

**To: Members of the Bureau of the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification**

From: David MacDonald and Charlotte Griffiths

Conference Calls of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC) 1 November 2016 MINUTES
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Present on 9am GMT call:

1. David MacDonald (Chair)
2. Tunde Arisekola (NGSA)
3. Karin Ask (Petroleum sector)
4. Gioia Falcone (Geothermal sector and Academia)
5. Adrienne Hanly (IAEA)
6. Jim Ross (Petroleum sector)
7. Igor Shpurov (GKZ Russian Federation)
8. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Observer:

9. Hari Tulsidas

Present on 3pm GMT call:

1. David MacDonald (Chair)
2. Roger Dixon (CRIRSCO)
3. David Elliott (Financial reporting sector)
4. Gioia Falcone (Geothermal sector and academia)
5. Michael Lynch-Bell (Financial reporting and solid minerals)
6. Jim Ross (Petroleum sector)
7. Bernard Seiller (SPE)
8. Brad Van Gosen (USGS)
9. Radoslav Vukas (Serbia)
10. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Observers:

11. John Etherington (TAG Chair, *observer*)
12. Hari Tulsidas

Apologies:

1. Anne Auffret (European Commission)
2. Sim Caluyong *representing* Adichat Surinkum (CCOP)
3. Fatih Birol (IEA)
4. Mucella Ersoy (Turkish Coal Enterprises)
5. Kjell Reidar Knudsen (Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)
6. John Ritter (SPEE)
7. Adichat Surinkum (CCOP)
8. Narendra Verma (Petroleum sector)

Draft Agenda for EGRC Bureau Calls on 1 November 2016

1. Approval of draft agenda (attachment 1)
2. Draft minutes of Bureau calls of 1 September (attachment 2)
3. Bureau (attachment 3)

4. Committee on Sustainable Energy 25th Session Update
5. G axis Update
6. Guidance Note on Competent Person
7. UNFC Revision
8. RF2013 and UNFC Bridging Document Update
9. Technical Advisory Group Update (attachment 4)
10. Update on application of UNFC to Renewable Energy Resources
11. E axis Sub-group Update
12. Update on application of UNFC to Nuclear Fuel Resources
13. Update on application of UNFC to Injection Projects
14. Cooperation with African Minerals Development Centre (attachment 5)
15. EGRC Eighth Session, 25–28 April 2017
16. Education and Outreach (attachment 6)
17. Date of next Bureau calls
18. Any other business

Documentation:

1. Draft agenda for Bureau Calls on 1 November 2016
2. Draft Minutes of 1 September 2016 Bureau Calls
3. EGRC Bureau Contact List
4. Minutes of TAG Call of 22 August 2016
5. Draft MoU between UNECE and AMDC
6. List of events promoting UNFC in 2016–2017 as at 25 October 2016

**Item 1. Approval of Draft Agenda**

1. The agenda as proposed was adopted without amendment.

**Item 2. Draft minutes of Bureau calls of 1 September 2016**

Documentation: Draft minutes of Bureau calls of 1 September 2016

2. The draft minutes of the Bureau calls of 1 September were discussed. The representative of CRIRSCO commented on Item 16 on the euREEphos Project Proposal and UNFC and enquired whether the project is a commercial activity or not. It was explained that this is a proposal for EU funding and hence a 100% R&D project related to knowledge and innovation in the mineral sector. The project if accepted could potentially be funded by the EU EIT Raw Materials Initiative. Following this clarification, the minutes were adopted.

**Item 3. Bureau Changes (attachment 3)**

Documentation: EGRC Bureau Contact List

3. The revised Bureau contact list was circulated to reflect the following recent changes:
  - (i) Following Hari Tulsidas' departure from IAEA on 30 September at the end of his tenure, IAEA has nominated Adrienne Hanly to the Bureau.
  - (ii) Slavko Solar, who has acted as Anne Auffret's alternate, has returned to the Geological Survey of Slovenia.
4. The Chair thanked the outgoing members, Hari Tulsidas and Slavko Solar, for their active contributions to the Bureau and welcomed Adrienne Hanly as a new member.

