

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

From: Karen Hanghoj, Charlotte Griffiths, Hari Tulsidas and Slavko Solar

Call of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM)
Via Teams – 15:00 CET, 10 November 2023
MINUTES

	Present	Apology
Karen Hanghøj, United Kingdom (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hussein Allaboun, Jordan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Viktor Babashev, Kazakhstan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Cross, Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glen Burridge, EFG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mücella Ersoy, Turkey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gioia Falcone, IGA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrzej Głuszyński, Poland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sarah Forbes, United States of America	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milan Grohol, EC DG GROW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate</i> Robert Tomas, EC DG GROW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julie Hollis, EuroGeoSurveys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erika Ingvald, Sweden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marit Kitaw, AUC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate</i> Tunde Arisekola, AMDC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Branka Knežević, Bosnia and Herzegovina	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stig-Morten Knutsen, Norway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Joo Lee, CCOP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate</i> Songyang WU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luis Lopez, OLAMI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David MacDonald, EGRM Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Henri Paillere, IAEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Alternate</i> Adrienne Hanly, IAEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teresa Ponce de Leão, Portugal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ulises Neri, Mexico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satinder Purewal, TAG Co-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alexander Shpilman, TAG Co-Chair	<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"/>
Slavko Solar, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walker Darke, UNECE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ghadi Sabra, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maryam Sanni, UNECE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Guest

Ignatiy Volnov, SPE Oil & Gas Reserves Committee (OGRC) and LUKOIL Overseas Service Ltd.

Draft Agenda

1. Approval of Draft Agenda
2. Minutes of Bureau Meeting of 6 September 2023
3. UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document Proposal
4. UNECE Resource Management Week 2024 & EGRM-15
 - (a) Documents
 - (b) Draft list of EGRM-15 agenda items
 - (c) Proposals for sessions, speakers and lunchtime events
5. Update on UNFC Adoption Group
6. Update on G-axis Task Force
7. Update on UNRMS
 - (a) Asia-Pacific Energy Ministers Declaration
8. TAG Update
9. Update on UNECE Sustainable Energy Week 2023
10. Update on Projects
 - (a) Implementation of EC-funded project on UNFC and UNRMS Phase I
 - (b) Extrabudgetary project proposals
 - i. EU UNFC and UNRMS Project Phase II
 - ii. UK UNRMS Circular Materials Project
11. ISO Project Committee on Sustainable Raw Materials
12. Update on Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development
 - (a) COP28 side event on Critical Raw Materials
13. Date of Next Call
14. Any other business

Documentation:

1. Draft agenda for Bureau Meeting on 10 November 2023
2. UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document Proposal
3. EGRM-15 Documents – Updated List
4. Draft List of EGRM-15 Agenda Items
5. Update on UNFC Adoption Group
6. Update on G-axis Task Force
7. TAG Update
8. Approval of ISO/PC on Sustainable Raw Materials
9. List of Events in 2023 and 2024

Item 1. Approval of Draft Agenda

Documentation: Draft Agenda for Bureau Meeting on 10 November 2023

1. The draft agenda was approved. It was noted that Ignatiy Volnov, from SPE Oil and Gas Reserves Committee (OGRC), would participate as a guest and speak to Agenda Item 3 on the UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document Proposal.
2. Due to the availability of the TAG Co-Chair, it was agreed to take the TAG Update as Item 4 instead of Item 8.

Item 2. Minutes of Bureau meeting of 6 September 2023

3. The draft minutes of the Bureau meeting of 6 September 2023 were circulated on 28 October with a request for comments by 7 November 2023. No comments were received. The minutes have now been posted to the UNECE website.

