

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

From: David MacDonald and Charlotte Griffiths

Conference Call of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM) 9 September 2019 MINUTES
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Attendance 3 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fatih Birol (alternate Glenn Sondak), IEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frank Denelle <i>representing</i> Alistair Jones (TAG) and Gioia Falcone (IGA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roger Dixon, CRIRSCO	<input 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"/>
Rodrigo Chanes <i>representing</i> Milan Grohol, EC TBC, IAEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JU Jianhua (alternate YANG Hua), China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kjell Reidar Knudsen, Norway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Joo Lee, (alternate Dhiti Tulyatid), CCOP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rafal Misztal, Poland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paul Msoma, AUC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Neumann, EFG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teresa Ponce de Leao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roberto Sarudiansky, OLAMI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
Bradley Van Gosen, USA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charlotte Griffiths, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Draft Agenda for EGRM Bureau Call on 9 September

1. Approval of draft agenda (attachment 1)
2. Draft minutes of call on 29 July 2019 (attachment 2)
3. Bureau membership
4. UNFC update
 - Draft cover page of UNFC update (attachment 3)
5. UNRMS
6. AMREC Document
7. Technical Advisory Group update
8. Committee on Sustainable Energy 28th Session
9. UNECE Resource Management Week 2020
10. Education and outreach (attachment 4)
11. Date of next meeting or call
12. Any other business

Documentation:

1. Draft Agenda for Bureau Call on 9 September 2019
2. Draft minutes of 29 July 2019
3. UNFC update – draft cover
4. List of events promoting UNFC in 2018–2019 as at 2 September 2019

Item 1. Approval of Draft Agenda

Documentation: Draft Agenda for Bureau Call on 9 September 2019

1. The Chair proposed to add “Update from SPE under AOB”. Subject to this, the agenda was approved without any changes.

Item 2. Draft minutes of call on 29 July 2019

Documentation: Draft minutes of call on 29 July 2019

2. The minutes were approved.

Item 3. Bureau membership

3. Professor Teresa Ponce de Leão, President of the National Laboratory for Energy and Geology in Portugal has joined the Bureau following approval of her nomination by the Secretary of State. The Chair extended a warm welcome to Teresa on behalf of the Bureau.

4. As per the EGRM tenth session in April, nominations from Serbia, Australia and IAEA are awaited. Geoscience Australia advised it will revert on a Bureau member most likely in September or October.

5. Bureau elections will be held at the EGRM eleventh session in 2020 (the current Bureau was elected in 2018 to take over from the end of the ninth session for a period of two years). Bureau members were asked to consider if they wish to continue on the Bureau and seek reappointment and, if so, to advise the secretariat.

6. A number of members indicated that they would explore interest from other countries in nominating a representative to the Bureau eg Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.

7. Noting that a number of new Bureau members were elected at the tenth session, it was agreed that having a staggered approach to Bureau elections i.e. every year as opposed to every two years would be preferred as this ensures continuity. This proposal will be presented to the EGRM in April 2020.

Item 4. UNFC revamp and update

Documentation: Draft cover page of UNFC update (attachment 3)

(i) Cover page

8. The Bureau agreed to the proposed title of the UNFC revamp: “United Nations Framework Classification for Resources: Update 2019”.

9. The final agreed labels for the E, F and G axes need to be included in the graphic on the cover page.

(ii) Status of Update

10. An update on progress on the “high-level” UNFC revamp was shared. The vast number of different opinions provided on the current draft have made preparing a revised text challenging. The intent is to share a revised text with a small group prior to the meeting of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, 25-27 September. The need to engage the TAG and the Chairs of the Working Groups was underlined.

Item 5. UNRMS

11. The Chair noted that a short statement outlining (i) who will use UNRMS, (ii) what information users need, (iii) and for what purpose UNRMS would be used needs to be circulated to EGRM as agreed at EGRM-10.

12. The TAG has established a small group to develop the UNRMS outline. The Group comprises Milan Grohol, Frank Denelle, Sigurd Heiberg, Julian Hilton (in his capacity as Chair of the SDGs Delivery WG) and Alistair Jones. The Group is gathering thoughts, preparatory to working on the document together. Teresa Ponce de Leao offered to join the Group. This offer was accepted with appreciation.

13. Due to work commitments, Milan will not be able to take an active role until later in the year so an interim lead will need to be identified. Milan and Rodrigo both though offered to provide feedback on any draft texts developed.

14. Julian Hilton, Malika Moussaid and Alistair Jones met for a half day discussion in London in August to discuss UNRMS. Alistair has since developed a position paper that the Group is reviewing prior to meeting in Geneva on 26 September.

15. In response to whether SPE has any thoughts on UNRMS, the SPE representative advised that he would put the topic on the agenda of the OGRC meeting in Canada in October.

