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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

Sixteenth session  
Geneva, 28-30 November 2007

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTEENTH SESSION**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 28 November 2007\*

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda
2. Election of Officers/Bureau of the meeting
3. Matters arising from the sixty-second session of the Commission of concern to the Committee

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\* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website of the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division (<http://www.unece.org/ie/>), and transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, if possible, at least two weeks prior to the session – namely, by **14 November 2007** – either by fax (+41 22 917 0038) or by e-mail ([catherine.pierre@unece.org](mailto:catherine.pierre@unece.org)). Delegates are requested to present themselves at least one and a half hours prior to the start of the meeting at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix opposite the Red Cross Building (see the map on the Energy Division's web site), for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (internal extension 74140 or 75721).

4. Investing in and financing the hydrocarbon sector to enhance global energy security
5. Investment in electricity in the UNECE region: selected issues and trends
6. Overview of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development
7. Review of activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee:
  - (a) Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project
  - (b) Working Party on Gas, Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas, and Gas Centre
  - (c) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Harmonization of Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources Terminology
  - (d) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane
  - (e) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels
  - (f) Energy Security Forum
8. UNECE regional advisory services programme in the field of energy during 2005-2007
9. Planning for performance evaluation of the 2008-2009 programme of work
10. Programme of work in the field of energy for 2008-2009:
  - (a) Structure of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and its intergovernmental bodies
  - (b) Draft programme of work in the field of energy for 2008-2009
  - (c) Provisional calendar of meetings for 2008
11. Cooperation and coordination with other bodies:
  - (a) Sectoral Committees of the Commission, including a panel discussion on biofuels
  - (b) Other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
12. Other business
13. Adoption of the report of the meeting

Note: Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Russian will be provided during the meeting.

## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### **Item 1: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda**

1. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda (ECE/ENERGY/75). The documents for the session will be published in English, French and Russian and will be posted on the UNECE website as soon as they become available at the following address: <http://www.unece.org/ie/se/com.html>.

### **Item 2: Election of Officers**

2. The Committee should elect a Bureau or confirm/re-elect the existing Bureau.

### **Item 3: Matters arising from the sixty-second session of the Commission of concern to the Committee**

3. The Committee will be informed about the decisions taken by the Commission at its sixty-second session held in April 2007 (ECE/ENERGY/2007/1), including the adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Committee (ECE/ENERGY/68/Add.1, section II).

4. The Committee may wish to take note of the decisions taken.

### **Item 4: Investing in and financing the hydrocarbon sector to enhance global energy security**

5. The discussants at the energy segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission entitled "Sustainable energy policies: the key to energy security", noting the massive investment required in global energy infrastructure over the next three decades, urged the Committee on Sustainable Energy to undertake a broadly shared intergovernmental expert dialogue on energy security specifically in the area of energy infrastructure investment and financing. It was also recommended that this enhanced technical dialogue on energy security be conducted during the annual sessions of the Committee with the participation of representatives of governments, energy industries, the financial community and relevant international organizations. The Committee was also urged to consider extending this expert dialogue in the future to cover any/all of the following areas: (a) data and information sharing and increased transparency; (b) legal, regulatory and policy framework; (c) harmonization of standards; (d) research, development and deployment of new technologies; and (e) investment/transit safeguards and burden sharing in situations of crisis (E/ECE/1448, Annex II).

6. In response to the above, a special one-day session on the theme "Investing in and Financing the Hydrocarbon Sector to Enhance Global Energy Security" will be organized on Wednesday, 28 November. The secretariat will prepare a background paper (ECE/ENERGY/2007/2) which, together with the Forum, will constitute the basis for in-depth consideration of the issue by the Committee.

7. The Committee may wish to issue a Statement on enhancing energy security in the UNECE region at the conclusion of this annual session. A draft Statement, formulated by representatives of member governments prior to the annual session will be available for the consideration of the Committee following its deliberations under this agenda item. It is also proposed that the conclusions and recommendations of the background paper be taken into account when preparing the draft Statement

8. The Committee on Sustainable Energy may wish to:

- (a) Approve the Statement on enhancing global energy security in the UNECE region;
- (b) Reiterate its decision taken at the fifteenth session to retain energy security as an agenda item for the Committee to continue to address periodically; and
- (c) Consider which, if any, of the following areas it may wish the Committee to address in relation to energy security in the future: (i) data and information sharing and increased transparency; (ii) legal, regulatory and policy framework; (iii) harmonization of standards; (iv) research, development and deployment of new technologies; and (v) investment/transit safeguards and burden sharing in situations of crisis.

**Item 5: Investment in electricity in the UNECE region: selected issues and trends**

9. The Committee will be informed about the conclusions and recommendations of the Forum on Fostering Investment in Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels, organized by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels on Tuesday, 27 November.