Item 3. UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document Proposal

Documentation: UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document Proposal

4. The Chair invited Ignatij Volnov to introduce the proposal on the UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging Document.
5. The proposal is to integrate financial reporting standards for PRMS and UNFC in the context of SDGs and ESG requirements. The purpose and benefits of aligning these standards are outlined in the Concept Note shared with the Bureau as part of the documentation for the call. The Note emphasizes the broader impact of petroleum projects on society and the environment. It recommends cross-matching and aligning projects between the two frameworks, especially regarding social and environmental aspects, to assess potential risks and opportunities.
6. A UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging document (FINBridge 2024) is proposed to harmonize financial reporting between the two frameworks.
7. The integration of financial reporting standards, cross-matching projects, and the development of the UNFC-PRMS Financial Reporting Bridging document all aim to enhance transparency and responsible practices within the petroleum industry while aligning with global sustainability objectives.
8. Members of the Bureau underlined the integration of UNFC not only supports decision-making today but provides a model for future analysis and observation with social and environmental aspects. Furthermore, financial reporting is key to unlocking finance for projects, and makes this a timely intervention. There was a discussion on the current state of play of bridging documents between UNFC and PRMS. A Bureau member also asked about the negative aspects of undertaking this work. The importance of linking this initiative with the ICE-SRM being established in Kazakhstan for Central Asia.
9. The TAG Co-Chair underlined the importance to have a UNFC financial reporting document.
10. The Chair proposed that a Terms of Reference should be developed for this work, including any potential risks, and that this be delegated to TAG, noting the potential challenges facing this proposal.

Item 4. UNECE Resource Management Week 2024 & EGRM-15

Documentation: EGRM-15 Documents – Revised List

11. A draft list of potential parliamentary documents was circulated as part of the documentation for the call:

For translation

- Provisional Agenda
- Report
- Revised EGRM ToR and Mandate
- Revised criteria for International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management and Terms of Reference
- Updated UNFC-CRIRSCO Template Bridging Document
- UNRMS Case Study: Application of UNRMS to critical raw materials with the regional Government in Cornwall, UK
- Supplemental Specifications for the Application of UNFC to Groundwater
- UNFC case study (tbc)

English-only

- Updated Specifications for the Application of UNFC to Injection Projects
- Application of UNFC and UNRMS for commercial applications, valuation and data reporting (tbc)
- UNFC Adoption Group Update
- G-axis Task Force Update
- Case Studies for application of UNFC and UNRMS for Environmental, Social and/or Governance (tbc)
- Case Studies for application of UNFC and UNRMS in Mexico
- Application of the United Nations Resource Management System (tbc)
- UNFC Case Study (tbc)

- UNRMS Case Study (tbc)

12. The Chair noted that the first 8 documents are proposed for translation, the other 9 are English only. The list can be modified, including the document titles, up until 15 weeks before EGRM-15. Documents cannot be added to the list, nor can more documents be added for translation. There are several documents listed as “to be confirmed” so that there is some flexibility in the forecast should a pressing new document emerge, however, the UN is encouraging the secretariat to limit the number of parliamentary documents issued. The Chair noted that if a document isn’t delivered for EGRM-15 it could still be worked on post-EGRM-15.

(a) Draft list of EGRM-15 agenda items

Documentation: Draft list of EGRM-15 agenda items

13. A draft list of EGRM-15 agenda items was circulated as part of the documentation for the call. Once this list is finalized, the secretariat will develop the full annotated provisional agenda and circulate it to the Bureau for review and approval. The draft list was approved and will now be sent to the Working Group Chairs for comment.

14. In view that, we are in the implementation phase for UNFC and UNRMS, it was proposed to dedicate at least 2 to 3 hours to discussions on the ICE-SRMs since these will be key in building capacity on UNFC and UNRMS worldwide.

(b) Proposals for sessions, speakers, and lunchtime events

15. The Bureau members were asked for proposals for the sessions, speakers, including keynote speakers, as well as ideas for lunchtime time speakers. The two lunchtime lectures organized at EGRM-14 were well attended and well received.

16. Members of the Bureau suggested a higher-profile role for International Centre’s of Excellence to provide training on UNFC and get feedback from experts in the room.

Item 5. Update on UNFC Adoption Group

Documentation: Update on UNFC Adoption Group

17. The UNFC Adoption Group commenced at EGRM-14. The work of the Group, which is Chaired by Matthias Hartung, is divided into five work streams: Resource Governance, Business Management, Capital Allocation, Coordination & Capabilities, and Digital Enablement. The first three streams look at governmental, industry and financial perspectives while the last two are overarching ones. Each stream is preparing its part of the parliamentary document for EGRM-15.

