

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 9am and 3pm 16 April 2013 (BST) FINAL MINUTES</p>

Present on 9am Call:

1. David MacDonald (Chair)
2. Karin Ask (petroleum sector)
3. Leesa Carson (Geoscience Australia)
4. Michael Lynch-Bell (Chairman Ex-officio)
5. Grigoriy Malukhin *representing* Yuri Podturkin (Russian Working Group)
6. Hari Tulsidas (IAEA)
7. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Observer:

1. Yanis Miezitis (Geoscience Australia)

Present on 3pm Call:

2. David MacDonald (Chair)
3. Roger Dixon (CRIRSCO)
4. David Elliott (financial reporting sector)
5. Kjell Reidar Knudsen (Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)
6. Tim Smith (SPEE)
7. Brad van Gosen (USGS)
8. Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE)

Observer:

1. Paul Bankes (CRIRSCO)

Apologies:

1. Fatih Birol (IEA)
2. Mucella Ersoy (Turkish Coal Enterprises)
3. Jim Ross (petroleum sector)
4. Rawdon Seager (SPE)
5. CCOP

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of Draft Agenda
2. Draft Minutes of Joint Bureau and STF-2 calls of 19 March 2013
3. Draft Terms of Reference for Technical Advisory Group
4. Draft Bridging Document between Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009
5. Draft Operationalizing Document for EGRC and Draft Programme of Work for EGRC for 2013-2014
6. Draft Rules of Procedure for EGRC
7. Draft Revised Terms of Reference for EGRC

8. Draft Revised Terms of Reference for the Specifications Task Force
9. Draft Conclusions and Recommendations for the EGRC Fourth Session
10. Draft Timeline for the EGRC Fourth Session
11. Next Bureau Meetings
12. Any Other Business

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

1. The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Item 2: Draft Minutes of Bureau Calls of 19 March 2013

2. The draft minutes as circulated on 5 April 2013 were approved without amendment.

Item 3: Draft Terms of Reference for Technical Advisory Group

3. The Draft Terms of Reference for the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) were submitted as an official document in English only for the EGRC fourth session on 5 April 2013 (document number ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2013/5). All comments from Bureau members have been incorporated into this revised document to the extent possible.

4. The Chair of the Task Force on the Technical Advisory Group has prepared a presentation for the EGRC fourth session, which is currently with the Task Force for comment. It was noted that the members of the Task Force are not yet fully aligned on a number of issues covered in the draft Terms of Reference, including on the number of members and whether the TAG should have training amongst its responsibilities. The EGRC Chair indicated that once the TAG was established time would need to be given to assess how it worked in practice and the Terms of Reference may then need to be modified accordingly.

5. A Bureau member highlighted a potential area of overlap between the responsibilities of the TAG and the Communications Sub-Committee in relation to communication issues. He indicated he would send an email to the secretariat providing more detail on this potential overlap.

Item 4: Draft Bridging Document between Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009

6. The Draft Bridging Document between the Uranium Classification and UNFC-2009 was submitted as an official document in English only for the EGRC fourth session on 28 March 2013 (document number ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2013/7).

7. The draft document will be discussed in detail at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Consultancy Meeting in Geneva, 22-23 April 2013. It was noted that the document will need to be reviewed by the Joint OECD-NEA/IAEA Uranium Group following the EGRC fourth session prior to finalization.

8. The representative of IAEA was thanked for progressing this bridging document so efficiently.

Item 5: Draft Operationalizing Document for EGRC and Draft Programme of Work for EGRC for 2013-2014

9. A concise version of the “Operationalizing Document for the Sustainable Energy Sub-programme” was circulated to the Bureau, together with the updated version for the EGRC. It is intended that these documents will be circulated over the coming weeks to UNECE member States for feedback and/or approval. The EGRC Chair will be involved in this exercise. It was noted this process will serve to raise awareness on the work of the EGRC in UNECE member States, including those not currently actively engaged.

10. The draft programme of work for 2013-2014 for the EGRC fourth session will be prepared on the basis of this text.

Item 6: Draft Rules of Procedure for EGRC

11. Revised draft Rules of Procedure were circulated to the Bureau on 11 April (unofficial EGRC working document EGRC-4/2013/INF.2). This revised text takes into account the feedback of Bureau members to the extent possible and adheres more closely to the “Guidelines on procedures and practices for UNECE bodies” that were approved by UNECE at its 65th Session, 9-11 April 2013. For example, the proposed term for Bureau members has been reduced to two years to be in line with the Guidelines. The areas where the proposed EGRC Rules of Procedure deviate from the Guidelines largely relate to: (i) the composition of the Bureau which for the EGRC needs to be representative of all stakeholders (the Guidelines indicate that only UNECE member State would have full status on the Bureau); and (ii) the report of EGRC meetings. The EGRC draft rules propose that a meeting report will be prepared for each Plenary meeting, which reflects in a concise and factual manner the discussion and the views expressed by participants. If for any reason, the report cannot be adopted prior to the end of the Plenary, the Bureau will be tasked to finalize the report and then circulate to all the participants present at the meeting for approval. However the Guidelines indicate “If the draft report cannot be circulated at or adopted during the meeting for technical reasons, the subsidiary body may decide to distribute it to all Geneva Permanent Representations for subsequent approval.”

