

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

From: David MacDonald and Charlotte Griffiths

<p style="text-align: center;">Conference Calls with the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Classification 3pm 23 January and 9am 24 January 2013 (UK time) FINAL MINUTES</p>
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Present on 3pm Call:

1. David MacDonald (Chair)
2. Paul Bankes *representing* Roger Dixon (CRIRSCO)
3. Simplicio Caluyong *representing* HE Qingcheng (CCOP)
4. Capella Festa *representing* Fatih Birol (IEA)
5. Kjell Reidar Knudsen (Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)
6. Jim Ross (petroleum sector)
7. Danny Trotman *representing* Michael Lynch-Bell (Chairman Ex-officio)
8. Brad van Gosen (USGS)
9. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Present on 9am Call:

1. David MacDonald (Chair)
2. Leesa Carson (Geoscience Australia)
3. Dan Diluzio *representing* Rawdon Seager (SPE)
4. Michael Lynch-Bell (Chairman Ex-officio)
5. Yuri Podturkin (Russian Working Group)
6. Jim Ross (petroleum sector)
7. Hari Tulsidas (IAEA)
8. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Observer:

1. Grigoriy Malukhin (Russian Working Group)
2. Yanis Mieztis (Geoscience Australia)

Apologies:

1. Karin Ask (petroleum sector)
2. Fatih Birol (IEA)
3. David Elliott (financial reporting sector)
4. Mucella Ersoy (Turkish Coal Enterprises)
5. HE Qingcheng (CCOP)
6. Tim Smith (SPEE)

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of Draft Agenda
2. Draft Minutes of Bureau calls of 18-19 December 2012
3. Specifications Task Force Phase Two Update
4. Draft Terms of Reference for Technical Advisory Group
5. Draft Rules of Procedure for EGRC
6. EGRC Fourth Session
7. Education and Outreach Update

8. Timing of Next Bureau Call
9. Any Other Business

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

1. The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Item 2: Draft Minutes of Bureau Calls of 18-19 December 2012

2. The draft minutes as circulated on 9 January 2013 were approved without amendment.

Item 3: Specifications Task Force Phase Two Update

3. The Chair of the Specifications Task Force Phase Two (STF-2) noted that there was consensus in the Bureau to issue only two specifications documents for the EGRC fourth session:

- (i) Draft specifications document (official document – as opposed to an unofficial room document – in English only)
- (ii) Draft specifications explanatory report with all comments received during public consultation compiled in an appendix (official document in English only).

4. In order to allow time for formatting and editing prior to submission, the deadline for the STF-2 and Bureau to finalize and agree on the text of the two documents is 20 March.

5. The STF-2 Chair noted he will be away for the full month of February.

6. Progress has been made on the draft specifications document. The STF-2 Chair prepared a revised version reflecting the comments received during the 2012 public consultation which he had circulated on 8 January 2013, with a deadline for comments of 18 January. The normal working procedure for the STF-2 is that absence of comments by the stated deadline is implicitly taken to mean approval, so the STF-2 Chair reviewed the comments received by the deadline and on 19 January provided proposals for resolution of six remaining issues with a request for feedback by 25 January.

7. It was noted that SPE provided comments on 23 January on issues which had been considered resolved.

8. The STF-2 Chair advised he would prepare a revised specifications text in response to the comments received by the deadline of 25 January. If he had time during the week of 28 January, he would also look to review the comments provided by SPE and prepare a second document. Any changes made to the text need to be considered holistically which is a detailed process taking a great deal of time and attention. He noted that the comments provided by SPE posed additional challenges in that the full STF-2 would need to be provided with the opportunity to comment on and agree to any new changes made to the text as a consequence of the late input from SPE, since the majority of the STF-2 members had already agreed to the existing text.

