

Bureau proposal: How to explore pathways for the UNECE region to attain sustainable energy for all?

Open-ended Consultations on UNECE Work on Sustainable Energy
Committee on Sustainable Energy
27-28 May 2015

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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Sustainable Energy System of the future

Main targets for exploring pathways to attain sustainable energy:

Environment and climate protection

Compatibility with energy strategies (2-degree goal; to avoid negative health impacts due to air pollution)

Energy security

Strategies have to be targeted at both the demand and the supply side; security of investments; predictability; diversification of supply

Access and affordability

Energy costs relative to household income; energy access as a driver for development



Major initiatives and activities in the UN context:

- SE4All initiative of the UN Secretary General
- International climate negotiations/ COP21 in Paris in December 2015
- Post-2015 Agenda



Situation in the UNECE region

Countries in the UNECE region come from very different starting points:

- Ressource & energy endowment
- Different stages of economic development, diversity of needs
- Low energy efficiency in many countries of the region
- Huge investment needs and limited access to capital and finance

Therefore, countries are pursuing different energy strategies. In order to reach above mentioned goals a common understanding of the energy system of the future is desirable.

How have countries already reflected these goals in their strategies?



Towards a Common Understanding of Sustainable Energy in the UNECE Region

Background:

- At the last committee meeting in November 2014 the Russian Federation proposed to CSE to facilitate a policy dialogue on the attainment and implementation of overarching goals to achieve sustainable energy.
- On this basis the bureau has developed a proposal on how best to organize a policy dialogue.



Proposal by the bureau

1. Formulation of a common understanding of targets and assumptions regarding sustainable energy in a political discussion
2. Presentation by member states on existing energy strategies and their compatibility with the identified targets
3. Identification of the role which UNECE can play to support member states in the attainment of the identified targets

Potential role of UNECE:

- Gap analysis on sustainable energy scenarios for the UNECE region
- Building on knowledge from Groups of Experts and linking identified gaps to future work programs of the Groups of Experts
- Development of best-practice guidance and normative instruments



Next steps

Tuesdays workshop and today and yesterday's open-ended consultations could be regarded as a first important step.

What's next?

- ✓ Informing the UNECE Executive Committee about the *process*
- ✓ Follow-up workshop in Q3 2015 to inform the 24th session
- ✓ Generate recommendations until the 24th session of the Committee for mandate
- ✓ Formal proposal to the Executive Committee for approval
- ✓ Resource considerations

