

**To:** Members of the Technical Advisory Group  
**From:** John Etherington, TAG Chair

<b>Technical Advisory Group Meeting</b> <b>11 November 2015 – 1:00 pm GMT</b> <b>MINUTES</b>
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*Attendees:* John Etherington, Andrew Barrett, Jan Bygdevoll, Alistair Jones, Dominique Salacz and Harikrishnan Tulsidas

*Observer:* Charlotte Griffiths

*Apologies:* Santosh Adhikari, John Barry, Danny Trotman, Maksim Saakian, and David Macdonald (Observer)

### **Approval of Draft Agenda**

1. The draft agenda was approved as submitted.

### **Minutes of TAG meeting of 14 September 2015**

2. The draft minutes of the 14 September 2015 meeting were approved and can be posted on the UNECE website.

### **Status Update: New GKZ Petroleum Classification Bridging Document – John Etherington**

3. At the request of the GKZ, a working session with the TAG was held 12–13 October 2015 in London to review progress on the new RF-2013 classification for oil and gas to UNFC-2009 bridging document. The Russian delegation consisted of four representatives of the GKZ and associated organizations; the TAG was represented by a subgroup of five members and the Bureau observer, David Macdonald.

4. The work session resulted in a consensus mapping of RF-2013 classes to the UNFC-2009 E/F-axis categories. There was not final consensus on consolidating G-axis levels of uncertainty by RF-2013 segments into field and project classes. The work session provided a valuable exchange of ideas and concepts allowing the TAG to better understand RF-2013 and the GKZ to better understand the UNFC-2009 bridging document requirements. Based on the work session results, GKZ staff are targeting delivery of a full draft to the TAG in early 2016.

5. Regarding timing, Charlotte advised on the document submission deadlines for the EGRC Seventh Session. For official documents to be translated into the three official languages, the submission deadline is 15 February 2016. However, the Bureau would need to have time to approve the document prior to submission. Another option available is to submit an official document but in one language only e.g. English or Russian – the deadline for this is three weeks prior to the session, so 5 April 2016. Official documents have an official UN document symbol and become an official part of the meeting record and are posted to the Official Document System of the UN (<http://documents.un.org/>). There is also an option to issue a room document which is an informal document in English or Russian – ideally room documents should be made available at least 10 days prior to the session but there is no fixed rule. Should the EGRC approve the draft Bridging Document at the Seventh Session, an

official document in all three languages could be prepared and submitted to the September 2016 meeting of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

6. John Etherington will advise the GKZ that to meet the above timetable and allow review by the TAG and approval by the Bureau, a draft bridging document should be made available to the TAG by mid-January or at the latest by early February 2016.

**Status Update: Bridging Document to Chinese Petroleum Classification – Dominique Salacz**

7. The TAG is awaiting an official English translation of the current Chinese classification system for petroleum. Dominique Salacz, the TAG contact person, is communicating with Yang Hua regarding a potential work session in early 2016. It is the intent of the Chinese to complete a bridging document prior to the 2017 EGRC meeting.

**Status Update: Bridging Document to Chinese Solid Minerals Classification – Roger Dixon**

8. The TAG is awaiting further communication from the Chinese including provision of an English version of the current Chinese classification system. Roger will contact Mr. Li to get a progress report. It is intent of the Chinese to complete a bridging document prior to the 2017 EGRC meeting.

**Status Update: Renewables – Geothermal and Bioenergy Projects – Alistair Jones**

9. As discussed in the last TAG meeting, Alistair Jones will coordinate the TAG's interface with all Renewables projects and remain the primary contact for Bioenergy. Andrew Barrett has volunteered to be the primary TAG contact for the Geothermal Working Group in coordination with Alistair. The G-axis Working Group is also being administered by the Renewables Task Force; Dominique Salacz will be the primary contact for this sub-group study and coordinate with Alistair.

10. The Geothermal Working Group plans to have a draft Specifications Document available for discussion at the 2016 EGRC meeting. A series of "white papers" are being developed as part of their studies. The Bioenergy Working Group will not be presenting a draft bioenergy specification to the EGRC, only an update on the status of progress made.

11. The Renewables Task Force has a conference call scheduled on 12 November and Charlotte will remind the Task Force to keep the TAG contacts informed on plans and schedules. All Specification Documents are subject to TAG review and Bureau approval in a similar manner to Bridging Documents.