18. It was noted that the UNFC Adoption Group will meet in London on 7-8 December so that each work stream can finalise its input for the parliamentary document.

19. The Chair thanked the UNFC Adoption Group for its hard work.

Item 6. Update on G-axis Task Force

Documentation: Update on G-axis Task Force

20. The Task Force, which is Chaired by Alistair Jones, initiated its work in September following Bureau approval of the Terms of Reference (ToR) and membership, conducting three online meetings with active contributions via shared documents and email discussions.

21. A document summarizing the use of the G axis in case studies was created by some Task Force members and reviewed and consolidated by the entire Task Force. This document covers various resource types, including Anthropogenic, Injection, Mineral, Nuclear, Petroleum, and Renewable resources (Bioenergy, Geothermal, Wind).

22. The Task Force is working on several key deliverables, including a final version of the G axis case study summary, a concise description of the G axis uses, options for the way forward with pros and cons, and a list of related issues that may require future follow-up work. The Task Force plans to write a Parliamentary Document for EGRM-15 to be issued in English only due to time constraints.

23. From an initial discussion the Task Force is split between two options (basically based on solid minerals and fluid hydrocarbons) and are not yet agreed on which is appropriate. Ideally, as the Task Force defines and discusses pros and cons, the members will come to an agreement on which option to recommend to EGRM. However, it may not be possible to achieve consensus because the requirements are diverse.

24. The secretariat noted confusion among some members of the Task Force that quantification is always carried out using statistical methods (deterministic or probabilistic), and other methods, such as spatial methods, are not used. It is important to note that quantification is done before classification, and the chosen methodology can significantly influence how quantities are classified. Hence, UNFC-2009 and UNFC (2019) specify two approaches for classification based on the underlying quantification methodology used. It is essential to clear the misunderstanding that only statistical methodology for quantification is presumed in UNFC which is not the case.

25. The Chair thanked the G-axis Task Force for its hard work.

Item 7. Update in UNRMS

(a) Asia-Pacific Energy Ministers Declaration

26. UNECE's sister regional commission, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), organized the Third Asian and Pacific Energy Forum in Bangkok, 19-20 October. The Energy Ministers in their Ministerial Declaration invited member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider applying the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) Principles and Requirements. A UNECE press release was issued on 24 October "[Energy Ministers in Asia-Pacific invite application of United Nations Resource Management System Principles](#)". This Ministerial Declaration follows the endorsement of UNRMS in July by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), amplifying the global momentum for UNRMS.

27. The recent G20 Youth Summit held in India further called for a "fair, circular and more sustainable supply of critical minerals for the energy transition, by including local communities in line with the principles of UNRMS and other similar internationally accepted initiatives.

28. The UNRMS Subgroup held a call on 26 October 2023 and discussed the following tasks that are currently in progress:

- Finalizing a publication on UNRMS resource servitization.
- Contributing to a joint policy paper on CRMs by the Regional Economic Commissions for COP28.
- Working on the application of UNFC and UNRMS to hydrogen management.
- Reviewing a UNRMS case study from the UK and making progress on several others in Mexico, Namibia and Uganda.
- Collaborate with ISO PC on Sustainable Raw Material Standards to have UNRMS integrated into the new standard.
- Planning webinars and workshops and exploring the possibility of a short course during EGRM-15.

29. The Chair of the UNRMS Subgroup extended an invitation to all Bureau members to a hybrid workshop being organized by LNEG on 16 November "[Palestra "Blockchain for intelligent supply chains" por Jairo Romo.](#)"

30. The Chair congratulated Teresa, Hari, and everyone else who was involved in developing the UNRMS Principles and Requirements.

Item 8. Technical Advisory Group Update

Documentation: TAG Update 1 November 2023 – Summary from Working Groups

31. The TAG Co-Chair provided a summary update of the activities of the Working Groups that were showcased by the Working Group leads during the TAG call on 1 November.