12. It was noted that the EGRC approval process needs to follow a number of steps: the EGRC “recommends” a particular issue, document etc to the Committee on Sustainable Energy, following which the Committee “endorses” it and then submits it to the UNECE Executive Committee for “approval”.

13. Discussion focused on the definition of consensus. It was agreed to amend paragraph 14 of the draft document dated 11 April 2013 to read “Decisions shall be taken by consensus. Consensus is defined here as general agreement on the substantive issues without pronounced objection by multiple stakeholders. Consensus is not to be equated with unanimity. If consensus cannot be reached on any issue, the matter will be referred to the Committee on Sustainable Energy.”

14. A Bureau member noted that this definition of consensus is different to that stated in the minutes of the Bureau meeting of 26 September 2011, notably “... for the EGRC this means 100% agreement”. He confirmed that he had no objection to the definition proposed in paragraph 13 above.

Item 7: Draft Revised Terms of Reference for EGRC

15. The draft revised Terms of Reference have been made available for the EGRC Fourth Session as an unofficial working document (EGRC-4/2013/INF.3).

16. The first revised draft was circulated to the Bureau on 11 April with the proposed amendments highlighted. The changes proposed are largely to accommodate the Outcome of the Review of the Reform of ECE of 2005, which was approved by the Commission at its 65th session and relate to: renewable energy resources, the Technical Advisory Group, injection projects and nuclear fuel resources, as well as the addition of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) as one of the professional societies with whom the EGRC should cooperate.

17. Bureau members had no comments.

Item 8: Draft Revised Terms of Reference for the Specifications Task Force

18. The draft revised Terms of Reference have been made available for the EGRC Fourth Session as an unofficial working document (EGRC-4/2013/INF.4). This text was prepared by the Chair of the Specifications Task Force Phase II and incorporates feedback from Bureau and STF-2 members. It was emphasized that the extension of the mandate of the Task Force is an interim measure until the Technical Advisory Group is established.

19. A fifteen minute slot will be included on the timeline for the EGRC fourth session under item 8 to discuss the draft revised Terms of Reference.

Item 9: Dates Conclusions and Recommendations for EGRC Fourth Session

20. The draft Conclusions and Recommendations arising from the EGRC Fourth Session have been made available as an unofficial working document (EGRC-4/2013/INF.5). In accordance with the newly approved UNECE Guidelines they were circulated to UNECE member States ten days prior to the fourth session.

21. It was noted that two additional items have been added to the version circulated to the Bureau on 4 April – these relate to the work on uranium and injection projects (new paragraphs 9 and 10). An item relating to the Communications Sub-Committee may also need to be added.

22. The Chair emphasized that there would be an opportunity to revise the draft conclusions and recommendations throughout the fourth session and that he would convey this to the meeting participants in his opening remarks.

Item 10: Draft Timeline for EGRC Fourth Session

23. The draft timeline for EGRC Fourth Session as at 10 April 2013 was circulated to the Bureau on 11 April. It is also posted to the website. The timeline has changed (and is continuing to change) compared to earlier versions – the changes are largely on 25 and 26 April in order to accommodate the travel schedules of various speakers, including for the financial reporting session. There will be case studies or case study type presentations from

Poland, Ukraine, Argentina, China, Mexico, and Thailand. During the session on renewables, a short presentation has been included on geothermal resources.

Item 11: Next Bureau Meetings

24. A Joint Bureau and Specifications Task Force Phase Two working dinner meeting will be held in Geneva on Wednesday 24 April. A Bureau meeting will be held at 0800 hours on Friday 26 April at the Palais des Nations.

Item 12: Any Other Business

(a) UNFC Workshop, Geneva 23 April

25. A revised draft programme has been prepared and posted to the UNECE website. It was noted with appreciation that SPE and CRIRSCO have both provided speakers and that representatives from Statoil have agreed to run the closing interactive session based on the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate pilot study.

(b) CCOP

26. The outgoing Director of the CCOP Technical Secretariat has now returned to the China Institute of Geo-Environment Monitoring (CIGEM). It is anticipated that the incoming Director of the CCOP Technical Secretariat – who took over effective 1 April 2013 – will take-up the CCOP seat on the Bureau.