9. The STF-2 Chair indicated he would endeavour to finalize the draft specifications explanatory report by 1 February.

10. The STF-2 Chair expressed the hope that the documents would be progressed in his absence during February.

11. The Chair strongly urged the Bureau to look at the specifications document in a spirit of compromise. If there is not consensus in the Bureau prior to the EGRC fourth session then there is little hope of achieving consensus during the session itself. The Chair cautioned against raising the specifications to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for resolution since the Committee does not have expertise on the issue. The Chair proposed a meeting of a sub-group of the STF-2 in London in early March to seek to resolve any remaining areas of deadlock, particularly with regard to SPE. There was consensus in the Bureau that this was the best approach to take.

12. The Chair noted that the specifications document currently being worked on could be considered as version 1, which could and would need to be refined over time as it is used, this particularly applies to the bridging documents for the CRIRSCO Template and the PRMS.

13. The STF-2 Chair was thanked for all his efforts on the specifications documents.

Item 4: Draft Terms of Reference for Technical Advisory Group

14. The Chair advised that insufficient progress had been made on a revised draft terms of reference for the Technical Advisory Group to allow for a discussion on the calls.

15. In order to allow more time to achieve consensus in the Bureau on the draft terms of reference, the Chair proposed that the document be submitted to the EGRC fourth session as an official document in English language only in which case the finalization deadline is 20 March. There was agreement to proceed in this way. The Chair of the TAG Task Force will be advised accordingly.

Item 5: Draft Rules of Procedure for EGRC

16. The Chair advised that based on the feedback provided, Bureau members are in favour of the EGRC looking to develop its own Rules of Procedure.

17. Michael Lynch-Bell has offered to lead the drafting of a text, which will need to be in line with the ECE Rules of Procedure, the ECOSOC Rules of Procedure and the draft guidelines on procedures and practices for UNECE bodies envisaged to be endorsed by the UN Economic Commission for Europe at its meeting 9-11 April and only deviate where valid justification can be demonstrated. It is hoped to have a first draft in February.

Item 6: EGRC Fourth Session

(a) Documentation Update

18. The Chair confirmed that the revised list of official documents for the EGRC fourth session comprises the following seven documents:

- (i) Provisional Agenda
- (ii) Draft Specifications for UNFC (English only)
- (iii) Explanatory Report - Draft Specifications for UNFC with Comments from Public Consultation in Appendix (English only)
- (iv) Communications Sub-Committee Report

- (v) Technical Advisory Group (English only)
- (vi) Application of UNFC to Nuclear Fuel Resources - Bridging Document
- (vii) Meeting Report

(b) Draft Annotated Provisional Agenda

19. A revised version of the provisional agenda was circulated to the Bureau on 23 January with the two minor changes highlighted. The final version will be submitted for translation and posted to the UNECE website on or around 25 January. Official invitation letters will be issued.

(c) UNFC Workshop, 23 April

20. A UNFC Workshop will be held on 23 April with interpretation in English, French and Russian. The event is intended for newcomers to the Expert Group and those members of the Expert Group wishing to deliver presentations on the UNFC at future conferences and workshops. Bureau members were requested to attend and deliver presentations. In particular, CRIRSCO and SPE were requested to provide speakers to present on the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS respectively.

(d) IAEA UNFC Consultancy Meeting, 22-23 April

21. The IAEA will hold a consultancy meeting on the UNFC in Geneva, 22-23 April. The key focus of the meeting will be the draft bridging document between the NEA-IAEA Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009.

22. The IAEA representative advised that the IAEA has a project that is looking into integrating nuclear energy and renewable energy systems. In view of its strengths as a common reporting tool, UNFC is of interest to IAEA for this project which will also be discussed at the consultancy meeting.

(e) Bureau Meeting(s)

23. The Chair advised that at least one Bureau meeting would be held at the time of the fourth session, possibly a working lunch and/or a dinner on 25 April. The Bureau is likely to need to work on the draft conclusions, programme of work for 2013-14 and/or the meeting report prior to the final day of the meeting.

(f) Sponsors for reception and coffee breaks

24. As per usual practice, it is planned to hold a reception on 24 April subject to a sponsor/co-sponsors being found. Approximate costs for 100 persons are: USD1,800 for drinks only and USD3,000 for drinks and simple canapés.

