



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
6 February 2020

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Expert Group on Resource Management

Eleventh session

Geneva, 20 - 24 April 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eleventh session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Monday 20 April 2020¹

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Opening remarks.
4. Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Expert Group on Resource Management.
6. United Nations Economic and Social Council Decision 2004/233.
7. United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resources Management System guidelines and best practices for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals and support to the Food-Water-Energy Nexus.
8. Pathways to Sustainable Energy.
9. Development, maintenance and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System:
 - (a) Revision of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources;
 - (b) Development of the United Nations Resource Management System;

¹ Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations need to register at least two weeks prior to the session either online (<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52488>) or by e-mail (reserves.energy@un.org). Delegates are requested to present themselves at least 45 minutes prior to the meeting's start time at the entrance located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix, to obtain a badge. Registration at the Pregny Gate is open every work day from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The secretariat can be contacted by telephone (extension 75976 or 74140).



- (c) Minerals;
- (d) Petroleum;
- (e) Renewable energy resources;
- (f) Nuclear fuel resources;
- (g) Injection projects;
- (h) Anthropogenic resources;
- (i) Groundwater resources;
- (j) Commercial aspects and financial reporting;
- (k) Competent Person and evaluator qualifications;
- (l) Other potential applications.

10. Accommodating social and environmental considerations in the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System.

11. Application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in different geographical contexts.

12. International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects for implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System.

13. Women and diversity in resource management.

14. Education and outreach.

15. Cooperation with other organizations and entities.

16. Work plan for 2018-2019 and for 2020-2021.

17. Other business.

18. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.

19. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Documents for the session will be published on the website² as they become available. A tentative timetable is included in Section III of this document, and a revised detailed timetable will be posted closer to the meeting.

2. Election of officers

The Expert Group at its ninth session held in April 2018 elected a Bureau to serve until the end of the eleventh session. The Expert Group will be invited to elect a new Bureau.

² <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52488>

3. Opening remarks

Opening remarks will be delivered, including on the status of development of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) and how UNFC and UNRMS can help governments, industry, investors, and international organizations respond to modern challenges in the sustainable development of energy and mineral resources.

4. Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals

A workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be held on 20 and 21 April. In this context, the discussions will focus on a range of issues, including the role and importance of integrated and coordinated resource governance; the rights of local people and communities; how resource management and the work of the Expert Group can help ensure accurate monitoring of nations' progression towards net zero emissions and support the development of accelerating policies; and, ways in which resource management could help attain the SDGs as well as key SDG challenges faced in resource management.

A session will be organized profiling the work and experience of the First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC), amongst others, in resource management in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), reconciliation and industry engagement.

5. Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Expert Group on Resource Management

The secretariat will provide an overview of recent activities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy following its twenty-eighth session, 25-27 September 2019, as well as any decisions taken related to the work of the Expert Group including by the Executive Committee of ECE. The decisions include approval of the renewal of the five-year mandate of the Expert Group and approval of the Expert Group's work plan for 2020-2021; and endorsement of the specifications for the application of UNFC to solar resources and the specifications for the application of UNFC to wind resources.

6. United Nations Economic and Social Council Decision 2004/233

The Expert Group at its tenth session tasked the Bureau to review the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Decision 2004/233³ relating to the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources and to propose an updated or new draft Decision regarding UNFC and UNRMS for consideration by the Expert Group and subsequent submission to the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Expert Group will discuss the information presented.

7. United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resources Management System guidelines and best practices for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals and support to the Food-Water-Energy Nexus

The Expert Group at its tenth session requested the Bureau, in cooperation with the SDGs Delivery Working Group, to further develop and promote principles, methodologies and case studies for realization of the SDGs that can aid development of UNRMS. The attainment of

³ <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2004/decision%202004-233.pdf>

the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change requires a holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development of all natural resources. The current standards in resource management were developed to support a linear industry, fragmented into sectors such as minerals, petroleum, renewable energy, water and other resources, with limited focus on social and environmental issues. A new transformative system for sustainable management of resources that promotes circularity, enhances efficiency, eliminates waste, and strengthens interconnections transparently with all areas of society and the economy is required.

