



**ECE Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE)
Bureau Call
Copenhagen, 7 February 2017, 13:00 - 14:00**

Bureau Call Report, 16 February 2017

Attendance

GEEE Bureau:

Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Chair, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Mr. Zlatko Pavičić, Vice-Chair, Croatia
Ms. Natalia Jamburia, Vice-Chair, Georgia
Ms. Gabriela Prata Dias, Vice-Chair, Portugal
Mr. Valeriy Pysarenko, Vice-Chair, Ukraine (with assistant Mr. Taras Shevchenko)
Mr. Tim Farrell, Vice-Chair, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency
Mr. Benoît Lebot, Vice-Chair, International Partnership on Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC)
Mr. Martin K. Patel, Vice-Chair, University of Geneva
Mr. Hannes Mac Nulty, Vice-Chair, BG Consulting Engineers

Secretariat, ECE Sustainable Energy Division (SED):

Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski

Apologies received:

Mr. Vugar Jabbarov, Vice-Chair, Azerbaijan (was not possible to establish connection due to technical problems)
Mr. Andrei Miniankou, Vice-Chair, Belarus
Mr. Christian Noll, Vice-Chair, Germany
Mrs. Antonela Solujic, Vice-Chair, Serbia
Mr. Stefan Buettner, Vice-Chair, EEP - Institute for Energy Efficiency in Production

Main discussion points

Item 1. Chair's welcome.

Aleksandar Dukovski, Chair of GEEE, opened the conference call and welcomed the participants.

Item 2. Approval of the Agenda.

Chair proposed to approve the Agenda as presented. Agenda was approved as presented.

Item 3. Status of implementation of the Work Plan for 2016-2017.

Chair opened discussion on the status of implementation of the Work Plan for 2016-2017.

Under **Activity A**, *Exchange of know-how and best practices in selected economic sectors on how to significantly improve energy efficiency in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region*, the work continues. Progress on implementation was reported at the third session of GEEE in Baku in October 2016. A document with the Annex Best practices in energy efficiency: high impact policies and measures was presented at the session. It was a follow-up to the ECE publication “Best Policy Practices for Promoting Energy Efficiency” and provides additional exemplars of successful high impact policies and measures to policy makers that they can use in developing energy efficiency policies and programmes in their countries. Events organized by GEEE in cooperation with other partners, such as several workshops in the framework of the 7th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, workshop Holistic Approach to Accelerating Energy Efficiency Action on 6 June 2016 in Amsterdam, and workshop Policy Maker Meets the Engineer on 18 January 2017 in Geneva, also support this activity.

Under **Activity B**, *Exchange of know-how and best practices on the role of standards and guidelines to significantly improve energy efficiency in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region*, the emphasis is in the area of energy efficiency in buildings. The Joint Task Force with the UNECE Forests, Housing and Land Management Division has been created and two co-chairs from each Division have been elected. However, the work of the Task Force is dependent on the availability of funding. While there is interest from Germany and some other countries in supporting this activity, the funding has not yet been secured. In the meantime, work in this area has been focused on developing framework guidelines for energy efficiency in buildings. The Framework Guidelines on Building Efficiency was included as an Annex to the Draft Outcome Document of the Ministerial Conference and 8th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (to be held in Astana in June 2017), which was discussed at the resumed 25th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy. While the Draft Outcome Document was endorsed by the Committee, the Annexes were not included. Work continues on improving the draft of the Framework Guidelines with the aim of having it approved at the Ministerial Conference. This would be a practical deliverable under this activity. One next step would be the organization of a training programme, which has been strongly promoted by Vice-Chair of GEEE Christian Noll and Co-chair of the Task Force Dr. Burkhard Schulze Darup. The Chair emphasized importance of securing additional funding for this activity.

Under **Activity C**, *Exchange of approaches and best practices for utilities and energy services companies to improve energy efficiency in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region, including quality of service regulation*, Vice-Chair Martin Patel is the leader. The document “Role of utilities and energy service companies in improving energy efficiency. Background paper on energy efficiency programmes operated by a Swiss utility” was presented at the 3rd session of GEEE based on the documents provided by Martin Patel. As the Group has limited expertise in this area, cooperation with other Groups of Experts, particularly with the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels would be valuable. Martin Patel mentioned that Switzerland started an initiative to scale up activities at the utility in Geneva to other locations. It may include provision of protocols and guidelines that can potentially be used in other places. However, it may be too early to have something ready this year. There is a possibility to discuss this with the local utility and come back to the Group. Chair emphasized that a clear direction on this item is needed, as well as to whether and how the Group can continue this activity in the future.

Under **Activity D**, *Regulatory and policy dialogue addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency*, Oleg Dzioubinski is conducting a policy analysis on overcoming barriers to investing in energy efficiency while on UN Sabbatical Programme at the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency with support from Vice-Chair Tim Farrell and other colleagues at the Centre. A survey on the topic has been developed, posted and distributed in January 2017 and closed on 7 February 2017. About 350 substantive responses have been received globally, which included representatives from non-UNECE

member States. The analysis of the survey and the report will focus mainly on the UNECE region but will include some data from outside the region.

