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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Gas

Tenth session

Geneva, 23-24 March 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, and online, starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday 23 March 2023.*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Opening remarks.
3. Election of officers.
4. Activities and priorities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Sustainable Energy.
5. Sustainable Development Goals.
6. Hydrogen.
7. System resilience and security of supply.
8. Methane emissions.
9. Carbon capture, use and storage.
10. Emerging issues and work plan for 2024-2025.
11. Update on activities in member States, the gas industry, and organizations (*tour de table*).
12. Preparations for the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Gas.

* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to register online. Please register at <https://indico.un.org/event/1002060/>. Should you experience difficulties with registering online, please send a message to: natural.gas@un.org. Delegates participating in person are requested to present themselves at least 45 minutes prior to the start time at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, temporarily located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, Avenue de la Paix 13, Geneva. Please see [UN Geneva Guidance on accessing the Palais des Nations](#) (including security information, maps, and information on transportation). Registration is open every working day at the Villa Les Feuillantines from 8.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.



13. Any other business.
14. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.
15. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda. The documents for the session will be published on the ECE Sustainable Energy Division natural gas website,¹ as soon as they become available.

2. Opening remarks

The Chair of the Group of Experts will outline efforts by the Group of Experts to help ECE member States deliver on key political commitments such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of the 2022 Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27).

3. Election of officers

At its ninth session held in March 2022, the Group of Experts elected a Bureau to serve for a period of two years, until March 2024. The Group of Experts will be informed about possible changes in the Bureau.

4. Activities and priorities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Sustainable Energy

The secretariat will brief the Group of Experts on the outcomes of the thirty-first session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (the Committee) (Geneva, 21-23 September 2022).

5. Sustainable Development Goals

The Group of Experts will explore how gas could help accelerate the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The discussion will focus on the nexus natural gas-health, energy poverty, and the gas-driven economic and social development in Africa.

6. Hydrogen

At its thirty-first session, the Committee requested the Group of Experts on Gas to lead the work on hydrogen, in close collaboration with the other groups of experts, and to develop a Terms of Reference for this work by the Committee's thirty-second session. To this end, the Group of Experts will discuss the draft "Hydrogen Task Force - Terms of Reference" (ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2023/4) and provide its recommendations.

In addition, the Group of Experts will consider several topics, such as technical and political challenges in hydrogen-natural gas blending, hydrogen emissions, hydrogen production challenges, and hydrogen classification.

¹ <https://unece.org/sustainable-energy/events/10th-session-group-experts-gas>

7. System resilience and security of supply

In October 2022, the Group of Experts organized, for the benefit of the Geneva-based Permanent Representations, a dialogue “Energy system resilience: The future of gas supply in Europe” (ECE/ENERGY/GE.8/2023/3). The event stemmed from the core mandate of the Group of Experts – to provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on sustainable and clean production, distribution, and consumption of gas in the ECE region. Following this event, the Group of Experts will discuss some of its findings and implications in Europe and the world beyond.

8. Methane emissions

The Group of Experts will review recent developments and international efforts in managing methane emissions along the gas value chain.

9. Carbon capture, use and storage

The Group of Experts will be updated on developments in carbon capture use and storage, including the use of depleted on- and off-shore gas fields for carbon dioxide storage.

10. Emerging issues and work plan for 2024-2025

The Group of Experts will review, discuss, and refine its draft work plan for 2024-2025 (GEG-8/2023/INF.1). The work plan for 2024-2025 will be submitted to the Committee on Sustainable Energy for approval at its thirty-second session in September 2023.

As per Committee’s request, the work plan may contain additional activities that support the ECE Platform on Resilient Energy Systems. The activities under the Platform could involve a series of dialogues on resilient energy and natural gas that facilitate an exchange among member States, academia, technical experts, industry, and others.

11. Update on activities in member States, the gas industry, and organizations (*tour de table*)

Representatives of ECE member States, the gas industry, and international organizations will present their work and other developments since March 2022. The Group of Experts requests representatives of member States and other organizations to submit, when possible, electronic versions of their presentations to the secretariat in advance, in one of the ECE three working languages (English, French, and Russian).

12. Preparations for the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Gas

The Group of Experts will discuss preparations for its eleventh session. Possible topics for the substantive portion of the session will be proposed and discussed. The eleventh session of the Group of Experts is scheduled for the first quarter of 2024.

13. Any other business

The meeting may discuss other issues that arise before or during the session and that fall within the scope of the Terms of Reference of the Group of Experts. To the extent possible, delegates are encouraged to notify the secretariat or the Chair in advance of any issue they may wish to raise under this agenda item.

14. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations

Draft conclusions and recommendations will be circulated to participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the meeting.

The Chair, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the conclusions and recommendations agreed during the session and the Group of Experts will be invited to adopt them.

15. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau of the Group of Experts, following which the Chair will close the meeting.