#### **Item 4. Committee on Sustainable Energy 25th Session Update**

5. The Committee on Sustainable Energy (CSE) held its 25th Session, 28–30 September 2016. Igor Shpurov presented on the four UNFC documents needing the approval of the Committee. The presentation was well received and is posted to the CSE meeting web page.

6. Despite the CSE meeting continuing on 19 January 2017, the CSE exceptionally approved the following UNFC documents (see agenda items 8, 10 and 13 for more information):

- (i) Russian Federation 2013 and UNFC Bridging Document
- (ii) Injection Projects Specifications
- (iii) Generic renewables Specifications
- (iv) Geothermal Specifications (including Decision Trees, but not incl. application examples).

7. Sigurd Heiberg also presented on EGRC and UNFC in the panel session on "How does the CSE and its subsidiary bodies meet the Sustainable Development Goals?" His presentation is also posted to the Committee meeting web page

8. The Chair of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane called for increased cooperation and collaboration across the subsidiary bodies of the Committee which would help to attain the SDGs. UNFC was particularly highlighted and promoted. It was noted that UNFC could assist the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels in developing a document that re-maps the coal extraction through electricity production value chain in a manner consistent with the principles and practices of UNFC.

9. The CSE conclusions as circulated following the last Bureau call were all approved but with the addition of the following:

- (i) The Committee noted with appreciation:
  - the progress EGRC has made since the 24th session of the Committee on delivering on its mandated activities and Work Plan for 2016–2017.
  - the significant work that has been undertaken to broaden the application of UNFC-2009 to encompass renewable energy. The Committee requested the EGRC to consider changing the name of UNFC-2009 to reflect that it is for energy and mineral resources and not just for fossil energy.
- (ii) The Committee requested the EGRC to submit a draft Work Plan for the Expert Group for 2018–2019 to its 26<sup>th</sup> session in September 2017.

10. The Chair thanked Igor Shpurov and Sigurd Heiberg for their presentations and their participation in the Committee meeting.

#### **Item 5. G axis Update**

11. An update on the Working Group on G axis was provided by Jim Ross. The Working Group continues to work on two aspects:

- (i) how to make the make UNFC G-axis category definitions and supporting explanations more generic; and
- (ii) proposing a possible change of name to the G axis.

12. A survey on the G axis was issued from 1–30 September. 136 people responded to the Survey with 72 responses to the G axis name change question and in total 142 suggestions. Only 6 of the 72 responses (8%) did not support a change to the current G axis name. The overall quality of suggested names was fairly poor, and in a number of cases betrayed a lack of understanding of the nature of the G axis. The Working Group will summarise the results of the survey as part of its report to the EGRC, which will be forwarded to the Bureau first.

13. As a result of the survey responses, the emerging conclusion from the WG is that it will not be possible nor desirable to have a short phrase as a common name/definition for the G axis. The emerging thinking is to recommend that the G axis be simply referred to as the “G axis” in the next update to the UNFC and to incorporate instead a description (perhaps two or three sentences) that would ensure commonality across the specifications for all applications. One view (in the WG) was that each specification should have its own precise definition, but the WG still needs to discuss this proposal.

14. The Chair suggested that the difficulty was primarily due to oil & gas and other sectors using the uncertainty approach, while the solid minerals sector was more used to classifying on the basis of levels of confidence in the individual estimates. It was also noted that this was not always the case as PRMS permits both approaches.

15. A number of Bureau members proposed that the E and F axis names should also be similarly modified, with detailed descriptions including what the axes mean. The WG will provide its recommendation on this point also.