Item 6. AMREC Document

15. The AMREC Stakeholder Working Group is meeting in Namibia, 10-12 September.

16. The TAG has reviewed the AMREC document and provided comments to the AMREC WG. The AMREC WG representative advised that the WG will consider all the points proposed by TAG at its Namibia meeting.

17. A discussion took place on the status of the AMREC document and the need for consistency with UNFC to be maintained. A number of members noted that this would be challenging if it is a standalone document.

18. Noting the AMREC WG's support for UNFC to have its own petroleum specifications (the AMREC WG has advised that it does not want to use external systems such as CRIRSCO Template and PRMS), the SPE representative expressed concern over the need for and time it would take to develop such specifications.

19. It was noted that UNFC petroleum specifications should not mix in guidelines but be consistent in only providing rules of application.

20. The Chair underlined that the AMREC document is a significant achievement for the EGRM and thanked all those involved in its development.

Item 7. Technical Advisory Group update

21. The Bureau approved the TAG recommendation re the UNFC Wind Specifications (deadline for feedback was 6 September) and hence they will be submitted to the 28th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement.

22. The Bureau was requested to approve the TAG recommendation re the UNFC Solar Specifications with a deadline for feedback of 12 September. Assuming the Bureau is in agreement, the document will also be submitted to the 28th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy for endorsement.

23. Frank Denelle, representing the TAG Chair, provided an update on other TAG activities including a summary of the TAG call held on 27 August. All the Working Group Chairs have provided a work plan, the status of implementation of which is reviewed at every TAG meeting. The TAG has also discussed the UNFC revamp, the UNRMS concept note and all WG Chairs will provide a list of the parliamentary documents they will produce for EGRM-11.

24. The Chair thanked the TAG for its hard work and rigour.

Item 8. Committee on Sustainable Energy 28th Session

25. The 28th session of the Committee will be held, 25-27 Sept with the theme "Accelerating and Deepening the Transition to Sustainable Energy Systems". Both Gioia Falcone and the EGRM are planning to participate. Gioia will participate in her role as EGRM Pathways focal point on 25 September. The Chair noted that he will Chair the afternoon session of the Committee on 26 September in his role as Vice-Chair of the Committee. This session is focused on "Sustainable Resource Management". The first part of the afternoon will address "Gas pathways to 2050 and the interplay with renewable energy" and will be followed by a session on "Managing resources in a carbon constrained world" which will feature UNFC. The session structure is posted to the UNECE website:

“Most low-carbon technologies require vast amounts of critical raw materials. Energy efficiency, renewable energy, battery storage, nuclear energy, and carbon capture and storage all need critical raw materials. It will be essential to understand the geopolitics of current production and supply of critical raw materials and to explore widening the supply base if energy security is to be assured. Consideration of the socio-economic, environmental and technological issues related to the production and supply of critical raw materials needed for sustainable development will also be essential. UNFC and UNRMS are aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and designed for the sustainable management of critical resources in a carbon constrained world. This session will also consider how these tools can assist the management of resources in the move to carbon neutrality and delivering on the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Accord.”

26. The session is organized as follows:

Introductory remarks and moderation

Mr. David MacDonald, BP and Chair EGRM

Panellists:

- Alessandra Hool, Managing Director, ESM Foundation, Switzerland - Facilitating the energy revolution through sustainable access to critical raw materials (WILL COVER UNFC)
- King Lee, World Nuclear Association - Essential resources required for nuclear energy for sustainable development: Entry pathways project
- Roman Michalak, UNECE - The nexus approach to the sustainable use of natural resources in the UNECE region
- Mathy Stanislaus, World Economic Forum - Global Battery Alliance (GBA) – The Global Battery Alliance Roadmap 2030 (via Webex)

27. A Bureau member asked if hydrogen will be discussed during the Committee meeting underlining that it should be considered part of the energy mix going forwards.

28. The Chair noted he will provide an update on the work of EGRM and request endorsement of the UNFC Solar and Wind Specifications, the EGRM Work Plan for 2020-2021 as agreed upon at EGRM-10, and renewal of EGRM mandate for another five years to end-2024..

29. The Chair advised that he is also moderating the session on Gender on 27 September.

Item 9. UNECE Resource Management Week 2020

Documentation: List of events promoting UNFC in 2018–2019 as at 21 July 2019

30. The eleventh session of EGRM will be held 20-24 April 2020 at the Palais des Nations.

31. The theme for the Week was agreed as “The role of resource management in attaining the SDGs”. The first two days (20-21 April) will focus on the impact of UNFC on the SDGs in a workshop style format. A proposal was made to highlight the human aspect by including a session linking resource management and population growth. From 22-24 April, the standard EGRM items will be covered.