Under **Activity E**, *Facilitate engagement in the Global Energy Efficiency Accelerator Platform*, Tim Farrell is the leader as the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency serves as a hub for this SEforALL activity. He mentioned that the primary focus of the GEEE has been on work relating to Buildings Efficiency and Industrial Efficiency Accelerators. The GEEE provides strong support for strengthening the activities of the accelerators. Specifically, on Industrial Energy Efficiency accelerator, a workshop jointly led by UNIDO and the Copenhagen Centre was held as part of the 3rd session in Baku in October 2016, and a workshop Policy Maker Meets the Engineer was held in Geneva in January 2017. Hannes Mac Nulty, who developed the workshop concept described its objectives and the main outcomes, as well as the next steps in pursuing this initiative. The Workshop was a success and it covered problems not sufficiently addressed by any other organization. A news article and workshop summary are also available on the UNECE website. This work also fits under **Activity A** of the current Work Plan. The next steps include the second workshop to be held at the 8th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Astana, possible working group with UNIDO and similar workshops at the national level in pilot countries. Aleksandar Dukovski suggested to draft a paper on the barriers to industrial energy efficiency. Developing business models could be considered as there is strong interest from both companies and governments. It was noted that the Group has strong expertise on this.

The Bureau approved the status of implementation of the current Work Plan.

Item 4. Recent and upcoming GEEE-related events in 2017.

The following events were discussed.

- Policy Maker Meets the Engineer Workshop in Geneva on 18 January 2017 (discussed under the previous item).
- 25th resumed session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy on 19 January 2017. Oleg Dzioubinski reported that the session endorsed the report of the session and the draft Outcome Document of the Energy Ministerial Conference in Astana in June 2017. A section of the report is related to the work of the Group of Experts. GEEE is requested to submit a draft work plan for 2018-19 to the Committee for its approval and extension of the mandate of GEEE. As the session of GEEE (31 October-1 November 2017) will take place after the Committee session (26-28 September 2017), the draft plan would have to be agreed by the Group by written procedure. The Chair suggested that a draft work plan is prepared before the Forum and Ministerial in Astana in June 2017.
- Energy Ministerial and 8th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Astana on 11-14 June. Several events on energy efficiency are planned at the Forum with various partners, including on industrial energy efficiency, building efficiency, smart cities and possibly a joint event on energy efficiency and renewable energy. Participation of the Bureau members and other GEEE members is strongly encouraged. It was proposed that Bureau members that represent countries approach their respective ministries to encourage participation of Ministers in the Ministerial Conference on 11 June 2017.
- 26th CSE session in Geneva on 26-28 September 2017. As discussed, the objective is to prepare a draft Work Plan for 2018-19 to be reviewed and endorsed by the CSE session. The Chair suggested focusing on things that the Group can do, where its contribution is different from others, and can deliver tangible results. There is also a strong push to cooperate more with other Groups of Experts.

- 4th GEEE session in Geneva on 31 October-1 November 2017. The session will take place after the CSE session. The session will review the implementation of the current Work Plan and approve the Work Plan for 2018-19 (based on what the CSE endorsed).

Item 5. Development of the draft Work Plan for 2018-2019.

Chair proposed to think about activities that can be included into the draft Work Plan over the next two weeks. Bureau members are requested to provide ideas and concrete proposals by Friday, 24 February 2017 by sending them by e-mail to Oleg Dzioubinski with a copy to Aleksandar Dukovski (and optionally to the Bureau). The Secretariat and Chair will consider incorporating them in the first draft of the Work Plan. It would be good to outline ideas that have a good potential to be funded and provide explanation for them. Zlatko Pavičić promised to send a proposal by 20 February 2017. It was stressed that it would be good to have a champion (leader) within the Bureau for a particular activity. Natalia Jamburia and others supported the discussed proposals.

Item 6. Other business.

Oleg Dzioubinski informed the Bureau of the developments under two major projects led by the World Bank under the SEforAll initiative that are related to the work of GEEE: **Global Tracking Framework (GTF)** and **Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)**.

The World Bank had a draft GTF report open for comments until 13 February 2017. It contains a chapter on energy efficiency and a regional chapter on UNECE region. The report is scheduled to be launched at the SEforALL Forum in New York from 3-5 April 2017. A consultant for the regional chapter on UNECE (Robert Tromop) has been working on behalf of UNECE. A larger report specifically on the UNECE region is to be prepared by June 2017 and launched at the Forum in Astana.

The **RISE** report was launched on 15 February 2017 and is available at: <http://rise.worldbank.org/>. Tim Farrell, Scott Foster, and Oleg Dzioubinski participated in the RISE External Advisory Group on Energy Efficiency. Monitoring and promotion of the RISE Initiative is part of the Activity A of the current Work Plan.

Taras Schevchenko, on behalf of Valeriy Pysarenko (who had to leave the call earlier) informed the Bureau of the upcoming 9th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development that will be held in Ukraine in 2018. More information will be provided in the coming weeks. The Chair expressed gratitude to Kazakhstan and Ukraine for hosting the Forum in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Aleksandar Dukovski, Chair of GEEE, thanked the participants and closed the conference call.