The role of UNFC and UNRMS in improving systemic efficiency in resource management and production, including in environmental performance as well as assuring a better quality of life will be discussed. The progress and work of the SDGs Delivery Working Group will be presented and discussed.

The concept note on “Development of detailed specifications, guidelines and best practices on the effective use of UNFC and UNRMS for sustainable development: Global values, regional circumstances, priorities and needs for resource management in the age of big data and artificial intelligence” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/7) will be presented and discussed.

An update on the ECE Nexus activity “Sustainable use of natural resources” to design and implement integrated policies in support of the 2030 Agenda will be presented and discussed.

8. Pathways to Sustainable Energy

At its ninth session, the Expert Group noted that the ECE Pathways to Sustainable Energy project under the leadership of the Committee on Sustainable Energy represents a unique opportunity for the Expert Group to explore the role of resource management in sustainable energy. The Committee has been assessing pathways that attain the energy-related SDGs and subsequent pledges made related to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. All subsidiary bodies under the Committee were invited to contribute to the resulting policy and technology dialogues. The Expert Group requested direct involvement in the project. In particular, the Expert Group wanted to contribute with its experience on environmental and social issues.

An update on the Project will be presented by the Vice-Chair of the Bureau nominated to represent the Expert Group in the project. The Expert Group will be invited to discuss the information provided and make recommendations on how it can best continue to engage in and contribute to the Project.

Should time allow the following will be briefly introduced: the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report “Global Warming of 1.5°C”,⁴ the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report 10 year summary,⁵ and the Shell Sky scenario.⁶ The Expert Group will then be invited to discuss implications for its work.

9. Development, maintenance and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System

The Expert Group will be briefed on the status of and progress made in the development, maintenance and application of UNFC for sustainable management of resources since the tenth session, including any recommendations from the Bureau of the Expert Group.

The Expert Group is tasked to develop and maintain UNFC through rigorous testing, review, and periodic updating.

The Expert Group will be briefed on the activities of the Technical Advisory Group.

⁴ <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

⁵ <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-10-year-summary>

⁶ <https://www.shell.com/energy-and-innovation/the-energy-future/scenarios/shell-scenario-sky.html>

A case study providing application guidelines and typical examples for the global application of the Bridging Document between the National Standard of the People's Republic of China Classification for Petroleum Resources/Reserves (GB/T 19492-2004) and UNFC (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/8) will be presented. A case study on the application of the Bridging Document between the National Standard of the People's Republic of China Classification for Resources/Reserves of Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities (GB/T 17766-1999) and UNFC (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/9) will also be presented.

The Expert Group will be briefed on updates needed to existing bridging documents and any potential new bridging documents under consideration.

The Expert Group will be briefed on a proposal to explore and review the combinations in the UNFC matrix not captured by the commonly-used Classes and Sub-classes, and the extent to which these combinations might help clarify national resource estimates reported by governments and international organizations.

Current applications of UNFC to sustainable management of mineral, petroleum, renewable energy, nuclear fuel and anthropogenic resources, as well as water and injection projects, will be discussed and reviewed. Commercial aspects and financial reporting will also be addressed.

(a) Revision of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources

The Expert Group at its tenth session recommended that the language in UNFC be revisited to be inclusive of the full spectrum of the various commodities and stakeholders of UNFC. The UNFC Update 2019 (ECE/ENERGY/125 and ECE Energy Series Number 61) finalized in December 2019 will be presented.

The Expert Group further recommended to simplify and update the UNFC category and sub-category definitions to build a framework that will be of greater value for UNRMS. Considerations for this substantive update of UNFC will be presented and discussed.

The Expert Group will review the information provided and be invited to make recommendations.