16. The Chair thanked Jim Ross and the other Working Group members for their continued hard work.

#### **Item 6. Guidance note on competent person**

17. An update on the Working Group on Competent Persons was provided by Hari Tulsidas. The WG is now activated with the first call held on 27 September. The terms of reference of the WG have been agreed. The membership has increased and now comprises:

- Hari Tulsidas (Chair)
- Jim Ross
- Dave MacDonald
- Roger Dixon
- Vitor Correia (EFG)
- Isabel Fernandez (EFG)
- Mike Gusev (NAEN Consult, Russian Federation)
- Aleksander Pisarnitskiy (Aleksander is involved in establishing an institute on competent person in Russia and is also Chair of the Eurasian Union of Experts on Subsoil)
- Charlotte Griffiths

18. The Working Group is working to produce:

- (i) a short guidance note on CP for UNFC
- (ii) a more expansive guidance note detailing the issues around defining a competent person that will be published under the EGRC.

19. Both the documents are under preparation and will be submitted to the TAG and the Bureau for review prior to submission to the EGRC.

20. The Bureau recommended to include an expert from the UNFC and Renewable Energy Task Force in the Working Group.

21. As Hari Tulsidas is expected to join the UNECE secretariat, David MacDonald has agreed to take over the role of WG Chair.

#### **Item 7. UNFC Revision**

22. The Chair advised that a small working group has been established to guide the next UNFC revision. The revision inter alia will include issues related to UNFC revised name, naming of the 3 axes and making UNFC definitions more generic. The group presently comprises:

- Dave MacDonald
- Kjell Reidar Knudsen
- Charlotte Griffiths

23. The group is working initially to develop a ToR for the UNFC Revision WG and timeline for the revision process. This will be circulated to the Bureau as soon as possible.

#### **Item 8. RF2013 and UNFC Bridging Documents Update**

24. The Chair and Igor Shpurov provided the update on the RF2013 and UNFC Bridging Documents. The TAG recommendation submitted to the Bureau on 14 September 2016 was approved. The final Bureau approved Bridging Documents in Russian and English were submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy and posted to the UNFC website. The Bridging Document was approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 30 September 2016. Immediately following its endorsement, the Bridging Document was presented to the UNECE Executive Secretary by Mr. Orest Kasparov, Vice Chair, Federal Subsoil Resources Management Agency of the Russian Federation (ROSNEDRA), also representing the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Russia.

25. A Press Release was issued jointly by GKZ in Russia and by UNECE on 30 September.

26. Sergey Donskoy, Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Russian Federation, announced the Bridging Document to the press on 30 September.

27. As the first bridging to a national classification system, this Bridging Document marks a significant milestone for UNFC.

28. Igor Shpurov advised that Belarus has adopted the RF2013 classification for oil and gas as its national system so Belarus is now also bridged to UNFC.

29. Igor Shpurov also advised that the RF Solid Minerals classification is currently being updated and this will also be bridged to UNFC.

30. The Chair thanked Igor Shpurov and his team at GKZ and the TAG for their significant work on the Bridging Document.

## **Item 9. Technical Advisory Group update**

Documentation: Minutes of TAG Call of 22 August 2016

31. The minutes of the TAG call held on 22 August were circulated as part of the documentation for the call. The TAG held its last teleconference on 30 September; the next meeting is scheduled for 3 November. The Chair observed that the TAG continues to be very active.

32. An overview of the key TAG project updates was provided:

(i) Russian Minerals Bridging Document

As indicated under Agenda item 8, Igor Shpurov advised that work is also proceeding to update the Russian Solid Minerals classification. After its approval (tentatively in 2017), GKZ will be ready to start work on bridging to UNFC-2009.

(ii) Chinese Petroleum Bridging Document

Dominique Salacz attended the China Mining Congress and Exposition, 22–25 September, in Tianjin and had an opportunity to review a preliminary update of the Petroleum Bridging document with Yang Hua. The document is currently under review by the Ministry of Land and Resources (MLR) but may not be released for some time. A workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 2017. Given this it is unlikely that a final TAG endorsed Chinese Petroleum Bridging document will be available for the April 2017 EGRC meeting in Geneva.