10. The Committee will also be briefed on the findings of a room document entitled “Investment in Electricity in the UNECE Region: Selected Issues and Trends” prepared for the Forum.

11. The Committee may wish to discuss the conclusions of the Forum and the room document and their significance to energy security in the UNECE region.

**Item 6: Overview of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development**

12. The Committee will be briefed on the contribution of the UNECE to the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and on the outcome and discussions of the session.

13. The Committee may wish to take note of any outcomes from the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development of relevance to the programme of work on energy.

**Item 7: Review of activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee**

14. The Committee will receive a succinct briefing on the activities and future programme of work of each of its subsidiary bodies, notably:

- (a) Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2007/2);
- (b) Working Party on Gas, Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas, and Gas Centre (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/2007/2 and ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2007/2);
- (c) Ad Hoc Group of Experts Harmonization of Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources Terminology (ENERGY/GE.3/2006/2);
- (d) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2007/2);
- (e) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Coal and Other Fossil Fuels (ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2007/2), and
- (f) Energy Security Forum.

15. The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided, in particular in relation to consideration of the Programme of Work for 2008-2009 under item 10.

**Item 8: UNECE regional advisory services programme in the field of energy during 2005-2007**

16. The Commission has repeatedly reaffirmed the importance of UNECE's operational and technical assistance as well as subregional activities, particularly for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia.

17. The Committee will be informed about the UNECE's activities delivered through the Regional Advisory Services for Energy and associated extrabudgetary projects during the period 2005-2007 (ECE/ENERGY/2007/3).

18. The Committee may wish to take note of the information provided.

19. The Committee may also wish to discuss and agree upon the priorities for future activities to be undertaken through the Regional Advisory Services for Energy.

**Item 9: Planning for performance evaluation of the 2008-2009 programme of work**

20. To prepare for the 2008-2009 biennial evaluation, the Committee will have before it for discussion and agreement a document prepared by the secretariat containing the draft expected accomplishments corresponding to the subprogramme's clusters of activities, including the related indicators (ECE/ENERGY/2007/4).

21. Under the same agenda item, the Committee will be invited to review a draft strategic framework for 2010-2011 for its subprogramme, prepared by the secretariat (Annex II to ECE/ENERGY/2007/4).

**Item 10: Programme of work in the field of energy for 2008-2009**

22. The Committee should review and adopt its programme of work for 2008-2009, including the work programme of its subsidiary bodies, on the basis of a note prepared by the secretariat (ECE/ENERGY/2007/9).

23. The Committee is invited to take decisions on each programme element as necessary.

24. The Committee should review the structure of the Committee and its intergovernmental bodies (ECE/ENERGY/2007/8) and is invited to note the changes implemented at the end of 2006 in response to the Work Plan on ECE Reform.

25. The Committee should approve the provisional calendar of meetings for 2008 (ECE/ENERGY/2007/10).

**Item 11: Cooperation and coordination with other bodies**

26. The Committee will be briefed on the activities of common interest of other Sectoral Committees and on cooperation with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, industry associations and the business community (ECE/ENERGY/2007/7).

27. The secretariat will inform the Committee on the contributions made to the sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (Belgrade, October 2007) (ECE/ENERGY/2007/5 and ECE/ENERGY/2007/6).

28. In view of the current global attention being given to biofuels, including by the UNECE Timber Committee and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Committee will be provided with a "biofuels reality check", which will take the form of a panel discussion.

29. The Committee may wish to provide comments on the significance of biofuels for the supply of energy in the UNECE region.

**Item 12: Other business**

30. Delegations may wish to raise any other points relevant to the meeting. However, at the time the provisional agenda was prepared, there were no issues to be raised under this item.

**Item 13: Adoption of the report of the meeting**

31. In consultation with the Bureau, the secretariat will summarize the Committee's conclusions and decisions for the report of the sixteenth session for circulation to member countries.

**III. PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

**Wednesday 28 November**

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| 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Agenda items 1 and 4, including Special Session on “Investing in and Financing the Hydrocarbon Sector to Enhance Global Energy Security” |
| 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.  | Special Session on “Investing in and Financing the Hydrocarbon Sector to Enhance Global Energy Security” continues                       |
| 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.  | Draft Statement on Enhancing Global Energy Security in the UNECE Region  |

**Thursday 29 November**

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|------------------|--|
| 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Agenda item 2, 4 (continued), 5, 6 and 8                                       |
| 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.  | Panel Session on “Biofuels – A Reality Check” and agenda items 11(a) and 11(b) |

**Friday 30 November**

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|------------------|---|
| 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Agenda item 11(b) continued, 3, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 13 (Items 3, 7, 9 and 10 will be taken together) |
| 1 p.m.           | Close of Meeting  |