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

Fifth Session

Geneva, 16 April 2013

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda

Draft Programme of Work for 2013–2015

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I. Background

1. At the second session of the Group of Experts on Global Energy Efficiency 21 (GEE21) held in Geneva on 18 April 2011, the delegates considered the draft Programme of Work, as outlined in the document ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/GE.2/2011/3. After discussions the Group of Experts approved its Programme of Work (ECE/ ENERGY/WP.4/GE.2/2011/2 paragraph 28 (a)).

2. This document is prepared for consideration by the fifth session of the Group of Experts GEE21 to be held on 16 April, 2013, agenda item 6, with a view to approve its Programme of Work for 2013–2015.

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.

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).

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 (2013–2015) as agreed by the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Programme (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2012/5, para.7).

A. Expand 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: Further 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:

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.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Carry out a 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 a 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. Implement the following subprojects in which the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) serves as an Executing Agency

1. Inter-Regional project “Promoting Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development” (2012–2014)

Description: The objective of the project is capacity building for development of energy efficiency (EE) investment projects. It will assist UN Regional Commissions (RCs) to strengthen capacities of their member states to attract investments in energy efficiency projects in the context of climate change mitigation and sustainable development. The project is funded by UN Development Account for 2012–2014.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Provide technical assistance to the national officials and experts through five regional trainings (one course for each region) in project development, finance and business planning to educate participants on mentioned issues;

(b) Develop and conduct five regional workshops (one in each region) in order to:

- provide knowledge on EE investment projects, which concerns both the regulatory and policy requirements and purely technical aspects that countries would need to deal with when attracting and implementing investments based of foreign or national capital;
- analyze investment project pipeline;
- disseminate UNECE experience acquired in implementing the FEEI Project to stakeholders, including representatives from the business and banking sectors.

(c) Develop fifteen case studies on the experience of policy reforms in cooperation with national institutions in beneficiary countries to be discussed at five regional policy seminars. This activity clearly seeks to establish a benchmark against which the energy efficiency investment and regulatory framework in each individual participating

country will be measured. Equally, in this process a ranking of each country in terms of the obstacles and opportunities to move closer to the desired benchmark in alternative and realistic time frameworks. Some of case studies will probably serve as the best practice guidelines;

(d) Conduct five policy seminars focusing on policy reforms to promote financing of energy efficiency investments with the aim of strengthening the capacity of national and local policymakers in each region. The participants of the seminars will consider case studies for five countries in applicable regions to develop a better understanding of their positioning in the international investment market for energy efficiency projects both in absolute and relative terms. They will identify the required or desirable changes to existing policy/legal/regulatory frameworks leading to a more favourable investment climate for the EE projects;

(e) Develop an investment project pipeline: inventory of energy efficiency project proposals, each of which contains standard presentation of energy efficiency investment project, with details of the total cost of the project, investment requirements, projected internal rates of return and carbon dioxide emission reductions for submission to domestic and international investors, banks, investment funds, and other financial institutions in beneficiary countries;

(f) In cooperation with all UNRCs, plan and execute an end-of-the-project global workshop to bring together officials from the regions along with major domestic and foreign investors to facilitate exchange of expertise, lessons learned and best practices and promote greater investment flows into the EE projects.

2. Sub-regional Project “Analysis of Advanced Technologies in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Framework of the Global Energy Efficiency 21 Project and Preparation of Recommendations on its Application with Special Emphasis on Central Asian Region”

Description: The project will perform an analysis of existing world experience in development and application of advanced energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. It will produce recommendations to improve capacity of Central Asian countries to implement policies and practices favouring technological capacity-building and strengthening technological capabilities on advanced energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. It will also assist countries of the region in their efforts in developing common regional energy policy. The project is financed by the Government of the Russian Federation for 2012–2013

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Undertake comprehensive, systematic and forward-looking Regional Studies to analyze the development and dissemination of advanced technologies in energy efficiency and renewable energy in the world;

(b) Under the framework of the 4th International Sustainable Energy Forum to organise the regional workshop to share the results and experience of the project with other regions;

(c) Convene the second regional meeting to consider draft Regional Studies and their conclusions and recommendations.

IV. Work methods

6. The Group of Experts is a subsidiary body of the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Programme under the auspices of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

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), the United Nations Foundation (UNF), international financial institutions 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.
