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Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Group of Experts on Gas

Thirteenth session

Geneva, 28-29 April 2026

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirteenth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 3 p.m. on Tuesday 28 April 2026.*

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. Towards a sustainable energy future: the evolving role of gas.
6. Understanding the full system cost of resilient, low-carbon energy.
7. Gas, biogas and hydrogen: natural partners in the energy transition.
8. Global gas trends and their impact on Europe.
9. Methane and carbon dioxide management.
10. Update on activities in member States, the gas industry, and organizations (*tour de table*).
11. Preparations for the fourteenth 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/1018909/>. Should you experience difficulties to register online, please send a message to: natural.gas@un.org. Delegates 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 entrance to the Palais des Nations. 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 Pass and Identification Unit at the Pregny Gate from 8.00 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.



12. Any other business.
13. Adoption of conclusions and recommendations.
14. 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.

2. Opening remarks

The Chair of the Group of Experts will outline key developments in the gas sector since March 2025 and will introduce the topics and expected outcomes of the thirteenth session.

3. Election of officers

At its eleventh session held in March 2024 the Group of Experts elected a Bureau to serve for a period of two years, until March 2026. The Group of Experts will elect new Bureau members to serve until the end of 2028 annual session.

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-fourth session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (the Committee) (Geneva, October 2025) and the outcomes of the 2025 Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP30).

5. Towards a sustainable energy future: the evolving role of gas

The discussion will explore two interconnected themes on gas: (i) securing sustainable supply and demand, and (ii) sustainability and the regulatory framework.

In addition to addressing supply and demand challenges, the first panel will examine the integration of renewables and the complementary role of natural gas, biogas, and hydrogen, while also considering how evolving geopolitical dynamics and trade realignments influence the energy transition.

The second panel, dedicated to sustainability and regulatory frameworks, will explore decarbonisation policies that balance environmental objectives with energy security and competitiveness. A notable example of such frameworks are the European Union's methane and hydrogen regulations, which serve as key instruments for achieving a coordinated transition toward a sustainable energy future.

6. Understanding the full system cost of resilient, low-carbon energy

This discussion will assess the full cost of achieving resilient, low-carbon energy systems, with a focus on electricity. It will examine comprehensive system metrics that capture not only generation costs but also the critical role of reliable, low-carbon backup capacity. The session will highlight the true value of flexibility, reliability, and timing in maintaining secure electricity supply, while also considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of energy production and use. The Group of Experts will be updated on the recent ECE

workshop on full system costs for resilient and carbon-neutral electricity systems, organized by the Group of Experts on Cleaner Electricity Systems.

7. Gas, biogas and hydrogen: natural partners in the energy transition

The Group of Experts will hear insights from the workshop “From hype to trust - building the rules, standards, and safety protocols for clean hydrogen” and will discuss the roles of natural gas, biogas and hydrogen in advancing the energy transition. Topics include hydrogen’s use in hard-to-abate sectors, the potential of liquid hydrogen as an energy carrier, updates on H2Med (Europe’s first low-emission hydrogen corridor) and an update on the new roadmap of the European Biogas Association until 2040.

8. Global gas trends and their impact on Europe

The Group of Experts will hear about recent global trends in gas production and trade that affect ECE member States and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

9. Methane and carbon dioxide management

This item will combine two intertwined activities from the Group of Experts’ workplan: methane management and carbon capture, use and storage (CCUS). It will include insights from the workshop “The EU Methane Regulation: Global Implications, Benefits and Challenges”, and will highlight the role of CCUS in advancing the energy transition.

10. 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 2025. 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).

11. Preparations for the fourteenth session of the Group of Experts on Gas

The Group of Experts will discuss preparations for its fourteenth session. Possible topics for the substantive portion of the session will be proposed and discussed. The fourteenth session of the Group of Experts is scheduled for the first quarter of 2027.

12. Any other business

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

13. 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. The Group of Experts will be invited to adopt them.

14. 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. The Chair will close the meeting.