25. Sponsors for coffee breaks are also being sought. The approximate cost of a coffee break for 100 persons is USD400.

Item 7: Education and Outreach Update

26. The Communications Sub-Committee has now drafted its report for the EGRC fourth session providing an update on its activities since the last session. The Bureau will be provided with the final version once submitted.

27. The Chair noted that the UNFC has been presented on average more than once every two weeks in 2012 and the schedule of events for 2013 is looking to mirror this. Clarification

was provided that whenever the UNFC is presented the relationship with the CRIRSCO Template and PRMS is also explained i.e. UNFC is never presented in isolation.

28. Events

- (i) 24th Colloquium of African Geology, Addis Ababa, 8-14 January 2013: the UNFC was presented by a representative of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of Uganda. Many in the audience were not familiar with the UNFC and hence a large number of questions were posed. These questions will be reviewed with a view to amending future UNFC presentations.
- (ii) UNECE Working Party on Gas, Geneva, 22 January 2013: an update on the UNFC was provided. Support for the UNFC was offered by a number of UNECE countries, particularly vis-à-vis its application to unconventional resources.
- (iii) Hanson Wade, European Unconventional Reserve Estimation Conference, London, 12-15 March 2013: Sigurd Heiberg has agreed to present on the UNFC.
- (iv) IAEA-CYTED-UNECE-ECLAC Workshop on “United Nations Framework Classification – 2009 (UNFC–2009) applications in uranium and thorium resources: Focus on Comprehensive Extraction”, Santiago, Chile, 9-12 July 2013: the representative of IAEA advised that presentations on application of the UNFC to petroleum are being sought and participation from this sector encouraged.

Item 8: Timing of Next Bureau Conference Call

29. It was agreed that the next Bureau call should be held jointly with the STF-2 mid-March 2013. An availability message will be circulated as per usual practice.

Item 9: Any Other Business

(a) CCOP

30. The current Director of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP), Professor HE Qingcheng, will step down 31 March 2013 and Dr Adichat Surinkum of Thailand will take over on 1 April. Dr Adichat is currently a member of the EGRC and is familiar with the UNFC.

(b) Self-evaluation of UNFC

31. The UNECE secretariat advised that the UNFC had been selected for self-evaluation. Self-evaluations are conducted on a mandatory basis throughout the United Nations system to ensure that regular budget resources are being spent on programmes that are relevant to Member States and that the programmes are conducted in an efficient and effective manner. The self-evaluation is likely to involve sending a detailed questionnaire to the EGRC and additional relevant Government representatives of UNECE member States, with selected follow-up interviews. It is intended to involve the Bureau in this process, as well as in any analysis undertaken. It is planned to submit the results of the self-evaluation to the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy at its meeting in November 2013.

(c) EXCOM outcome document on UNFC

32. It was noted that the Bureau of the Committee on Sustainable Energy had been tasked to render operational the document that was the outcome of informal consultations regarding the energy programme conducted under the auspices of the ECE Executive Committee

(EXCOM). The concrete activities related to the UNFC in that document are provided below for ease of reference:

UNFC Concrete Activities

- (i) Electronically disseminate UNFC to all major stakeholders by August 2013
- (ii) Finalizing the generic specifications by December 2013 to make UNFC operational
- (iii) Develop ideas on how the UNFC could apply to and integrate renewable energy by December 2013.
- (iv) Develop proposals on how to conduct on-going maintenance, technical advice, guidance and periodic updates to UNFC in order to ensure the system remains relevant, useful, and operates efficiently in light of ongoing technological developments including in the field of carbon capture and storage.”

32. The Expert Group would be expected to develop a plan of action to move the concrete activities listed forward. It was noted that the concrete activities that are listed are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive. In light of the pressures on budgets and performance in the United Nations, detail will need to be provided on the time-frame for concrete deliverables and both the human and financial resources required. The Chairman of the Committee on Sustainable Energy will contact the EGRC Chair shortly on this issue.