32. Minerals Working Group: Representatives from the Minerals Working Group attended a UNFC workshop in Georgia to discuss resource management. The aim was to share knowledge on UNFC resource classification, discuss experiences applying it to different resources, and explore potential

changes. The CRIRSCO Template and UNFC Bridging Document update was presented at the CRIRSCO AGM in Brazil. A webinar is being organized by the Geological Society of South Africa on 20 February 2024.

33. Groundwater Working Group: Has submitted draft specifications for UNFC in groundwater resources for public consultation. Final specifications are expected by EGRM-15. The GRWG presented their progress at the IAH conference and applied for a network under IAH. The EU Geological Service for Europe project is discussing a possible synergy with UNFC for CRM, geothermal sources, and groundwater resources.

34. Anthropogenic Resources Working Group: Anthropogenic Resources Working Group is involved in UNFC case studies, such as the FutuRAM project, and discussions with the G-axis Task Force regarding the application of anthropogenic resources.

35. Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group: The Social and Environmental Considerations Working Group is currently working on case studies for geothermal and bioenergy, applying the 2021 SEC guidelines and E-Axis. They have also completed case studies on offshore wind renewable energy, awaiting review by TAG.

36. Injection Projects Working Group: Injection Projects Working Group is currently processing the first round of internal reviews on the drafted (2019 update) specifications and next month the WG will have a second round after which the Chair hopes to submit a version to EGRM-15 for its feedback.

37. Renewables Working Group: Plans to update UNFC specifications for Solar, Wind, and Biomass. Recent developments in geothermal include cancelling the dedicated UNRMS/UNFC session at the World Geothermal Congress and the need to define a strategy to mitigate potential overlap of tools and activities between UNFC and SPE.

38. Women in Resource Management Working Group: The Working Group participated in a mining symposium in Italy and presented on opportunities for women in resource management. The Working Group also submitted a paper for publication and discussed critical raw materials and circularity. The Working Group is progressing with structuring the WG and planning new activities.

39. Sustainable Development Goals Delivery Working Group: Discussions with Chinese stakeholders emphasized the importance of UNRMS and UNFC in resource management. Other topics included responsible investments, critical raw materials management, and the EU CRM Act. These themes will be highlighted during the EU Raw Material Week. The Working Group is committed to developing open source blockchain and AI tools with a focus on narrow AI and criticality studies. Their goal is to promote responsible raw material management worldwide.

40. Commercial Applications Working Group: Suggested using UNFC as a standard for SASB industry-specific standards. ISSB changed from SEC rules to PRMS for petroleum and CRIRSCO Template for minerals. This may make it challenging to apply UNFC for a comprehensive E and F category basis. The ISSB expressed interest in simplifying SASB standards and researching UNFC application. However, it is uncertain if it can change SASB standards already implemented. The ISSB Secretariat welcomed further cooperation.

41. Communications Working Group: Promoted sustainable resource management through standard communication tools, including social media and newsletters. Issued a press release on the endorsement of UNRMS by ECOSOC. Now looking into autumn events and workshops, including high-level events on critical raw materials at COP28.

42. Nuclear Resources Working Group: Participating in multiple COP28 side events to promote UNFC and UNRMS frameworks and collaborating with IAEA and WNA. A bilateral meeting is planned between WNA's Director General and the UNECE Executive Secretary to discuss strategies for the sustainable management of nuclear resources and energy.

43. Competency Working Group: Will contribute to the Geological Society of South Africa's webinar on 20 February 2024. Discussions between AfDB and African governments regarding UNFC support and cooperation are ongoing. Registration for the Raw Materials Week workshop on "Responsible Sourcing and Traceability of CRM" is open. The event will also be accessible online.

44. Resource Management Young Member Group: Has been busy allocating member to other working groups, drafting a guidebook on critical minerals, collaborating on a workshop at IRTC 2024, participating in the G20 Youth Summit, and attending the Vienna Climate & Energy Forum 2023.

45. The TAG Co-Chair drew attention to the successful session on UNFC and UNRMS organized during the World Petroleum Congress in Toronto in September. He advised that the Minister of

Advanced Education for Alberta expressed significant interest in UNFC and UNRMS and requested to be sent information on them after the event, which was done. The Minister is in charge of universities and polytechnics in Alberta and worked at the Alberta Energy Regulator in the past.