(iii) Chinese Solid Minerals Bridging Document

Similar to Petroleum, the Solid Minerals working group has an amended draft based on feedback from the April 2016 Geneva TAG working session that is under review by the MLR. No timing for a second TAG review has yet been scheduled.

(iv) Bioenergy Specifications

Work is ongoing to deliver the document for the 8th EGRC session.

(v) Petroleum Case Studies

Jan Bygdevoll is chairing a TAG Working Group to develop petroleum case studies. Alexander Shpilman and Steve Griffiths will participate from the TAG and Jan will seek assistance from other experts. The group has developed a Terms of Reference document and work is progressing.

33. The TAG is also monitoring the following working groups on:

- Competent Person Requirements
- E-axis Update
- G-axis Update

34. In view of Hari Tulsidas leaving IAEA, a new TAG member with uranium expertise needs to be identified. Brad van Gosen indicated his willingness to join the TAG.

35. The Chair thanked John Etherington and other TAG members for their continued hard work.

## **Item 9. Update on application of UNFC to renewable energy resources**

36. The Chair provided an update on the activities of the various Renewable Energy working groups.

37. The Renewable Energy Task Force is planning to organize a workshop on 5–6 December 2016, hosted by Gioia Falcone at Cranfield University, UK.

38. A Renewable Energy Resources Classification System leaflet has been produced – it is posted to the UNFC website and was distributed at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Baku, 18–21 October 2016.

39. The Generic Renewable Specifications were approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 30 September 2016

### Geothermal update

40. Gioia Falcone provided an update on the Geothermal Working Group. The Bureau approved the TAG recommendation of 9 September 2016 on the revised geothermal specifications. The specifications were submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy and approved on 30 September. Text related to evaluator qualifications was removed as were the application examples. The Decision Trees were retained in the document.

41. A joint UNECE and International Geothermal Association (IGA) Press Release was issued on 5 October.

42. The Geothermal Working Group is exploring additional future work, notably:

- (i) The way forward with the application examples, which have not yet been published.
- (ii) The development of non-mandatory “guidelines” on quantification to complement the geothermal specifications.
- (iii) The future of the Task Force and of the IGA/UNECE collaboration moving forward. A public dissemination strategy and provision of technical advice.

43. A teleconference was held with Gioia Falcone, David MacDonald, Charlotte, Frank, Graeme Beardsmore (IGA) on 10 October and a Geothermal WG call on 18 October to discuss the above. Gioia also noted that the UNECE and IGA MoU includes a provision for IGA to nominate an expert to the TAG.

44. The Chair thanked Gioia Falcone and the other Working Group members for their significant efforts with the geothermal specifications. Gioia was also thanked for agreeing to continue to lead the WG to work on development of quantification guidelines.

### Solar Update

45. The Chair provided an update on the Solar Workshop hosted by BP in London, 6–7 October. Five experts participated in person with a number of other experts joining via teleconference. Significant interest in this work by experts from the USA was particularly noted. Even though some concerns were raised regarding oil & gas companies getting involved in solar activities, these were countered during the various presentations and the meeting had a positive outcome. A key challenge was introducing the principles of classification to a new community and finding common ground.

46. The Chair thanked Jeremy Webb and the other members of Solar Working Group for their time and support.

#### **Item 10. E axis Sub-group**

47. The Chair provided an update during the first call and David Elliott provided an update during the second call. As noted on the last Bureau call, two reports are planned for the next EGRC meeting

(i) *UNFC E-axis: Clarification of terminology and concepts related to UNFC* - A draft was circulated to the E axis Sub-group in early August. During the E-axis work, it became clear that clarification was needed on some terminology and concepts that go beyond just E-axis issues to the wider UNFC. For this reason, this has been put into a separate report that can be considered in the update of the UNFC that is planned for 2018 or later. Dave Elliott received a few comments, but hopes for more. He plans to submit the document to the Bureau members and the Renewables Task Force for their comments. Dave Elliott plans to present it to the upcoming EGRC meeting, but it will not be translated.