(b) Development of the United Nations Resource Management System

The Expert Group at its tenth session recommended the preparation of UNRMS as a tool for an integrated systems approach to the management of all resources, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda. The Expert Group requested the Bureau, in close cooperation with the SDGs Delivery Working Group, to develop the overarching principles of UNRMS and, subsequently, associated system structure including data management and specifications to support sustainable resource management. The Expert Group also requested the Bureau to prepare a short statement outlining who will use UNRMS, what information users need, and for what purpose UNRMS would be used. The concept note, including an assessment of potential users and stakeholders, core principles and a proposed road map for the detailed development of UNRMS, will be presented (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/4). The Expert Group will review and discuss the information provided and be invited to make recommendations on future activities.

(c) Minerals

The Expert Group will be briefed on the progress and any challenges in applying UNFC to mineral resources and the activities of the Minerals Working Group.

An update on the status of development of specifications, guidelines and case studies for application of UNFC to mineral resources will be presented.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(d) Petroleum

The Expert Group will be briefed on the progress and any challenges in applying UNFC to petroleum resources and the activities of the Petroleum Working Group.

An update on the status of development of specifications, guidelines and case studies for application of UNFC to petroleum resources will be presented.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(e) Renewable energy resources

The Working Group on Renewable Energy Classification will present its progress in developing a globally applicable classification system for renewable energy resources based on UNFC.

The Geothermal Energy Sub-group will present its progress on applying UNFC to geothermal energy.

The Bioenergy Sub-group will present its progress on applying UNFC to bioenergy.

The Solar Energy Sub-group will present its progress on applying UNFC to solar energy.

The Wind Energy Sub-group will present its progress on applying UNFC to wind energy.

Application of UNFC to other renewable energy resources such as hydropower and marine energy resources will be discussed.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and recommend next steps.

(f) Nuclear fuel resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the progress and opportunities to apply UNFC to nuclear fuel resources and the activities of the Nuclear Fuel Resources Working Group.

An update on the development of the draft document “Concept Note – The Role of Nuclear Energy in Sustainable Development: Entry Pathways” submitted to the tenth session (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2019/6) will be presented.

An update on the development of guidelines and case studies for application of UNFC and UNRMS for uranium and thorium resource management will be provided. In particular, the concept note “Integrated lifecycle management of nuclear fuel resources for sustainable energy” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/6) will be presented for discussion and review.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(g) Injection projects

The Expert Group will discuss the use of UNFC for classifying injection projects and the activities of the Injection Projects Working Group. An update on the status of development of case studies for application of UNFC to injection projects will be provided.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(h) Anthropogenic resources

Progress on the activities of the Anthropogenic Resources Working Group, including proposals for case studies for application of UNFC to anthropogenic resources, will be presented.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(i) Groundwater resources

The Expert Group will be briefed on the work of the Groundwater Working Group that was established in 2019. Issues and challenges related to application of UNFC to groundwater will be presented.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

(j) Commercial aspects and financial reporting

The Commercial Working Group will provide an update on commercial aspects and financial reporting, including its work to develop the document “UNFC Applied to Commercial

Assessments – Update” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/5). Discussion will be invited on the use of UNFC as a template to present commercial values of assets under framework conditions and market developments in a world where actions are taken to meet the SDGs in order to identify commercially viable as well as commercially stranded assets. Any progress on the development of guidelines to facilitate commercial assessments in a UNRMS context, including guidance on the use of information associated with the projects classified in the UNFC, will also be presented.

There will also be discussion around the possible use of UNFC as a basis for reporting portfolio resilience in the context of the recommendations of the Financial Stability Board (FSB) Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)⁷ and work recently done by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) with oil and gas companies on Climate-related financial disclosure by oil and gas companies.⁸

Potential implications for the Expert Group and its stakeholders on the issues discussed will be reviewed and recommendations made on any future action.

An update on financial reporting related to resource activities, potentially including activities of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), will also be provided.

(k) Competent Person and evaluator qualifications

The Competent Person Working Group will provide an update on its work, including on the establishment of a Network on Professional Development for UNFC practice as requested by the Expert Group at its tenth session.

(l) Other potential applications

The Work Plan for 2018-2019 notes that upon request the Expert Group will explore and develop additional applications of UNFC, provided such work does not compromise the Expert Group’s ability to fulfil its other obligations. It is noted that any new potential areas of work for the Expert Group are subject to the identification of extrabudgetary resources.

