

ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy
Extended Bureau Meeting (via conference call)
15 May 2012

Report of the Meeting

Present: Mr. Sigurd Heiberg, Chairman
Ms. Barbara McKee, Vice-Chair
Ms. Svetlana Beznasyuk representing Mr. Talyat Aliev , Vice-Chair
Ms. Marie-Louise von Münchhausen, representing Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst, Vice-Chair

Secretariat: Mr. Scott Foster, Director SED
Mr. Gianluca Sambucini, Secretary CSE, SED

UNECE Extended Bureau, 16:00-17:00

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

1. The agenda was adopted as reflected by the report of the meeting.

Item 2 Report on informal UNECE Executive Committee consultations - *Report by Scott Foster*

2. The SED Director informed the participants on the status of the informal UNECE Executive Committee consultations. There is an improved overall ambiance in the informal consultations. The items under discussion are ten and the agreement is that all procedural issues would be deferred to another phase. First three items are now on the table for discussion and are close to consensus: energy efficiency, cleaner electricity, renewable energy sources.

3. Last informal EXCOM meeting took place on 10 May and agreed that a specific text for each item will be drafted for consideration by RF (energy efficiency), USA (electricity) and EU (renewable sources of energy) by early June. The UN Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Minerals Reserves and Resources (UNFC) and Coal Mine Methane (CMM) will be the next topics of discussion. Full consensus might be possible by the end of June. The EU observer agreed with the process and noted that the EU was not against working to reduce carbon intensities by improving fossil fuel use. One vice-Chairperson expressed appreciation on the positive attitude related to Carbon Capture Storage (CCS).

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Item 3 Report on the Executive Committee's review – Discussion by All

- (i) Delivery of review paper to EXCOM;
- (ii) Development of Conclusions and Recommendations for next CSE session

4. In the discussion it was noted that during the last informal EXCOM meeting, the EU observer expressed the view that the outcome of the review should be a programme that is: (i) results oriented; (ii) time-bound (iii) value added/ no duplication.

5. On the development of C&Rs for next Committee session, the intention is to work for a first draft by the mid of August which would allow the time for two or three rounds before the November session. The process must build on the outcome of the EXCOM's recommendations and conclusions of the annual meeting of 2011, reflecting new items emerging in 2012.

6. At a global level, UNECE and the other UN regional commissions will contribute to the implementation of Rio+20 outcomes for Sustainable Energy for All and the related International Year.

7. Decision: The meeting decided on a tentative schedule of steps and activities along these lines.

Item 4 Observations of relevance to the Bureau made by Extended Bureau members since the last meeting. Report by Extended Bureau members as appropriate – Discussion by All

8. A Vice-Chairperson informed on a forthcoming IEA meeting on Carbon Capture, Use and Storage (CCS) risk and how to address liability. The meeting is scheduled to take place on the 10th and 11th of July in Paris and the participation of the SED Chairperson and Director has been encouraged. All the US Government sponsored demonstration projects on carbon capture, use and storage are proceeding on schedule.

9. The Director has mentioned the cooperation with IEA on the UNECE energy efficiency activities. IEA has been nominated as chair of the GEE21 Group of Experts.

10. Discussion took place on renewable energy strategies. A question was raised about Europe's renewable strategy. While all energy measures should be clean(er) and efficient, the energy mix should be expected to vary between regions. Regional strategies would need to be listened to.

11. Shale gas is a newcomer on the energy scene that will remain important for some time.

12. Within the on-going SG's initiative of Sustainable Energy for All, UNECE is having a lead role on smart cities as well as on advanced coal technologies. The Chairperson has informed the meeting on the brochure on high impact opportunities recently finalized by the High-level Group of Sustainable Energy for All. A role for the RCs could be envisaged inter alia on topics related to multilateral agreements and normative instruments to mobilize the capital market for the changes needed to achieve sustainable energy for all. A Vice-Chairperson recommended the Division to

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liaise with Masdar on smart cities and with the IEA on advance coal technologies. While the Director felt an obligation to avoid duplication, a Vice Chairperson spoke in favour of not avoiding constructive duplication at all cost.

Item 5 The Bureau plan of work up to the Annual meeting

13. The following Bureau plan of work has been proposed:

5 rd of July	Physical Meeting of the extended Bureau in Geneva
5 th of September	Bureau Teleconference
27 th of November	Extended Bureau meeting in Geneva within the 21 st session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy
29 th of November	Extended Bureau meeting in Geneva within the 21 st session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Item 6. Other business

14. None was raised.