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Committee on Sustainable Energy

Expert Group on Resource Management**Fifteenth session**

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Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Enhancing expertise, adoption and implementation: Mandate, governance and work plans for 2022-2023 and 2024-2025 and the evaluation of activities**Revised Mandate and Terms of Reference
of the Expert Group on Resource Management*****Prepared by the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management***Summary*

The mandate of the Expert Group on Resource Management expires on 31 December 2024 (EXCOM/CONCLU/108, para 22). The Expert Group is invited to consider if it wishes to request the Committee on Sustainable Energy to extend its mandate for another five-year term until 31 December 2029.

The Expert Group is also invited to consider if it wishes to propose any revisions to its Terms of Reference, including to align the text with the approved work plan of the Expert Group for 2024-2025.¹ The current Terms of Reference were approved by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Executive Committee at its 102nd meeting (14 December 2018) (EXCOM/CONCLU/102, para 10).² The proposed revised Terms of Reference prepared by the Bureau of the Expert Group are included in this document. To facilitate review, the amendments to the previously agreed Terms of Reference of 2018 are presented for information showing the proposed additions in underlined text and deletions in strikethrough text.

* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.

¹ <https://unece.org/sed/documents/2023/07/reports/work-plan-expert-group-resource-management-2024-2025>

² https://unece.org/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Agenda/2019/EXCOM_103_1_Feb_2019/EXCOM-Conclu-102.pdf

Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Expert Group on Resource Management³

1. The Expert Group on Resource Management is mandated until 31 December ~~2024~~ 2029 to carry out concrete, results-oriented activities in the work areas and with the objective mentioned below.

A. Objective

2. Develop, promote and support the implementation of a global system which can be used as a tool for the sustainable management of natural resources to support attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

B. Areas of Work

3. Development and deployment of a United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) grounded in the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) comprising principles, specifications, guidelines, application protocols (procedures and checklists) and best practices to aid sustainable management of energy, raw materials and other resources.

C. Concrete activities

(a) Develop, maintain, promote, and facilitate implementation of a comprehensive UNFC. This work will involve improving and further developing principles, specifications, guidelines, best practices and case studies to support sustainable management of energy and raw materials (including, but not restricted to, renewable energy, anthropogenic resources, minerals, petroleum, and nuclear fuel resources, groundwater resources and hydrogen) in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change mitigation (including through support for carbon capture and storage);

(~~ba~~) Develop, maintain and promote a comprehensive UNRMS that is compliant with UNFC and applicable to the resource life cycle and value chains. This work will involve improving and further developing principles, specifications, guidelines, application protocols, best practices and case studies to support sustainable management of energy and raw materials within the UNRMS framework (including, but not restricted to, renewable energy, anthropogenic resources, minerals, petroleum, ~~and~~ nuclear fuel resources, groundwater resources and hydrogen) in alignment with the ~~Sustainable Development Goals~~ (SDGs) and climate change mitigation (including through support for carbon capture and storage);

(~~cb~~) Provide UNFC and UNRMS training materials and a toolkit to support policymaking, national resource management planning and execution, business process innovation, capital allocation, financial reporting, sustainable development monitoring and reporting, with consideration of environmental and social factors as well as local needs and priorities in sustainable resource management, for the attainment of the SDGs;

(~~de~~) Develop principles, specifications, bridging documents, guidelines and protocols that support development of a project through all stages from conceptual studies, exploration/initial investigations, feasibility studies to production, eventual closure, site remediation and handover;

(~~ed~~) Elaborate guidelines for recognition and strengthening the capabilities of ~~competent persons~~ qualified experts in sustainable resource management and conduct related capacity-building, training courses, promotion and outreach programmes;

³ The amendments to the previously agreed Terms of Reference of 2018 are presented showing the proposed additions in underlined text and deletions in strikethrough text.

(fe) Support dissemination, application, adoption and implementation of UNFC and UNRMS in different regions and countries in cooperation with the other UN regional economic commissions and International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRMs) that meet the UNECE criteria. Coordinate the UNECE Network of ICE-SRMs;

(gf) Promote activities related to empowering women and addressing diversity and inclusion in the resource management sectors;

(hg) Engage in intergenerational issues with a focus on youth in the context of sustainable resource management;

(ih) Attract and channel extrabudgetary resources ~~through a UNFC UNRMS Trust Fund~~ for support of the aforementioned activities and regional-, national-, and industrial-level applications;

(j) In addition, ~~UNECE~~ member States ~~of the Economic Commission for Europe~~ could decide to develop other concrete and results-oriented activities within agreed mandates.
