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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency

Eleventh session

Geneva, 16–17 September 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eleventh session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 16 September 2024.*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Opening remarks.
3. Election of officers.
4. Implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2024–2025 and its contribution to the activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.
5. Supporting energy efficiency improvement and decarbonization in industry.
6. Raising energy performance of buildings and improving the built environment.
7. Unlocking the potential of energy system efficiency through digitalization.
8. Inter-sectoral cooperation on cross-cutting issues.
9. Other business.
10. Dates of the next meeting.
11. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting.

* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to register online. Please register at <https://indico.un.org/event/1012019/>. Should you experience difficulties with registering online, please send a message to: energy.efficiency@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, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix, opposite the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICCR) headquarters (see the map [here](#)) for the issuance of an identification badge. Registration is open every workday at the Pregny Gate from 8.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.



II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2024/1 – Annotated provisional agenda

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the first item of the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Documents for the session will be published on the website as they become available.¹ A detailed timetable will be posted to the website closer to the meeting.

The session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (the Group of Experts) will take place in the framework of the Sustainable Energy Week 2024, in conjunction with the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy and the twentieth session of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems, and will be followed by the thirty-third session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (the Committee).

2. Opening remarks

The Chair will deliver opening remarks that will present, amongst other, the ongoing regulatory and policy dialogue of the Group of Experts aimed at addressing barriers to improve energy efficiency.

3. Election of officers

The Group of Experts will be invited to elect Bureau members whose term ends at the conclusion of the eleventh session and who stand for re-election, as well as any new nominations, to serve until the end of the thirteenth session of the Group of Experts in 2026.

The election of officers will take place simultaneously with that of the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems and the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, as detailed in ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2024/1 and ECE/ENERGY/GE.7/2024/1 respectively.

4. Implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2024–2025 and its contribution to the activities and priorities of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/2023/10 – Work Plan of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency for 2024–2025

ECE/ENERGY/2023/1 – Draft programme of work of the Sustainable energy subprogramme for 2024

ECE/ENERGY/2023/3 – Revised publication plan for 2023 and draft publication plans for 2024 and 2025

According to its Terms of Reference, the Group of Experts focuses on activities related to regulatory and policy dialogue addressing financial, technical and policy barriers to improve energy efficiency, and on sharing experience and best practices in the field of energy efficiency in the ECE region, including on strengthening institutional capacity in energy efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The participants will be informed on the status of implementation of the Work Plan of the Group of Experts for 2024–2025 (ECE/ENERGY/2023/10), including the work on the development of publications “Compendium of case studies on digitalization in energy in the UNECE region” (2024) and “Energy efficiency and decarbonization measures in the end-use

¹ See: <https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/events/390826>

sectors for more circular, energy-resilient, digitalized, and resource-efficient economies in the UNECE region” (planned for 2025).

The secretariat will provide an overview of activities of the Committee following its thirty-second session, 13–15 September 2023, as well as any decisions taken related to the work of the Group of the Experts including by the Executive Committee of ECE.

The Chairs of the three Groups of Experts meeting during the Sustainable Energy Week 2024 in Geneva and the secretariat will inform participants on how the respective subsidiary bodies of the Committee are supporting the ECE Sustainable Energy subprogramme in its work to ensure secure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

5. Supporting energy efficiency improvement and decarbonization in industry

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2024/4 – Increasing energy resilience, saving costs, and curbing emissions with systemic efficiency approaches

Systemic efficiency is the overall efficiency of the energy system, considering the interactions and interdependencies between its various components. Whether a single process or at country level, systemic efficiency involves optimizing the entire energy value chain, including energy production (generation), transmission and distribution, and use, to maximize energy productivity while minimizing losses. It encompasses both technical and non-technical aspects, such as infrastructure design, policy frameworks, governance structures, and stakeholder engagement.

Informed by ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2024/4 “Increasing energy resilience, saving costs, and curbing emissions with systemic efficiency approaches”, delegates will be invited to discuss the systemic efficiency approaches outlined therein, as well as the role of the Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency in delivering on energy resilience.

The Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency will also request extension of its mandate and revision of its Terms of Reference.²

6. Raising energy performance of buildings and improving the built environment

In 2023–2024, the Group of Experts and its Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings, in cooperation with offices of the United Nations Development Programme in seven countries, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the United Nations Environment Programme, implemented the preparation phase of the project “Improving the energy efficiency of the global building supply chain industry and its products to deliver high performance buildings”. Delegates will be invited to review the results and key findings of the preparation phase of the project.

Recalling the document (ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2021/5) that explored opportunities that digital technologies provide to achieve higher energy performance of residential, commercial, and industrial buildings at any stage of their lifecycle, delegates will also be briefed on relevant developments and practical examples of digital technologies integrated into buildings (*ibid.*, para.47(b)) and will be invited to discuss the related matters.

² See: Revised Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Industrial Energy Efficiency (ECE/ENERGY/2024/7).

7. Unlocking the potential of energy system efficiency through digitalization

- Documentation:*
- GEEE-11/2024/INF.3 – Governance policy of digitalization in the energy sector (case study)
 - GEEE-11/2024/INF.4 – Balancing the electricity supply and demand with Artificial Intelligence (case study)
 - GEEE-11/2024/INF.5 – Behavioural barriers in adopting smart meters (case study)
 - ECE/ENERGY/154 – Compendium of case studies on digitalization in energy in the UNECE region (ECE Energy Series No.80)

In line with the Work Plan of the Group of Experts for 2024–2025 (ECE/ENERGY/2023/10), in 2023–2024 the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy focused, among other, on the development of a set of case studies and a publication mandated by the “Revised publication plan for 2023 and draft publication plans for 2024 and 2025” (ECE/ENERGY/2023/3). The goal is to develop evidence-based policy recommendations and guidelines on digitalization, to achieve higher levels of efficiency in the energy system while ensuring its security and sustainability.