**Status Update: Specifications for the Application of UNFC-2009 to Injection Projects for the Purpose of Geological Storage – Jan Bygdevoll**

12. The Task Force is currently reviewing the comments from the public comment period that ended 15 September and implementing appropriate comments in a revised draft. In addition, the Task Force will provide a supplemental report explaining where changes have been made, and why certain comments have not resulted in a change.

13. The revised draft Specifications Document and supplemental report will be available for TAG review in late 2015 or early 2016.

#### **Status Update: Uranium/Thorium Guidelines and Case Studies – Harikishnan Tulsidas**

14. The Guidelines for Application of United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 for Uranium and Thorium Resources were finalized in September after the Public Comment period (25 June to 20 August 2015). After TAG review (assisted by Mr. Jean René Blaise) a final recommendation for acceptance of the document was issued on 19 October 2015. The document, which was subsequently approved by the EGRC Bureau, is now being submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for review and endorsement at its 18 November 2015 meeting.

15. This document was also approved on 26 October 2015 by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for publication as Special IAEA – UNECE joint publication.

16. The eight case studies on application of UNFC-2009 to nuclear fuel resources which were also issued for public comment with the uranium guidelines will be published separately as an electronic only publication by UNECE before end-2015.

#### **Other Business**

##### **E-axis Working Group – John Etherington**

20. The E-axis Sub-group chaired by David Elliott circulated an early draft discussion document for Bureau comments due back 14 September. A formal report will be submitted for TAG review later in 2015. The draft discusses the lack of guidance around non-economic contingencies such as environmental issues and their impact on project viability.

##### **G-axis Working Group – Alistair Jones/Dominique Salacz**

22. Following this year's EGRC meeting, a new working group was established reporting into the Renewables Task Force. Its remit is to consider the extension of the definition and revision of the name of the G-axis to be more applicable to renewables whilst maintaining robustness for minerals and petroleum. The WG includes representatives from the minerals sector (Paul Bankes) and the petroleum sector (Jim Ross). Proposals will be shared with the TAG for comments and recommendation before submitting to the Bureau.

23. A copy of the G-axis terms of Reference was circulated following the call.

##### **Project Definitions Study**

24. The EGRC Work Plan for 2016-2017 calls for the Bureau to review and prepare a guidance note on the definition of a project in relation to UNFC-2009. Jim Ross is preparing the first draft which is likely to be issued towards the end of November. While a project was originally defined in UNECE Series 42 (page 29) as utilized in petroleum and solid minerals assessments, it may require some modification as applied to renewables.

## Support Activities

25. The TAG received a request for assistance from Siddarartha Kulkarni of Soiltech (India) on 2 September regarding application of UNFC-2009 to a minerals project. Roger Dixon submitted a response.

## UNFC Document Process and Timetables

26. Charlotte Griffiths was requested to provide the TAG an overview of the process and timetables to meet the UNECE requirements regards “official documents” versus “unofficial documents” regards submittals to the EGRC and subsequently to the Committee on Sustainable Energy. Once we clarify these timetables, we can advise the Working Groups/Task Forces of the associated timing required for TAG Reviews and Bureau approvals.

The timetable is as follows:

### EGRC Seventh Session, 26–29 April 2016

#### *Document submission deadlines*

- Official document for translation in all languages: 15 February 2016
- Official document in English only: 5 April 2016
- Room (unofficial) documents : no official deadline but ideally by 14 April 2015

### Committee on Sustainable Energy, 28–30 September 2016

#### *Document submission deadlines*

- Official document for translation in all languages: 18 July 2016
- Official document in English only: deadline 7 September 2016

## TAG Membership

27. Michael Lynch-Bell has decided to step down from the TAG. We thank Michael for his support of the TAG during its formative phase.

28. The Russian Federation has nominated Alexander Shpilman to join the TAG; his nomination has been forwarded to the Bureau and following a review period the nomination has been confirmed. Dr. Shpilman was a key contributor in the October GKZ-TAG work session and his experience and expertise will enhance TAG’s ability to review future projects.

29. The TAG notes that Dominique Salacz will be leaving Addax Petroleum and forming a private consulting firm. Dominique will continue his TAG membership and his new email address is: [dominique.salacz@evolution-resources.com](mailto:dominique.salacz@evolution-resources.com).

## Next Meeting

30. The next meeting will be scheduled during the period 4-8 January 2016. Charlotte will provide alternative dates in a “doodle poll”.

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