(ii) *Draft guidance on accommodating environmental and social considerations in UNFC* - A draft was circulated to the E axis Sub-group on 5 October. This is a development and clarification of the report provided at the last EGRC meeting, minus the material on terminology and concepts, but with no major changes. David Elliott is still in the process of awaiting feedback and editing as appropriate. He plans to present it to the upcoming EGRC as a proposal rather than a progress report. It is planned for translation.

48. David Elliott continues to amass reference material on socio-environmental issues. Some of them contain material that has some relevance to UNFC classification, but not in a direct way. David noted that Slavko Solar has withdrawn from the Sub-group following his departure from the European Commission.

49. The Chair thanked David Elliott and the other Sub-group members for their continued efforts.

#### **Item 11. Update on application of UNFC to Nuclear Fuel Resources**

50. Adrienne Hanly from IAEA has agreed to take over from Hari Tulsidas as Chair of the Task Force. The Chair thanked Adrienne for volunteering. It was agreed that it is important to have IAEA leading this work.

51. The Chair thanked Hari Tulsidas for his excellent Chairmanship of the Task Force and the impressive volume of work it undertook and all that it achieved. The Task Force has led the way on development of Bridging Documents, Guidelines and case studies.

52. Hari Tulsidas provided an update noting that the Uranium/Thorium Best Practices Handbook is progressing well with a few chapters drafted. A number of new case studies are also being developed. It was recalled that in the UNFC workshop organized in August several case studies from as many as 25 countries were proposed. It is expected that a few could be completed this year and included in the Best Practices Handbook.



## **Item 12. Update on application of UNFC to injection projects**

53. Karin Ask provided the update of the Working Group. The Specifications for application of UNFC to Injection Projects were approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 30 September.
54. An article promoting this is currently posted to the UNECE home page.
55. Andrew Barrett promoted the specifications at the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) Annual Meeting, 3–7 October 2016, Tokyo, Japan.
56. Charlotte promoted the specifications during a discussion on CCS and storage issues at the UNECE Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels meeting held in Geneva on 26 October.
57. A case study on application of UNFC to storage based on three different storage sites in Norway that would be prepared in cooperation with NPD is under consideration.
58. Karin Ask provided an update on the SPE Storage Resources Management System (SRMS) currently under preparation by SPE and OGCI. Whilst she is involved as a member of the group preparing this document, she is not representing the EGRC nor UNFC. Her involvement is though a recognition of her leadership of the UNFC Injection Projects Task Force. The Working Group has prepared a first draft, the preamble of which refers to UNFC, which will be circulated to the Bureau prior to issuing it for public consultation.
59. The representative of SPE suggested that engagement should be made with Mark Rubin and Tom Blasingame on the UNFC injection projects specifications to ensure alignment with the SRMS. There was consensus that an MoU with SPE on the topic would be premature at this stage. The Chair agreed to make contact.

## **Item 13. Cooperation with African Mineral Development Centre (AMDC)**

### Documentation: Draft MoU

60. AMDC provided feedback on the draft MoU between UNECE and AMDC on 19 October. AMDC underlined its desire to cooperate closely on UNFC. The draft MoU was circulated to the Bureau for information. A number of Bureau members had comments. It was agreed that these would be accommodated to the extent possible bearing in mind that it is an MoU between UNECE and AMDC. Members were requested to submit comments as soon as possible to the UNECE secretariat.
61. The draft MoU is now undergoing internal legal review at UNECE. The intent to establish an MoU will also be presented to the UNECE Executive Committee on 16 November in line with current practice for all planned MoUs. It is expected that the MoU will be finalized and signed before year-end.
62. The Chair advised that AMDC invited Tunde Arisekola to present on UNFC at the Eastern African Minerals Geosciences Implementation (AMGI) Workshop, Kampala, Uganda, 5–6 October 2016 and financially supported his participation. The presentation was well-received with Tunde even meeting the Ugandan President.
63. The Chair thanked Tunde Arisekola for his assistance and support.