Should time allow, the Expert Group will discuss potential application of UNFC to other resources such as coal mine methane.

10. Accommodating social and environmental considerations in the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System

The Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group will present its work to develop guidelines on accommodating Social and Environmental Consideration in UNFC. A document prepared by the Working Group on “Principles of Resource Classification” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2020/3) will also be presented. This document describes the principles of classification that apply to all types of resources and, although the focus is on UNFC, the principles should also apply to other classification systems, including those that are aligned with UNFC. The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to offer recommendations.

A range of issues related to social and environmental considerations in the context of resource management will be debated, including the rights of local people and communities and best practices for successful citizen and community engagement.

⁷ <https://www.fsb-tcfd.org/>

⁸ <https://www.wbcd.org/Programs/Redefining-Value/External-Disclosure/TCFD/Resources/Climate-related-financial-disclosure-by-oil-and-gas-companies>

11. Application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in different geographical contexts

The Expert Group will be briefed on the increasing adoption of and interest in application of UNFC in various countries and regions, in particular, in the European Union, the Nordic region (Finland, Norway and Sweden), Africa, East and South-east Asia and Central and Latin America.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided and be invited to propose future work to manage global uptake of UNFC.

12. International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects for implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System

International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM) are a collaborative network of organisations that will focus on supporting sustainable development of the resources needed for development in line with the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The Centres are conceived to provide policy support, technical advice and consultation, education, training, dissemination, and other critical activities for managers and stakeholders involved in sustainable development of national resource endowments. Their mission is to advance global deployment of UNFC and UNRMS to secure, sustainably, the resources needed to support attainment of the 2030 Agenda.

The criteria for designation as an ICE-SRM and the generic Terms of Reference for an ICE-SRM will be presented. The status of establishment of national and/or regional ICE-SRM will also be presented.

The Expert Group will be briefed on progress in the implementation of extrabudgetary projects that support application of UNFC, including:

(a) improving national capacities of Central Asian countries to harmonize and implement internationally applicable system of classification and sustainable management of energy and mineral resources (funded by the Russian Federation), and;

(b) integrated energy and water resource management in support of sustainable development in South-East Europe and Central Asia (funded by the United Nations Development Account).

Progress to implement the UNFC resource mobilization action plan will be presented.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided.

13. Women and diversity in resource management

The Expert Group at its tenth session noted the powerful and positive benefits of diversity and inclusion in resource management and recommended the Bureau to monitor developments in improving the participation of women in resource management and to review the diversity and inclusiveness of the Expert Group's sub-groups. The Expert Group requested the Bureau and the SDGs Delivery Working Group to consider including inputs from similar activities in the development of UNRMS and to update the eleventh session accordingly.

The Expert Group will be briefed on the current status related to the participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership for them in resource management activities in line with the objectives of SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls".

The Women in Resource Management Initiative launched in 2019 will be presented and discussed.

The Expert Group will discuss the information provided, including how gender issues and the empowerment of women could be better addressed in the work on UNFC and UNRMS.

14. Education and outreach

The current activities and future work plans of the Communications Working Group will be presented to the Expert Group.

The Expert Group will review and discuss the events and workshops held in 2019 and 2020, as well as upcoming events in 2020 and 2021 to promote and educate on UNFC and UNRMS.

The Young UNFC initiative will be presented and discussed.

The Expert Group at its tenth session noted the need to provide efficient, digital tools to aid the understanding and use of UNFC and supported the plans of the Communications Working Group to prepare digital documents and create mobile applications (apps) to facilitate application of UNFC and UNRMS. Progress on development of digital solutions will be presented and discussed.

15. Cooperation with other organizations and entities

The Expert Group will discuss its current and proposed cooperation with other organizations and entities, including but not limited to, African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC), African Union Commission (AUC), Establishing the European Geological Surveys Research Area to deliver a Geological Service for Europe Project (GeoERA), European Federation of Geologists (EFG), EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Mining the European Anthroposphere Project (MINEA), European Investment Bank (EIB), EITI, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and UNEP International Resource Panel, with the objective to achieve synergies and complementarity of efforts and to avoid overlap and duplication.

