAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY 21

3. The Group of Experts is responsible for the implementation of the GEE21 Project, aimed at developing a systematic exchange of experience on capacity building, policy reforms and

investment project finance among countries of the other regions of the world through the five regional commissions of the United Nations¹ (the regional commissions) in order to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements that raise economic productivity, diminish fuel poverty and reduce environmental air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

4. The Group of Experts comprises representatives of the regional commissions and their member States, other United Nations and international organizations, international financial institutions, representatives of the private and public sectors and other stakeholders active in the field of energy efficiency (ECE/EX/2010/L.5, para.10).

III. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEE21

5. The following activities are proposed for the programme of work of the Group of Experts and correspond to the activities of the GEE 21 Project (2010-2011) as agreed by the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2009/3, para.12).

A. ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF ELECTED OFFICERS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES WORKING ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE RESPECTIVE SECRETARIATS OF THE FIVE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Description: Development of a global network among the regional commissions, including national experts and elected officers of intergovernmental bodies involved with energy efficiency and renewable energies for climate change mitigation in order to develop capacities among governments, the private sector, financial institutions and civil society to promote energy efficiency market formation and self-financing energy efficiency improvements.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Initiate outreach among the regional commissions to develop a global constituency for promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy at the national and regional levels, including a focal point within each regional commission and representatives of governments, the public and private sectors, financial institutions and other stakeholders;

(b) Convene annual meetings of the Group of Experts to exchange information and experience on energy efficiency market formation and financing energy efficiency and renewable energies for climate change mitigation.

B. REVIEW THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORK PROGRAMMES WITH RESPECT TO CAPACITY BUILDING, ENERGY POLICY REFORMS AND INVESTMENT PROJECT FINANCE

Description: A systematic exchange of information on the work programmes of the regional commissions to review the activities and projects related to energy efficiency, renewable energies and climate change mitigation, in particular regarding capacity building, energy policy reforms and investment project finance.

¹ UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Carry out an in-depth review of the work programmes and develop a matrix of ongoing activities and planned projects of the regional commissions in order to assess the comparability and feasibility of carrying out joint projects and of replicating existing projects in other regions in particular with regard to the potential for capacity building, energy policy reforms among the member states and investment project finance;

(b) Review assessment, monitoring and evaluation reports on existing activities and proposals for potential projects for financing energy efficiency and renewable energies for climate change mitigation for each of the five regions.

C. DETERMINE COMMON PRIORITIES AND SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES AND THE WORK PROGRAMMES THEY PURSUE THROUGH THEIR UNITED NATIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES AMONG THE FIVE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Description: A periodic assessment of the regulatory frameworks in member States of the regional commissions to determine common priorities and synergies and the potential for strategies, policies and measures that encourage investments in energy efficiency and renewable energies.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Carry out an in-depth review of existing and planned regulation and legislation in member States drawing, inter alia, on work accomplished by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Investment for Climate Change Mitigation (FEEI) and other projects under the Energy Efficiency 21 Project;

(b) Initiate a series of workshops devoted to policy reforms in energy efficiency and renewable energies to build capacity in member States of the regional commissions drawing on case studies of best practices and lessons learned.

D. DEVELOP A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE ADOPTION OF REGIONAL COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMMES TO PROMOTE SELF-FINANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS TO RAISE ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY, DIMINISH FUEL POVERTY AND REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL AIR POLLUTION AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Description: Development of a global strategy among the regional commissions.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Prepare a draft global strategy to promote energy efficiency market formation and self-financing energy efficiency improvements for implementation through the regional commissions;

(b) Convene an inter-regional conference to adopt the global strategy as guidance for the Group of Experts and publish it in the six official languages of the United Nations.

IV. WORK METHODS

6. The Group of Experts is a subsidiary body of the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project under the auspices of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The mandate for the Group of Experts, as presented to the Executive Committee at its thirty-fourth meeting on 26 February 2010, is for three years, i.e. up to December 2012) (ECE/EX/2010/L.5, para. 2).

7. The Group of Experts includes representatives of other United Nations agencies, international organizations and institutions promoting energy efficiency at the national, regional and global levels, including, *inter alia*: UN Energy, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Energy Agency (IEA), Global Environment Facility (GEF), international financial institutions and supporting institutions of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project including the United Nations Foundation (UNF), UNEP/GEF, Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM, French GEF), the European Business Congress E.V. EBC) and other stakeholders.

8. The Group of Experts elects a Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons on a rotating basis and normally meets once a year in Geneva.

Annex

GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GLOBAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY 21 (GEE21) DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE²

Background: The Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21 (GEE21) is proposed as a subsidiary body of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project Steering Committee established to implement the sub-project “Global Energy Efficiency 21: cooperation between the United Nations Regional Commissions on energy efficiency for climate change mitigation”. It is executed with support of the ECE regular budget, including resources from the strengthening of the development pillar and extrabudgetary funds from the Russian Federation and other donors.

Mandate: At its seventeenth session in November 2008, the Committee on Sustainable Energy adopted the GEE21 Project as an element of its programme of work and welcomed the decision of the Steering Committee to implement the three projects supported by the Russian Federation (Increasing energy efficiency for secure energy supplies; Development of the renewable energy sector in the Russian Federation and Commonwealth of Independent States and Global Energy Efficiency 21) as subregional projects of EE21 (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2008/3, ECE/ENERGY/78).

General Objective: To develop a systematic exchange of experience on capacity building, policy reforms and investment project finance among countries of regions of the world through the United Nations Regional Commissions in order to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements that raise economic productivity, diminish fuel poverty and reduce environmental air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. The Project will be implemented with three immediate objectives:

Objective One: Disseminate and, if possible, extend the experience of the project on “Financing energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation” to other ECE member countries and countries of the other regions;

Objective Two: Increase the capacity of the Regional Commissions to provide member states with effective energy efficiency services that promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;

Objective Three: Improve the capacity of countries in all regions of the world through the Regional Commissions to develop, adjust and implement a global strategy to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements for climate change mitigation.

Work Methods: The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is the Executing Agency for the project carried out under the auspices of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy by the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project. Decision-making and guidance for the project will be in line with the participation and procedures of the EE21 Project Plan 2009-2012. As a sub-project of Energy Efficiency 21, the project will be the direct responsibility of the Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21 (GEE21).

² As presented to the Executive Committee (ECE/EX/2010/L.5, Annex).