## **Item 15. EGRC Eighth Session, 25–28 April 2017**

64. The UNECE deadline for submission of the draft agenda is 29 January 2017, for submission of documents for translation is 13 February 2017 and for submission of English only documents is 11 April 2017. The list of official documents for the EGRC-8 meeting has been submitted with 14 substantive documents:

- (i) Provisional Agenda
- (ii) Meeting report
- (iii) Draft Chinese solid minerals and UNFC Bridging Document
- (iv) Draft Chinese petroleum and UNFC Bridging Document
- (v) Draft Bioenergy Specifications
- (vi) Draft Solar Specifications
- (vii) UNFC Guidance note on Competent Person
- (viii) EGRC Guidance Note detailing issues around defining a competent person
- (ix) Guidance on classification with respect to E-axis social and environmental factors
- (x) G axis recommendations
- (xi) Draft EGRC Work Plan for 2018–2019
- (xii) Case Study 1
- (xiii) Case Study 2
- (xiv) Case Study 3
- (xv) Case Study 4
- (xvi) Case Study 5

65. The Chair asked for suggestions for a keynote speaker. Proposals included a senior official from the African Union or the European Commission. The Chair will also explore the possibility of the Chief Economist of BP providing the keynote address. Members were requested to submit suggestions to the UNECE secretariat.

66. The Chair inquired about proposals to change the format of the provisional agenda or keep the format as in the past i.e. covering all UNFC applications and areas of work. The consensus view was to keep with the same format. Charlotte will draft the agenda based on Bureau feedback and circulate for comment.

67. As in previous years, a UNFC workshop will be held as agenda item 3 on the first day of the EGRC meeting i.e. 25 April. The Chair asked the Bureau for its views on the format of this workshop. It was agreed to keep the format largely unchanged include training exercises. These exercises should be translated ahead of time in French and Russian and circulated to participants at least 10 days prior to the event.

68. The Chair enquired which Task Forces or Working Groups would like to hold meetings in Geneva during the Resource Classification Week. Requests should be communicated to Charlotte as soon as possible.

## **Item 14. Education and outreach**

Documentation: List of events promoting UNFC in 2016–2017 *as at 25 October 2016*

69. A number of events were highlighted:

- (i) SPE ATCE Dubai. David MacDonald delivered the presentation and there was good response and interaction during the discussions at the end of the session.