Delegates will be presented with findings and policy recommendations stemming from national case studies on digitalization in energy developed in 2024: “Governance policy of digitalization in the energy sector” (GEEE-11/2024/INF.3), “Balancing the electricity supply and demand with Artificial Intelligence” (GEEE-11/2024/INF.4), and “Behavioural barriers in adopting smart meters” (GEEE-11/2024/INF.5).

These, in addition to the case studies presented to the Group of Experts at its tenth session in 2023,³ formed part of a “Compendium of case studies on digitalization in energy in the UNECE region” (ECE Energy Series No. 80), which will also be presented to delegates.

Delegates will be invited to discuss opportunities and challenges that digitalization represents across the whole energy system, notably the impact on sectors that are key for decarbonization and increased energy efficiency, as well as to assess possibilities for replication of identified good practices in ECE region and beyond, and to propose possible activities and initiatives in this regard.

The Task Force on Digitalization in Energy will also request extension of its mandate based on its Terms of Reference as contained in GEEE-7/2020/INF.3 (Annex 2) approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its twenty-ninth session in 2020 (ECE/ENERGY/133, para. 22(d)) and in line with the Work Plan of the Group of Experts for 2024–2025 (ECE/ENERGY/2023/10).

8. Inter-sectoral cooperation on cross-cutting issues

- Documentation:*
- ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2024/3-ECE/ENERGY/GE.5/2024/3 – Impact of Artificial Intelligence on the digital and data transformation in the electricity sector
 - GEEE-11/2024/INF.2 – The twin transition in non-electricity sector
 - GECES-20/2024/INF.1-GEEE-11/2024/INF.2-GERE-11/2024/INF.2 – Integration of e-mobility into electricity system, and the impact that it has on the latter’s design and operations

Increasing resilience of energy systems requires an integrated approach and a multi-stakeholder dialogue. A cross-cutting perspective and action can start in: (a) integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy in distributed power systems; (b) developing

³ See: Case Study on “Grid Edge Management Reference Architecture and Policy Recommendations for Interoperability and Resilience” and Case study on “Cyber Resilience of Critical Energy Infrastructure”.

infrastructure, ensuring integration with grid, and resource planning for electrification of mobility; and (c) considering the increasingly relevant role of digitalization in energy.

Delegates will be invited to share their views and experiences on how sustainable and resilient cleaner electricity systems can be achieved within each of these three cross-cutting and inter-sectoral cooperation areas:

(a) Integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy in distributed power systems:

Increasing the share of renewable energy and improving energy efficiency may be achieved through fostering decentralized generation. The future power generation system will include distributed generation sources and smart energy distribution. A future energy system could be decentralized at all levels – regional, country and local – with widely deployed capacities (including reserved capacities) for alternative energy generation and transmission.

Delegates are invited to share country experiences in promoting the integration of energy efficiency and renewable energy in distributed power systems, trying to highlight key bottlenecks, solutions and possible actions towards a resilient energy system;

(b) Electrification of mobility: development of infrastructure, integration with grid, resource planning:

Exploring the impact of e-mobility integration on electric system design and operation is a key development of future and resilient energy systems. Electric mobility is an enabler of the digital and green transformations in the ECE region. Policymakers are increasingly supporting e-mobility adoption and enhancing electric vehicles expertise through various tools and support mechanisms.

Delegates are invited to discuss possible ways and means to adopt e-mobility policies and instruments in the ECE region; and

(c) Digital and data transformation in the energy sector.

Digital solutions enable advances in connectivity, data, and analytics, and can greatly increase overall efficiency of energy system and facilitate achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. Digital innovations offer new ways of addressing challenges in the overall energy delivery process.

As part of the broader discussion on opportunities and benefits of digitalizing energy systems, delegates are invited this year to a discussion on the impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Digital and Data Transformation in the Electricity Sector. The discussion will focus on possible applications of Artificial Intelligence in the electricity sector and on benefits and outline challenges and recommendations for consideration by public authorities, private sector actors, and end-users.

9. Other business

At the time the provisional agenda was prepared, there were no issues to be raised under this item. The Group of Experts may discuss any other pertinent issues that arise before or during the session, and that fall within the scope of the mandate of the Group of Experts. Delegations are encouraged to notify the secretariat and Bureau members in advance of any issue(s) they may wish to raise under this agenda item.

10. Dates of the next meeting

The twelfth session of the Group of Experts is scheduled to take place in Geneva on 29–30 September 2025. The Group of Experts will be invited to confirm its proposal from previous sessions that its meetings may take place in venues outside Geneva.

11. Adoption of the report and close of the meeting

Documentation: GEEE-11/2024/INF.1 – Draft conclusions and recommendations arising from the eleventh session of the Groups of Experts on Energy Efficiency

ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2024/2 – Report of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency on its eleventh session

Draft conclusions and recommendations arising from the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency (GEEE-11/2024/INF.1) will be circulated to participants and Geneva Permanent Representations at least ten days before the start of the session. The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt conclusions and recommendations.

The Chair of the Group of Experts, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the agreed conclusions and recommendations and draft a report on the session, including conclusions and recommendations, for discussion by delegates.

The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt its report based on the prepared draft, following which the Chair will close the meeting.
