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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Working Party on Gas

Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas

Seventh session,
Geneva, 26 January 2006

REPORT

1. The seventh session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas was attended by 27 representatives from the following 12 UNECE member States: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and Ukraine.
2. A representative of South Africa participated under Article 11 of the Commission's Terms of Reference.
3. The officers of the session were as follows: Mr. Ante Zedelj (Croatia), Chairman and Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Vice-Chairman), Russian Federation.
4. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts adopted its agenda (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2006/1) (Agenda item 1).
5. The Group of Experts took note of the decisions of the sixteenth session of the Working Party on Gas (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/2006/2) (Agenda item 2).

I. Gas networks balancing (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2004/4) (Agenda item 3)

6. Decisions:

- (a) To invite Mr. S. Bogoly, rapporteur from Hungary, to prepare a presentation on this topic at the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts;
- (b) To decide on the future work on this subject at the next session.

II. Technological standards and norms required for design and operation of NGV filling stations (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2003/6) (Agenda item 4)

7. Decisions:

- (a) To invite Mrs. M.T. Sao Pedro, rapporteur from Portugal, to prepare a presentation on this topic at the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts;
- (b) To decide on the future work on this subject at the next session.

III. Diagnostics of gas transportation lines and risk management (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2006.5) (Agenda item 5)

8. Decisions:

- (a) To request the secretariat to send the final version of the questionnaire to the governments;
- (b) To invite governments to send their replies to the questionnaire to Messrs. F. Jiri and J. Antos (Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Department of Gas and Liquid Fuels, Na Frantisku 32, 110 15 Prague 1, Czech Republic, Fax: 420 2 2485 3345 and E-mail: antos@mpo.cz and filippi@mpo.cz, with a copy to the secretariat, before 31 August 2006;
- (c) To invite Messrs. F. Jiri and J. Antos to prepare a draft consolidated report for consideration at the next session of the Group of Experts, before 30 October 2006.

IV. Methods for detection of gas leakages during gas industries operations (Agenda item 6)

9. Decisions:

- (a) To invite Mr. I. Ponomarenko, rapporteur from Ukraine, to prepare a revised version of the questionnaire, containing a narrative part, by 1 May 2006;
- (b) To request the secretariat to issue the questionnaire and to send it to the governments for their comment and replies;
- (c) To discuss the replies to the questionnaire at the next session of the Group of Experts.

V. Various topical issues of gas industry operations – presentations (Agenda item 7)

10. Mr. Tamas Korosi (Hungary) and Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Russian Federation) made presentations on “Liberalization of the Hungarian gas market” and “Problems and Prospects of developing small-scale gas fields”. Mr. Arkady Shabarov (Russian Federation) made a presentation on the “Application of geodynamics for detection of deep fractures”.

11. Decisions:

(a) To thank Messrs. Korosi, Karasevich and Shabarov for their very interesting presentations;

(b) To invite delegates to consider making similar lectures on topical issues of the gas industry operations at the next session of the Group of Experts.

VI. Programme of work (Agenda item 8).

12. Decision:

To approve the programme of work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts, as reproduced in the Annex.

VII. Election of Officers (Agenda item 9)

13. Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Russian Federation) was elected Chairman and Mr. Ante Zedelj (Croatia) and Mr. Tamas Korosi (Hungary) were elected Vice-Chairmen for the next session.

VIII. Date of next session (Agenda item 10)

14. The eighth session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts will be held on Thursday, 25 January 2007.

IX. Adoption of the report (Agenda item 11)

15. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts adopted its report on 26 January 2006.

ANNEX

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006-2007

06.5.6 GAS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, STORAGE AND RATIONAL USE OF GAS (continuing)

06.5.6.1 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transportation systems: diagnostics of gas transmission lines (2004-2007)

Description: Study of various methods and techniques applied in the diagnostics of high-pressure gas pipelines in different countries.

Work to be undertaken: To send out the questionnaire, prepared by the rapporteurs from the Czech Republic and to consider replies and a draft consolidated report at the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.

06.5.6.2 Methods for detection of gas leakages during gas industry operations (2005-2007)

Description: Review of new methods and techniques used for detection of gas leakages during its production, transport, storage and use.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of replies to the revised questionnaire and a draft report, prepared by the rapporteur from Ukraine.

06.5.6.3 Technological and ecological norms required for the design and operation of gas distribution networks (1999-2007)

Description: To review existing norms, standards and techniques related to the design, construction and operation of gas distribution networks and household gas appliances.

Work to be undertaken: To consider updating of this topic.

06.5.6.4 Existing standards and regulations on permissible concentrations of harmful components in gaseous fuels and gaseous fuels combustion products (1999-2007)

Description: To review and study standards and regulations applied in countries.

Work to be undertaken: To update this topic in two years' time.

06.5.6.5 Gas networks balancing (2002-2007)

Description: Exchange of experience in balancing of gas transportation networks as an instrument to enhance security of gas supply.

Work to be undertaken: To invite a rapporteur from Hungary to present a lecture on this topic at the next session.

06.5.6.6 Technological standards and norms required for design and operation of NGV filling stations (2002-2007)

Description: Inventory of existing standards (national and international) on compressed natural gas filling stations.

Work to be undertaken: To invite a rapporteur from Portugal to present a lecture on this topic at the next session.
