

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Working Party on Gas

First expert meeting on the UNECE Study on
“Current Status and Prospects for Liquefied Natural
Gas (LNG) in the UNECE region”

Madrid, 5 September 2008

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The meeting will take place in the Enagas offices at:
Pº de los Olmos, #19, 28005 Madrid, Spain, starting at 10 a.m..

I. INTRODUCTION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda item 1)

1. Representatives of the Government of Spain, Enagas and the UNECE secretariat will open the meeting. The officers of the meeting will be elected.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 2)

2. The meeting will adopt its agenda .

III. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON GAS RELATED TO ACTIVITIES ON LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS*
(Agenda item 3)

3. The eighteenth session of the Working Party on Gas, held in January 2008, took the following decision, among others, regarding its programme of work for 2008-2011 (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/2008/2):

“(a) Within the proposed programme of work, to approve the proposal by Mr. Karasevich, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas, to launch the work in three new areas: current status and prospects for liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the UNECE region...

(b) To accept the offer of the representatives of Italy, Spain and IGU to take the lead in preparing the study of current status and prospects for LNG in the UNECE region;”

* The official documents of the session including the report are available at <http://documents.un.org/>

4. The growing importance of LNG in the UNECE region has been confirmed by increasing import levels and the on-going construction of new re-gasification facilities across the region with new terminals being planned. Diversification of energy supplies, energy security concerns and competitiveness of LNG in certain market niches foster the increased use of this fuel. The study should provide additional insights on the future use of LNG in the UNECE region, possible evolution of its competitiveness, evaluation of financial requirements, cost and economics along the supply chain as well as main contractual and regulatory issues. If successfully concluded, the study could provide guidance on the future LNG trends and valuable assistance to both UNECE member States and energy corporations in making decisions regarding this dynamic segment of the energy sector in the region.

IV. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LAUNCH OF THE UNECE STUDY ON CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS FOR LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG) IN THE UNECE REGION (Agenda item 4)

5. It is expected that during the Madrid meeting participants will debate the most effective ways to launch the Study. Participants are encouraged to submit written proposals to the UNECE secretariat in advance.

6. On the substantive matters, the issues to be addressed concern the depth of the study, required level of detail, methods of gathering data, possible production of maps, treatment of financial, technical and confidential data, and availability of final results.

7. On organizational issues, participants are expected to deal with the format of the study, establishment of the project body/bodies, list of desired companies and member States who will take an active part in carrying out the study, methods of cooperation and communication, eventual use of extrabudgetary funds, milestones and time framework.

8. Participants would need to decide on the format and deadline for the production of the terms of reference for the Study, to be submitted in an extended version to the nineteenth session of the Working Party on Gas in January 2009.

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE STUDY (Agenda item 5)

9. Participants would be asked to elect the officers of the study who would take the lead in further work on current status and prospects for LNG in the UNECE region, including the definition of the terms of reference, communication with the Working Party on Gas, decisions on the time and place of subsequent meetings and methods of work. The officers should keep the Working Party on Gas informed on the progress of the study, including at the nineteenth session in January 2009.

VI. ADOPTION OF CALENDAR (Agenda item 6)

10. Preparation of the study would require a provisional calendar of activities, specifying the main phases and deadlines. Participants would be asked to propose and approve a provisional calendar which would allow the mobilization of all key experts and the timely finalization of the project.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 7)

VIII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 8)

11. The expert group is expected to adopt the report of its first meeting on 5 September 2008.
