

Bureau Meeting Report – GERE BMR N. 2017/3 - DRAFT 10 November 2017

UNECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy (GERE)

Salle VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva, 2 November 2017 from 18:00 to 19:00

Report of the Meeting

Present:

Mr. Nazir Ramazanov (Azerbaijan), Chair

Mr. Oliver Frank (Germany), Vice-Chair

Mr. Georgy Ermolenko (Russian Federation), Vice-Chair (elected on 3 November)

Ms. Ute Collier on behalf of Mr. Paolo Frankl, Vice-Chair (IEA)

Mr. Marcin Scigan on behalf of Mr. Gurbuz Gonul, Vice-Chair (IRENA)

Ms. Irini Maltoglou on behalf of Ms. Maria Michela Morese, Vice-Chair (FAO)

Secretariat:

Mr. Gianluca Sambucini, GERE Secretary, SED

Ms. Stefanie Held, Chief of Section, SED

Ms. Lisa Tinschert, Associate Programme Officer, SED

Item 1. Chair's welcome

1. The Chair of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, Mr. Ramazanov, conveyed welcome remarks to the participants in the meeting in Geneva.

Item 2. Approval of the agenda

2. The agenda was adopted as proposed and reflected in the current report.

Item 3. Outcomes of the fourth session of GERE

3. The Chair briefed the other Bureau members on the implementation status of the Work Plan during the biennium 2016-2017, within the three main pillars of activities. The Chair and the other Bureau members expressed appreciation on the work done by the secretariat in the timing and successful implementation of the work plan during the current

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biennium and, referring to the annual GERE session, on the committed constituency and the interactive discussions held during the GERE session 2017.

4. The Chair and other Bureau members pointed out the positive use by UNECE member countries of the REN21 UNECE Renewable Energy Status Report 2017, jointly prepared with REN21 and launched at the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Astana, Kazakhstan, on June 2017. As the edition 2015, Bureau members recognized this report as a useful instrument for informed decisions by major renewable energy stakeholders in UNECE countries, in particular during the Hard Talks organized by UNECE (Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan).

5. The Chair and the other Bureau members stressed how the Hard Talks in Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan, organized with the support of REN21, the Reville Group and the active participation of the Chair and the Bureau Members of Georgia and Ukraine leading, were instrumental to an open dialogue among all stakeholders and, as outcome, to achieve a common understanding on key issues. Concrete and specific recommendations came out from these Hard Talks, identifying possible solutions to concrete problems based on a shared view expressed by major stakeholders. A new Hard Talk is foreseen in Kazakhstan during the first half of 2018. The representative of the Russian Federation expressed the interest to organize an Hard Talk in Moscow during 2018.

Item 4. Practical steps and possible fund-raising for implementation of the Work Plan 2018-2019.

6. The Chair and the other Bureau members expressed appreciation on the positive direction of the approved Work Plan 2018-2019 to respond to the needs of UNECE countries in increasing the deployment of renewable energy within the context of future energy systems and taking into account various cross-cutting issues through an integrated and nexus approach.

7. The Chair and the secretariat pointed out the ambitious work and related activities foreseen in the Work Plan 2018-2019 that will need the support of all Bureau members to raise additional resources, including through the development of an umbrella programme to contain various activities to track progress and improve the collection of reliable data, the harmonization of renewable energy indicators, understand key issues, share country experiences, facilitate the dialogue among the stakeholders in the countries and identify possible solutions and, support, concrete technical assistance directly in the countries. The promotion of investments, from suitable conditions to capacity building for bankable renewable energy projects within a holistic and nexus approach, will be a major focus of these activities and possible future projects. Bureau members would send their suggestions on how to raise additional funds and indicate possible champions to work at specific activities to the Chair and the secretariat in the coming weeks.

Item 5. Any other business

8. There was no other business