32. It was proposed that the EGRM follow the same way of working as the Committee on Sustainable Energy by having different Bureau members chair the meeting throughout the Work.
33. Bureau members were requested to assist with identifying topics for the agenda as well as speakers. Erika offered to explore with EITI if there is interest in delivering a keynote or other presentation. Roberto noted that the upcoming Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Metals and Sustainable Development could identify issues for the meeting to focus on.
34. The forecast for official documents for EGRM-11 needs to be submitted internally at UNECE by early October. The TAG has requested all WG Chairs to provide a list of official documents for the session. Bureau members were asked to submit proposals for documents by end-September.
35. The Chair briefed the Bureau on the proposal made by Mike Neumann (EFG) for a Young UNFC initiative. This has been taken up with enthusiasm by the Communications Sub-Committee. The Bureau supported the proposal and discussed how to best feature it at EGRM-11. It was suggested to ask universities to sponsor students or to ask for universities to sponsor their two best students thus incentivising students to work.
36. Rodrigo highlighted the EU INTERMIN project (International Network of Raw Materials Trainings Centres). He offered to discuss Young UNFC at the upcoming INTERMIN meeting to see if it could be included in their work programme. He also noted that EIT Raw Materials provides training at university level and could potentially help with outreach on UNFC.

Item 10. Education and outreach

Documentation: List of events promoting UNFC in 2018–2019 as at 2 September 2019

37. The Chair advised that the list of events was circulated with the documentation for the call.
38. The Chair drew attention to the workshop on UNFC organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and UNECE in Beijing on 31 August. Julian Hilton participated on behalf of UNECE. The Bureau placed on record its thanks to Mr. JU Jianhua and Ms. YANG Hua for their efforts to organize this event and to raise awareness on UNFC in China.
39. Teresa Ponce de Leao advised that she will be in Rio de Janeiro to participate in a meeting of the Association of Iberoamerican Geological and Mining Surveys (ASGMI) with a focus on hydrogeologists. She plans to promote UNFC and in particular plans to apply UNFC to groundwater. It was noted that a number of countries in Latin America are very interested to apply UNFC including Colombia and Mexico.
40. The 5th Meggen Raw Material Days, Meggen, Germany, 11–13 September, is proceeding as planned. Mike Neumann had advised prior to the call that he recommends there be more active UNFC training sessions at future events. However, the challenge is funding to cover the costs of the trainers.
41. The Tyumen Oil and Gas Forum featuring a workshop on “Promotion of UNFC and UNRMS for expansion of investment potential of Central Asian and BRICS countries”,

Tyumen, Russian Federation, 17-19 September. Scott Foster and the Chair are attending. Igor Shpurov and his team at GKZ were thanked for their support in organizing the workshop

42. UNFC Workshop, Chiangmai, Thailand, 7–8 November 2019. Sigurd Heiberg and Per Blystad are organizing this workshop with the support of CCOP and financial support for travel of speakers from PTT Exploration and Production Public Company Limited (PTTEP) which is a national petroleum exploration and production company based in Thailand. Thanks were extended to Dr Lee and Dr Tulyatid from CCOP TS for their support and efforts to promote UNFC and UNRMS in CCOP member countries.

43. European Commission Raw Materials Week 2019 featuring UNFC Workshop, Brussels, Belgium, 18–22 November. DG GROW (Milan and Rodrigo) is organizing this event). Scott Foster will speak on UNFC and UNRMS. Milan and Rodrigo were thanked for profiling UNFC during the Raw Materials Week.

44. Due to time limitations no other events were discussed and the Chair referred the Bureau to the list of events circulated as part of the documentation for the call. The Chair requested the Bureau to provide details of any meeting/workshop that is missing from the list.

Item 9. Date of next Bureau Call

45. The next Bureau call will be held during the weeks of 28 October or 4 November 2019.

Item 10. Any other business

(a) SPE Update

46. The SPE representative noted that the offer by SPE for EGRM to appoint an observer to OGRC would be discussed by the OGRC at its meeting in Canada in October. He advised that he would share the agenda for the OGRC meeting with the EGRM Chair.

47. The SPE representative noted that the OGRC had reviewed the Petroleum Working Group document “Global Resource Classification Systems for Oil and Gas: A Review and Comparison using SWOT analysis (as presented to EGRM-10 as room document EGRM-10/2019/INF.4). In the OGRC’s opinion the document should not be labelled as a SWOT analysis but rather an assessment of pros and cons of the various oil and gas classifications that offers a way forward. The MoU between UNECE and SPE was missing from the text in their view. The Chair advised he would discuss the document with the PWG Chair whilst noting that the document did not have an official status and had been prepared to see what existed etc.

(b) Secretariat support:

48. The Chair advised that Hari Tulsidas’ contract with UNECE ended 31 August due to the budget freeze in the UN which has stopped temporary contracts from being extended. UNECE is working to identify funding for his return. Charlotte is hence the only person now working on UNFC and EGRM issues in the secretariat. The Bureau expressed strong thanks and appreciation to Hari for his excellent support and hard work which has resulted in significant progress in uptake of UNFC around the world.

49. No other business was discussed.