- (ii) China Mining 2016, Tianjin, 23–25 September: Presentations on UNFC well received. Scott Foster presented on “UNFC Delivering Sustainable Energy for All” during Ministerial Session. Julian Hilton presented a keynote presentation during the uranium session. In meetings with the organizers, a UNFC Workshop as part of China Mining 2017 was discussed. The Chair thanked Yang Hua for her very significant efforts to promote UNFC at the event.
- (iii) Mining the European Anthroposphere (MINEA) Workshop on “Opportunities and Challenges for the Classification & Reporting of Anthropogenic Resources”, 6–7 October, 2016, Budapest. This was the first workshop of Working Group 4 that is considering using UNFC-2009 for classification, reporting and management of anthropogenic resources. Julian Hilton presented on the application of UNFC-2009.
- (iv) 7<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, Baku, Azerbaijan, 18–21 October: A session on “Developing a common assessment methodology for renewable energy projects” was held on 21 October as part of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy. Both Frank Denelle and Scott Foster presented on UNFC and renewables work and progress made to date. Good interest and engagement was seen at the meeting.
- (v) UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, Geneva, 24–25 October. Significant interest in UNFC was shown by the Group at this meeting and plans were discussed to undertake some case studies. The Group wants to cooperate with EGRC and will be invited to the EGRC meeting in April 2017.
- (vi) IAEA Regional Africa Project Co-ordination Meeting and Workshop on "Regional Partnership for Sustainable Uranium Resources Development" 14–18 November 2016, Abuja, Nigeria. Tunde Arisekola will present on the recent initiatives with AMDC to make UNFC the unifying classification system for Africa. The meeting will also discuss the possibility to organize regional workshops/training courses on UNFC in 2017.
- (vii) EFG UNFC Workshop, Brussels: Now postponed to 9–10 February 2017 due to Raw Materials Week clashing with the November dates. The event will be held in cooperation with the European Commission and European Parliament. CRIRSCO and PERC will also be involved. Invitations will be issued shortly.
- (viii) SPE ATCE 2017 in Texas: Planning to submit an abstract on the RF2013 and UNFC Bridging Document.
- (ix) Igor Shpurov advised of the possibility to organize a UNFC workshop in Moscow in late June 2017 to which experts from Central Asia should also be invited.
- (x) R. P. Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal, India, during his visit to Geneva to participate in the Geneva Energy Week meetings 24–28 October, shared the interest of India in organizing a UNFC workshop in Kolkata, India. He advised he would also work with the Indian Bureau of Mines and other stakeholders to accelerate the work on application of UNFC-2009 for various resources in India.

70. The Chair noted that he will be in Moscow in early December and will meet with Igor Shpurov and Sergey Donskoy, Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.

#### **Item 17. Date of next Bureau calls**

71. The next Bureau calls are planned to be held during the first two weeks of December. The usual availability notice will be circulated.

## **Item 18. Any other business**

72. The Chair sought the attention of all the members to the following additional matters of interest:

(i) Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook (COGEH) Update

The first stage of developing a revised handbook, including an integrated structure (table of contents) is completed. A number of sub-committees have been established to work on the major components of this. Initial drafts are expected early next year, with a target for digital publication in October 2017.

(ii) PRMS Update

The SPE representative advised that SPE is experiencing challenges in working with its sister societies on the update. It is hoped that a first draft will be available to submit to the SPE Board by March 2017 following which it will be issued for public consultation.

(iii) Extractive Resources Hub

EGRC has been invited to cooperate on The Extractives Resource Hub, which is a multi-£m UK Department for International Development (DfID) funded project, which will be an online platform designed to support government officials who make decisions on the planning and management of their country's natural resource wealth. The service comes in two parts: (a) A "one stop shop" which brings together high-quality sector information together into one place, including information on how other countries manage their natural resource wealth; and (b) A help desk that government officials can use to contact International experts and request advice or information. This service will be quick response and free of charge. Work is on track to launch the website at the Mining Indaba in February 2017, following extensive testing with its target audience and other related stakeholders. Plan is to maximise user uptake of the hub through identification and establishment of close working relationships with other help desk and knowledge hubs, including UNFC. Work on the Hub is being undertaken by the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy at the University of Dundee, Scotland. Jim Ross has offered to meet with the Hub developers. One of the partners involved with the development of the Hub is OpenOil, which has an interesting website with easy access to oil company reports, including SEC comment letters. The OpenOil web link is: <http://openoil.net/>

(iv) FORAM Project

The World Resources Forum has advised of the final approval of the FORAM project by the European Commission. The project will officially start on 1 November 2016. The FORAM Project aims to establish a World Forum on (mineral) Raw Materials covering the entire value chain (including recycling). The European Federation of Geologists is participating, together with EuroGeoSurveys, the United Nations University and other smaller organizations. Julian Hilton and potentially Charlotte are currently Advisory Board members. The Advisory Board also includes members from OECD, the Study Groups, World Bank etc. The World Resources Forum will be invited to the 2017 EGRC meeting.

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