46. The TAG Co-Chair advised that there is no update from the Petroleum Working Group as the Chair, Barbara Pribyl, has stepped down. He advised that Igor Shpurov has been nominated to take on this role and that this is supported by the PWG members. The Chair requested the secretariat to send details of this nomination to the Bureau by email with a request for support or otherwise within 7 days. Following discussion, it was raised that Bureau members should consider paragraph 3 of document [ECE/EX/2022/L.6](#) "Decisions relating to latest developments in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe" when recommending or otherwise the nomination.

47. The representative of IGA updated the Bureau that SPE is developing a Groundwater Resource Management System (GRMS). SPE has reached out to the Executive Director of IGA on this initiative. She was positive about engagement with EGRM on applying UNFC to geothermal. It was then noted that there is a proposal for a Groundwater Resource Management System to be developed based on PRMS. Bureau members were of the view that SPE expertise lies in petroleum.

Item 9. Update on UNECE Sustainable Energy Week 2023

48. A half-day session on Critical Raw Materials was organized during the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 13 September. The session, which included a specific focus on Central Asia, was well attended and well received by participants with lots of questions.

49. The Committee pronounced as follows on the work of EGRM as follows:

- Appreciated the accelerated implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) globally, especially in the European Union, with support from the extrabudgetary project.
- Noted the ECOSOC Resolution E/RES/2023/19 recommending the worldwide dissemination of UNRMS.
- Noted the importance of a global initiative aimed at sharing information on critical minerals markets and the vital role such an initiative plays in addressing data challenges and promoting sustainability. Acknowledged Central Asia's potential for the development of critical raw materials, while recognizing the barriers it faces. Noted the document on "Securing Access to Critical Raw Materials."
- Acknowledged the progress and importance of International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRMs) for disseminating UNFC and UNRMS.
- Noted the proposed development of an international hydrogen taxonomy and early warning system for critical minerals and resources under UNFC and UNRMS subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds.
- Approved the EGRM Work Plan for 2024-2025. The work plan is now posted to the UNECE website.

Item 10. Update on Projects

(a) Implementation of EC-funded project on UNFC and UNRMS Phase I

50. DG GROW, UNECE EGRM and two Horizon Europe projects (FutuRaM and Geological Service for Europe (GSEU)) are continuing to coordinate to develop the reporting templates called for in the proposed EU Critical Raw Materials Act. They are also planning promotional and capacity-building activities for the period before and after adoption of the EU CRMs Act.

51. A number of events on promotion and capacity-building of UNFC implementation in accordance with the EU Critical Raw Materials Act proposal have been organized and a number are in preparation. The next key event will be a half-day session on UNFC and the CRMs Act proposal on 16 November during the EU Raw Materials Week in Brussels.

(b) Extrabudgetary project proposals

(i) EU UNFC and UNRMS Project Phase II

Documentation: Draft Project Proposal EU UNFC & UNRMS Project Phase II

52. The second phase of the EC-funded project on UNFC and UNRMS project was approved by the UNECE Executive Committee at its meeting on 9 October 2023. The project will start at the beginning of 2024 and will last for 4 years, with a budget of Euros 3 million. Content-wise the project will be the continuation of the first phase with an emphasis on EU Critical Raw Materials Act developments and implementation of the Act after adoption. Currently the work programme details are being discussed with DG GROW.

(ii) UK UNRMS Circular Materials Project

Documentation: Draft Project Proposal UK UNRMS Circular Materials Project

53. A Project Proposal on “Implementing the United Nations Resource Management System for Circular Materials and Sustainable Resource Management in the UNECE Region” has been developed for \$480,000 funded by the UK Government.

54. The project aims to enhance UNECE member States' capacity to manage resources sustainably using UNRMS. It will develop technologies, policies and business models to enable circularity and sustainability of resources, reducing carbon emissions and promoting durable goods. Key areas include reducing resource use and carbon emissions in construction materials, responsibly sourcing metals and technology minerals, promoting high-quality metal scrap, and improving data delivery. The project will provide tools, case studies, policy recommendations, and best practices to assist UNECE member states. Activities include developing UNRMS-based tools, conducting studies to assess metal scrap management and low-impact use of critical raw materials, and devising policy models for a circular economy. It will also include the establishment of an ICE-SRM in the UK.

