

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

From: David MacDonald, Charlotte Griffiths and Hari Tulsidas

Conference Call of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) 21 February 2019 MINUTES
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Attendance 4 pm CET call:

	Present	Apology
David MacDonald, EGRM Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tunde Arisekola, Nigeria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hussein Allaboun, Jordan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fatih Birol (alternate Glenn Sondak), IEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roger Dixon, CRIRSCO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mücella Ersoy, Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gioia Falcone, IGA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nurangiz Farajullayeva, Azerbaijan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Milan Grohol (alternate Rodrigo Chanes), EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TBC, IAEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Zoltán Horváth, EuroGeoSurveys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erica Ingvald, Sweden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alistair Jones, EGRM TAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kjell Reidar Knudsen, Norway	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frank Mugyenyi, AUC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Neumann, EFG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roberto Sarudiansky, OLAMI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bernard Seiller, SPE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Olga Trofimova for Igor Shpurov, Russian Federation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adichat Surinkum (alternate Dhiti Tulyatid), CCOP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bradley Van Gosen, USA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charlotte Griffiths, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hari Tulsidas, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anastasia Ioannou, Intern UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Draft Agenda for EGRM Bureau Call on 21 February

1. Approval of draft agenda (Attachment 1)
2. Draft minutes of Bureau call of 15 January 2019 (Attachment 2)
3. UNFC update (Attachment 3)
4. UNECE Resource Management Week 2019 (Attachment 4 & 5)
5. Proposal to establish Groundwater Working Group (Attachment 6)
6. Technical Advisory Group Update
7. Global Responsible Sourcing Platform (RESRaM) Project
8. Education and Outreach (Attachment 7)
9. Date of next Bureau call
10. Any other business

### Documentation:

1. Draft Agenda for Bureau Call on 21 February 2019
2. Draft minutes of 15 January 2019 Bureau Call
3. UNFC update version 2.0 as at 15 February 2019
4. Provisional agenda for EGRM-10
5. Revised draft Work Plan for EGRM for 2020-2021
6. Bio of Marco Petitta
7. List of events promoting UNFC in 2018–2019 as at 19 February 2019

### **Item 1. Approval of Draft Agenda**

Documentation: Draft Agenda for Bureau Call on 21 February 2019

1. The agenda was approved without any additional changes.

### **Item 2. Draft minutes of Bureau call of 15 January 2018**

Documentation: Draft minutes of Bureau call of 15 January 2018

2. The Chair suggested to change the last sentence in para 10 to “There was a consensus in the Bureau in support of this approach”. The numbering of para 12 (ii) was repeated twice, which needs to be corrected to (iii). In para 23, the Mexican pilot study project needs to be included, and in para 24, the drafts of Solar and Wind energy specifications have to be mentioned as completed and reviewed by TAG. The draft minutes were approved with these changes

### **Item 3. UNFC update**

Documentation: TAG suggestions on UNFC revisions; UNFC update version 2.0 as at 15 February 2019

3. The Chair advised that a modified “light touch” version of the draft UNFC update (ver 2.0) (with changes tracked) was circulated with the documentation for the call. This version attempts to address some of the concerns of the Geothermal Sub-group.
4. The Chair mentioned that he had a call with Gioia Falcone and Frank Denelle on 13 February. Alistair, Charlotte and Hari also participated. In this call, it was reiterated that the intention of this update is not to impact on the existing Specifications and Bridging Documents. What is urgently needed is a text that removes references to fossil fuels, volumes, quantities etc., includes the guidance on social and environmental aspects and makes the language more suitable to all resource sectors.

5. Gioia had expressed concerns on the definitions of “Resource”, “Resource Source” etc. as well as the usage of “sale/used” quantities. There were other suggestions on placement of figures etc. and some edits on the text.

6. The current version 2.0 addresses all issues that were raised during the call. Definitions have been changed to be more in conformity with the Renewable Energy Specifications. The usage “sale/used” quantities is changed to “sales” with a footnote (5) which says “This does not prescribe that the produced quantities must be sold. For example, own-use quantities (within the defined Project) can be included and classified under UNFC, even though they are not being sold.” This footnote is from the RE specifications but slightly modified to apply to all resources.

7. The Chair mentioned that Gioia has forwarded this version to the “UNFC Group” within the IGA Reserves and Resource Committee and asked for their feedback by 8 March.

