REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE SUPPLY AND USE OF GAS ON ITS EIGHTH SESSION

Introduction

1. The eighth session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas was held on 25 January 2007. It was attended by representatives from the following UNECE member States: Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Russian Federation, Serbia and Ukraine.

2. The officers of the session were as follows: Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Russian Federation), Chairman, Mr. Tamas Korosi (Hungary) and Mr. Ante Zedelj (Croatia), Vice-Chairmen.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 1)

3. The agenda was adopted (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2007/1).

II. DECISIONS OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON GAS OF CONCERN TO THE WORK OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS (Agenda item 2)


GE.07-21414
III. GAS NETWORKS BALANCING (Agenda item 3)


5. Decisions:

(a) To request the secretariat to send out to governments a questionnaire together with a sample-reply from Hungary;

(b) To invite governments to send their replies to Mr. S. Bogoly, rapporteur from Hungary (Mr. Sandor BOGOLY, Head of Capacity Management, MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Plc., Tanacshaz u. 5, 8600 SIOFOK, Hungary, Tel. +36 84 505 202, Fax: +36 84 505 218, Email: sbogoly@mol.hu, with a copy to the secretariat, before 1 July 2007;

(c) To invite Mr. Bogoly to prepare a draft report for the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.

IV. TECHNOLOGICAL STANDARDS AND NORMS REQUIRED FOR DESIGN AND OPERATION OF NGV FILLING STATIONS (Agenda item 4)

Documentation: (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2003/6)

6. Decisions:

(a) To nominate a new rapporteur for this project – Mr. Alexei Koposov (VNIIGAZ, Russian Federation);

(b) To invite Mr. Koposov to review the questionnaire, in consultation with the European Association for Natural Gas Vehicles, and to continue collecting data;

(c) To invite Mr. Koposov to prepare a draft report for the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.

V. DIAGNOSTICS OF GAS TRANSPORTATION LINES AND RISK MANAGEMENT (Agenda item 5)

Documentation: (ECE/ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5./2006.5)

7. Decisions:

(a) To invite Mr. Jiri Filippi to send a revised version of the questionnaire to the secretariat, before 1 April 2007;

(b) To request the secretariat to issue a revised version of the questionnaire, before 1 July 2007;

(c) To invite governments to send their replies to the questionnaire to Mr. Jiri Filippi (Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Na Frantisku 32,
110 15 Prague 1, Czech Republic, Fax: 420 2 2485 3345 and E-mail: filippi@mpo.cz), with a copy to the secretariat, before 31 October 2007:

(d) To invite Mr. Filippi to prepare a draft consolidated report for consideration at the next session of the Group of Experts;

(e) To thank Mr. Arkady Shabarov, Deputy Director of VNIMI (Russian Federation) for his offer to present a lecture on the role of geodynamic modelling in enhancing pipeline safety.

VI. METHODS FOR DETECTION OF GAS LEAKAGES DURING GAS INDUSTRIES OPERATIONS (Agenda item 6)

8. Decisions:

(a) To approve a revised draft questionnaire, prepared by Mr. Igor Ponomarenko, rapporteur from Ukraine;

(b) To request the secretariat to issue a revised version of the questionnaire, before 1 July 2007;

(c) To invite governments to send their replies to the questionnaire to Mr. I. Ponomarenko (Director, Foreign Relations Department, Ukrtransgas AC, 9/1, Klovsky uzzviz, Kiev, Ukrainel, Tel: 380 44 461 20 53, Fax: 380 44 461 20 89, E-mail: Ponomarenko.utg@naftogaz.net), with a copy to the secretariat, before 31 October 2007;

(d) To invite Mr. Ponomarenko to prepare a draft consolidated report for consideration at the next session of the Group of Experts.

VII. PROGRAMME OF WORK (Agenda item 7)

9. Decisions:

(a) To approve the proposal of Mr. A Karasevich to launch a new study on Gas Saving to Reduce Natural Gas Demand and Enhance Energy Security, to be implemented jointly by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts and the Working Party on Gas;

(b) To thank Mr. Karasevich for the invitation to take part in the International Week of Rational Use and Distribution of Gas, to be held in Moscow later this year (dates to be determined);

(c) To approve the programme of work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts, as reproduced in the Annex.

VIII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda item 8)

10. Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Russian Federation) was elected Chairman, Messrs. Ante Zedelj (Croatia) and Tamas Korosi (Hungary) were elected Vice-Chairmen for the next session.
IX. DATE OF NEXT SESSION (Agenda item 9)

11. The ninth session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts will be held on Thursday, 24 January 2008.

X. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 10)

ANNEX

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2007-2008

06.5.6 GAS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, STORAGE AND RATIONAL USE OF GAS (continuing)

06.5.6.1 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transmission systems: diagnostics of gas transmission lines – Diagnostics of Gas Transportation Lines and Risk Management (2004-2008)

Description: Study of various methods and techniques applied in the diagnostics of high-pressure gas pipelines in different countries.

Work to be undertaken: To send out the revised questionnaire and to consider replies at the next session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.

06.5.6.2 Methods for detection of gas leakages during gas industry operations (2005-2008)

Description: Review of new methods and techniques used for detection of gas leakages during its production, transport, storage and use.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of replies to the questionnaire and a draft report, prepared by the rapporteur from Ukraine.

06.5.6.3 Technological and ecological norms required for the design and operation of gas distribution networks

Description: To review existing norms, standards and techniques related to the design, construction and operation of gas distribution networks and household gas appliances.

Work to be undertaken: To suspend work on this topic.

06.5.6.4 Existing standards and regulations on permissible concentrations of harmful components in gaseous fuels and gaseous fuels combustion products

Description: To review and study standards and regulations applied in countries.

Work to be undertaken: To suspend work on this topic.

06.5.6.5 Gas networks balancing (2002-2008)

Description: Exchange of experience in balancing of gas transportation networks as an instrument to enhance security of gas supply.

Work to be undertaken: To invite delegations to send replies to the questionnaire.
06.5.6.6 Technological standards and norms required for design and operation of NGV filling stations (2002-2008)

**Description:** Inventory of existing standards (national and international) on compressed natural gas filling stations.

**Work to be undertaken:** To invite Mr. A. Koposov (VNIIGAZ, Russian Federation) to take over this project from the rapporteur from Portugal, to review the questionnaire and to continue collecting data. To present a report on this topic at the next session.

06.5.6.7 Gas saving to reduce natural gas demand and enhance energy security (2007-2009)

**Description:** To assess potential for the gas saving through technical, economic and regulatory mechanisms and its influence on gas demand elasticity and energy security in the UNECE countries.

**Work to be undertaken:** To hold a preparatory meeting with members of the Bureaux of the Working Party on Gas and the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas to determine the scope of the study and methods of work. To set up a Task Force for implementation of the study.

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