55. The project is expected to last 2.5 years and will likely be extended further if additional funding is identified.

56. The UNECE Executive Committee deferred the project's approval during its meeting on 9 October. The Russian Federation had several questions regarding the proposal and requested that they be addressed in an informal consultation with all UNECE members. The consultation was held on 10 November, all the member State representatives indicated they were supportive of the project proposal substantively and technically. The Russian Federation indicated it would not support the project if it is resubmitted to EXCOM because of the donor and listed a number of reasons for this decision.

Item 11. ISO Project Committee on Sustainable Raw Materials

Documentation: Approval of ISO/PC on Sustainable Raw Materials

57. During the UNRMS Sub-group meeting, Michal Haschke reported that the proposed ISO Project Committee on Sustainable Raw Materials has been approved by ISO. This proposal was put forward by Germany. The official letter with the ISO Management Board resolution was circulated as part of the documentation for the call.

58. Additionally, ISO has also approved the International Workshop Agreement (IWA) proposal by Standards Australia. Standards Australia has until 30 June 2024 to conduct its IWA.

59. Starting from 1 July 2024, the ISO Project Committee will run for three years with the secretariat managed by DIN (German Institute for Standardization), Germany. Michal Haschke is expected to be the Chair of this ISO Project Committee.

60. ISO has requested that the ISO Project Committee integrate the results of the IWA by Standards Australia and also submit a market need analysis before starting work on this standard.

61. During the UNRMS Sub-group call on 26 October, Michal Haschke advised that the ISO Project Committee will look into having an official liaison with UNECE so that UNRMS can be integrated into the new standard.

62. Members of the Bureau underlined what a significant achievement this is. The secretariat clarified that the current understanding is that the Project Committee with its focus on Sustainable Raw Materials includes all minerals and will link into related ISO Committees.

Item 12. Update on Working Group on Transforming the Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development

(a) COP28 Side Event on Critical Raw Materials

63. A side event on “Responsible and inclusive management of critical energy transition minerals will be held on 6 December 2023, 11:30 – 13:00 (GMT+4). The event is organized by ESCAP and UNECE with support from ECA, ESCWA and ECLAC.

64. The event aims to gather feedback from stakeholders on how to ensure that policy measures and investments in extractive industries support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN Regional Economic Commissions will present the Working Group's activities, and stakeholders will discuss promoting sustainable development in Clean Energy Transition Minerals (CETMs) within the energy transition context. It will also focus on the creation of principles to improve trust between consumers and producers.

65. The Working Group will also collaborate with another side event on: *Sustainable mineral supplies for the energy transition: why responsible mining matters*. This event is organized by the Government of the Philippines and ICMM. It will also be on 6 November immediately after the main Working Group side event.

Item 13. Education, Outreach, and Communications

Documentation: List of Events in 2023 and 2024

66. A list of events at which UNFC and/or UNRMS were presented or promoted or will be presented at upcoming events in 2023 was included as part of the documentation for the call. This is the busiest year to date with over 80 events that have happened or are scheduled with a focus on UNFC and/or UNRMS.

67. The Chair noted that she and the EGS Bureau member participated in the 59th CCOP Annual Session in Phang Nga, Thailand, 29 October to 2 November 2023. There were discussions on UNFC at this event.

68. The recent Almaty Energy Forum took place in Kazakhstan, and it included a half-day session on critical raw materials in Central Asia. Some members of the Bureau participated in the event. Recommendations were presented to enhance regional capacity and collaboration to address the policy fragmentation in the region.

69. Multiple news articles and press releases continue to be issued on all the activities highlighting efforts made in sustainable resource management.

Item 14. Date of next Call

70. The Chair proposed a short call during the weeks of 4 or 11 December 2023 to discuss issues for EGRM-15 and a regular length call in the second half of January 2024.

71. The regular doodle poll will be issued.

Item 15. Any other Business

72. The Chair thanked the members for their hard work and support.