8. The Chair noted that if the changes proposed in this version are generally acceptable to the geothermal community or with minor modifications, this version may be frozen for presentation at EGRM-10. The Chair suggested that as discussed in the previous Bureau call, a “perfect draft” should not be the aim at this stage. After taking on board the views of the EGRM meeting in April and the subsequent public consultation, a version with language workable for all sectors should hopefully emerge.

9. The Chair noted that this could be considered as an interim update. There were many suggestions for substantial changes to UNFC including from the TAG Chair. Such a significant revision of UNFC may be required in time and this could be discussed and debated at EGRM-10.

10. The Chair noted that as decided in the last Bureau call, this version if acceptable to the Geothermal Sub-group should be presented to EGRM-10.

11. Roger Dixon raised concerns in accepting only the suggestions from the Geothermal Sub-group, while many comments made by others have not been taken on board. The Chair clarified that only proposals that do not make fundamental changes to UNFC are being considered. Also, many changes related to the guidance documents on social and environmental aspects, component persons etc., which were approved texts from seventh, eighth and ninth sessions of EGRC, which are also not being considered now.

12. A proposal was made to compile all major suggestions in a tabular form and make it available to the Bureau and Working Groups. The Chair agreed to this proposal.

#### **Item 4. UNECE Resource Management Week 2019**

Documentation: Revised draft agenda for EGRM-10; Revised Draft Work Plan for EGRM for 2020-2021

13. The Chair informed that the draft annotated agenda for EGRM-10 has been submitted. This was also circulated with the documentation for the call. The final version has tried to incorporate all suggestions received from the WGs and Bureau.

14. The Chair noted that the draft EGRM Work Plan 2020-2021 was also submitted for EGRM-10. A copy of the same has been circulated with the documentation for the call.

15. The Chair noted that some additional comments were received to the draft Work Plan after it had been submitted so these will need to be addressed at the EGRM meeting. Some comments related to a large number of areas of work and task forces and the challenge in managing this. One proposal was to integrate the CBM Group in the Petroleum/Minerals Working Groups and the Nuclear Working Group with the Minerals Working Group. EGRM could be more manageable if the E-axis issues were placed in one group, i.e. social, environmental, economic and commercial. The Chair underlined that these are suggestions only and the merging of nuclear and minerals WGs may not be practical. Another proposal was for the CBM group to be a sub-group under the Petroleum WG.

16. Other EGRM-10 documents now submitted and posted to the EGRM-10 webpage include:

- Mexico Petroleum Pilot and Case Study
- Concept Note: The Role of Nuclear Energy in Sustainable Development: Entry Pathways

17. The following official documents will be submitted later:

- Draft Wind Specifications
- Draft Solar Specifications
- UNFC Update: as two docs (i) Principles and definitions; (ii) Specifications and guidelines: in progress
- Commercial considerations in the application of UNFC
- Concept and design of UNRMS
- Draft Mineral Specifications
- Draft Petroleum Specifications

In addition, there will be a number of informal/room documents.

18. The Chair informed that Peter Handley, DG GROW, has agreed to provide a keynote presentation. Erika Ingvald had previously proposed a keynote from EITI for consideration and an invitation was subsequently extended to EITI. As suggested by Ulrich, the secretariat has reached out to members of the UN Environment International Resource Panel to participate in the EGRM meeting in April and present on the work of the Panel. This would be an excellent opportunity to explore areas for cooperation and ensure there is no duplication in our work. The Chair requested Bureau members to suggest additional keynote speakers, panellists etc. for EGRM sessions.

19. The Chair advised that sponsors or co-sponsors for the reception, coffee breaks, and lunches are being sought. As one of EGRM's long-standing and key sponsors, Jay Choi, may not participate this year, it will be helpful to inform Charlotte and Hari of any potential sponsorship no matter how large or how small. The cost of a coffee break is in the order of USD 1,500 and USD 5,000 is needed for the reception.

20. The Chair informed that a Joint EGRM and SPE Swiss Section Lecture will be on "Can the energy industry be "uberized"? How might digital technologies change the architecture of the energy sector? The presenter is Prof Robert Perrons from the Queensland University of Technology.

## **Item 5. Proposal to establish Groundwater Working Group**

Documentation: Bio of proposed Chair of WG, Marco Petitta

21. The Chair informed that EFG has proposed Marco Petitta to chair a Working Group on Groundwater Resources. He is a Professor of Hydrogeology at Sapienza University of Rome, Italy. He is the coordinator of the Panel of Experts in Hydrogeology of the EFG. He is also a member of many professional bodies and has coordinated an H2020 project on knowledge inventory for hydrogeology research.

