



# Update from the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Gas  
*3<sup>rd</sup> session, item 4*

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**UNECE**

# Sustainable Energy Sub-Programme

- Ensure access to affordable, clean energy; reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of energy sector
- Develop normative instruments, including work on standards and best practice guidance in
  - Energy efficiency
  - Renewable energy
  - Clean electricity
  - Coal mine methane
  - Resource classification
  - Natural gas
- Work falls into 3 broad categories
  - Reconciling the reality of fossil fuels' enduring share of the energy mix with the need to address climate change
  - Enhancing integration of the region's energy markets
  - Facilitating the transition to a sustainable energy system

# Selected Achievements 2014-2015

- Recommendations to the UNFCCC\* about carbon capture and storage
- Best policy practices on energy efficiency; national case studies
- Dissemination of best practice guidance on coal mine methane; International Center of Excellence for Coal Mine Methane (Poland)
- Status report on renewable energy in the UNECE region
- Application of United Nations Framework Classification to injection projects for geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub>; guidelines for application to uranium and thorium resources
- 6<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development: Hammamet Declaration and Yerevan Statement of Common Action

# Major Initiatives in the United Nations Context

- SE4All initiative of the United Nations Secretary General
  - International climate negotiations: INDC pledges from countries
  - Energy-related Sustainable Development Goals
  - Post-2015 agenda
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- Towards a common understanding of sustainable energy in the region
  - Support for implementing pledges
  - Increasing collaboration across the region(s)

\* INDCs **Intended Nationally Determined Contributions** is a term used under the UNFCCC for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that all countries that signed the UNFCCC were asked to publish in the lead up to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Paris, France in December 2015

# Looking Ahead

- Committee on Sustainable Energy
  - 25<sup>th</sup> session part I 28-30 September 2016
  - 25<sup>th</sup> session part II 19 January 2017
  - 26(pm)-29 September 2017 (2.5 days only)
- International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and ministerial meeting
  - 18-21 October 2016, Baku, Azerbaijan
  - 10-14 June 2017, Astana, Kazakhstan (Expo 2017: Future Energy)
  - Energy ministerial: 10/11 June 2017: Role of fossil fuels in a sustainable energy future
- Working towards the implementation of the energy-related Sustainable Development Goals and INDCs
- Enhancing collaboration across the United Nations regional commissions and the expert groups

# Looking Ahead (cont.)

- Platform for dialogue and visibility
  - Pathways to Sustainable Energy
  - Mapping the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals
  - Role of gas in a sustainable energy future
  - Cross-cutting themes
- Budget and resourcing
- Requests to the Committee on Sustainable Energy
  - Before end June 2016