The Expert Group will also discuss proposed cooperation with WBCSD and FSB-TCFD looking at roles UNFC could play for example when reporting portfolio resilience of oil and gas and/or energy companies.

The Expert Group at its tenth session requested the Bureau to ensure cooperation and sharing of information on the work of the Expert Group with the UNEP International Resource Panel and other bodies in the UN system working on issues related to resources, including their governance. An update on this will be provided.

16. Work plan for 2018-2019 and for 2020-2021

The Expert Group will discuss the status of the implementation of its work plans for 2018-2019 (ECE/ENERGY/GE.3/2017/2/Add.1) and for 2020-2021 (ECE/ENERGY/2019/11).

17. Other business

The Expert Group may discuss any other pertinent issues that arise before or during the session, and that fall within the scope of the terms of reference of the Expert Group. Delegations are encouraged to notify the secretariat and the Chair in advance if they wish to raise any issues under this agenda item.

The Expert Group will discuss the dates for its twelfth session to be held in Geneva in 2021.

18. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

The Expert Group will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations.

Where possible the draft conclusions and recommendations will be circulated to participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the meeting.

19. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the agreed conclusions and recommendations. The Expert Group will be invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau, following which the Chair will close the meeting.

III. Tentative timetable

Below is a tentative timetable. It is subject to change; an updated detailed timetable will be posted on the ECE Sustainable Energy Division website.⁹

<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
Monday, 20 April 2020	
10:00	1: Adoption of the agenda
10:10	3: Opening remarks
10:20	4: Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the SDGs
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00	4: Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the SDGs (cont.)
18:00	<i>End of the first day</i>
Tuesday, 21 April 2020	
10:00	4: Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the SDGs (cont.)
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00	4: Workshop on the role of resource management in attaining the SDGs (cont.)
18:00	<i>End of the second day</i>
Wednesday, 22 April 2020	
10:00	3: Opening remarks (cont.)
10:45	2: Election of officers
10:55	5: Activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and matters for consideration by the Expert Group on Resource Management
11:10	6: United Nations Economic and Social Council Decision 2004/233
11:25	7: UNFC and UNRMS guidelines and best practices for the delivery of the SDGs and support to the Food-Water-Energy Nexus
12:05	8: Pathways to Sustainable Energy
12:30	9: Development, maintenance and implementation of UNFC and UNRMS (a) Revision of UNFC
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00	9(e): Renewable energy resources
16:30	10: Accommodating social and environmental considerations in UNFC and UNRMS

⁹ <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52488>

17:30 9(a): Revision of UNFC (cont.)

18:00 *End of the third day*

Time *Agenda item*

Thursday, 23 April 2020

10:00 9(b): Development of UNRMS

10:45 14: Education and outreach
Development of digital solutions for UNFC

11:30 12: International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects for implementation of UNFC and UNRMS

12:20 9(j): Commercial aspects and financial reporting

13:00 *Lunch*

15:00 11: Application of UNFC in different geographical contexts

16:15 9(c): Minerals

16:40 9(d): Petroleum

17:05 9(f): Nuclear fuel resources

17:35 9(i): Groundwater resources

18:00 *End of the fourth day*

Friday, 24 April 2020

10:00 14: Education and outreach
Young UNFC

10:45 13: Women and diversity in resource management

11:45 9(g): Injection projects

12:00 9(h): Anthropogenic resources

12:25 9(k): Competent Person and evaluator qualifications

12:50 9(l): Other potential applications

13:00 *Lunch*

15:00 11: Application of UNFC in different geographical contexts (cont.)

15:45 12: International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and extrabudgetary projects for implementation of UNFC and UNRMS (cont.)

16:10 15. Cooperation with other organizations and entities

16:50 16: Work plan for 2018-2019 and for 2020-2021

17:10 17: Other business

17:20 18: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

17:30 19: Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

18:00 *End of the eleventh session*