22. A few groundwater experts have indicated interest in UNFC work. Jörg Reichling from BGR, Germany, participated in the UNFC workshop at the 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Kiev last November. He is keen to work with EGRM on this topic. The Bureau agreed that a small Groundwater Working Group be established with Marco Petitta as Chair.

## **Item 6. Technical Advisory Group update**

23. Alistair Jones, Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Chair, provided the following updates:

- Minerals: The Minerals Working Group will be further developing the specifications for minerals.
- Petroleum: The Petroleum Working Group is developing specifications and guidelines. A study on UNFC alignment with other systems in progress.
- Renewable Energy: Draft Solar and Wind Energy Specifications have been completed and reviewed by TAG.
- Nuclear Fuel Resources: The uranium best practice document “Redesigning the uranium resource pathway: Application of UNFC for Planning and Implementing Sustainable Uranium Projects” was made available on the UNECE website for public comments from 17 December to 15 February. Five persons have commented with over 30 specific suggestions and many edits on the text. All the comments will be published online. The Nuclear WG is examining the comments and will review them all constructively and will then make changes to the text as appropriate. The final version will be reviewed by the WG and will then be finalized for publication by UNECE as soon as possible. A member raised concerns regarding the apparent promotion of nuclear energy. The Chair clarified that the EGRM’s work is technologically agnostic and EGRM does not promote the use of one energy source over another.
- Commercial: A document on “UNFC applied to commercial assessments” is under progress. The WG also has initiated a dialogue with IASB to provide a half-day workshop for IASB on UNFC in London in the context of the IFRS for Extractive Activities that is on the IASB’s active agenda.
- UNRMS Concept note: The SDG Delivery WG is preparing a note on the concept and design of UNRMS. TAG will also review the document and provide its comments.

## **Item 7. Global Responsible Sourcing Platform (RESRaM) Project**

24. The Chair advised that the International Raw Materials Observatory, BGR-DEIRA, Prometia, PACT, the African Minerals and Geoscience Centre and the ESM Foundation have developed a project proposal on a “Global Responsible Sourcing Platform” to be funded under Horizon 2020. The primary objective of the project is the exchange of information and the promotion of responsible sourcing and business conduct in raw material supply involving a network of key international experts and stakeholders. The proposed project is fully aligned with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, helping companies respect human rights and avoid contributing to conflict through their mineral purchasing decisions and practices.

25. If the project is approved, EGRM will be invited to nominate an expert to join the Advisory Board of the project. A letter supporting this in principle was provided by Scott Foster on 18 February 2019. An appropriate person could be nominated from EGRM if the proposal is approved.

## **Item 8. Education and outreach**

Documentation: UNFC workshops and events

26. The Chair informed that the UNFC Geothermal Workshop held in Addis Ababa, 5-7 March, was a success. The event was organized by IGA, IRENA and World Bank ESMAP Programme in cooperation with Geological Survey of Ethiopia, United Nations Environment Programme and the African Geothermal Centre of Excellence. This was the 3rd event in the series (1st Indonesia, 2nd Saint Lucia and 3rd Addis). The 4th is likely to be in South America. There is interest from ESMAP in potentially funding more events.

27. The Chair informed that an important upcoming event will be the AUC and UNECE side event at the UN Environment Assembly, Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019. The side event on 12 March is titled “Mining and the environment: The African framework to address impacts through innovative solutions”, and will have a panel of speakers from the AMREC Working Group. It will showcase the development of AMREC and how it could help support environmentally-sound solutions in mining.

## **Item 9. Date of next Bureau Call**

28. The next Bureau call will be held during the week of 18 or 25 March 2019. The usual availability message and doodle poll will be issued.

## **Item 10. Any other business**

29. The Pathways to Sustainable Energy Project is underway and EGRM will be invited to participate and provide recommendations. Thanks to Gioia, Anastasia Ioannou has started her 3-month internship at UNECE in the Sustainable Energy Division. The principal focus of her work is on the Pathways to Sustainable Energy Project and she will be actively engaging with EGRM to reflect its viewpoints to the extent possible. Anastasia provided a brief outline of the upcoming consultation process starting from 1 March. The Bureau agreed that the consultation materials should be distributed to just Bureau, TAG and other WG Chairs by the EGRM Pathways focal point, Gioia Falcone.

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