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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR WESTERN ASIA**

Interregional Symposium on Gas Development and
Market Prospects by the Year 2000 and Beyond
20-26 June 1992

Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK*

* Issued without formal editing.

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Annotated Provisional Programme of Work

Saturday, 20 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Registration

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Opening session - keynote addresses

Dr. Tayseer Abdel Jaber
Under-Secretary General
Executive Secretary of ESCWA

H.E. Dr. Mtanious Habib
Minister of Petroleum and Mineral
Resources

11:30 - 12:00 noon

Break

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Election of officers and adoption of
the provisional programme of work.

12:30 - 02:00 p.m.

Lunch break

02:00 - 03:30 p.m.

1. Presentation and discussion of ESCWA
background documents and country
papers.

03:30 - 04:00 p.m.

Break

04:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 1.

Sunday, 21 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

2. Natural Gas Potential and Markets
in the Middle East and Africa.

Under this item emphasis will be
placed on:

- Natural gas resources, market outlets
and market structures and their
likelihood to a faster growth, taking
into account ownership of gas
pipelines;
- The role of the private sector in gas
production, transportation and
distribution;
- Granting or withholding of national
monopolies;
- Restrictions on/or encouragement
of cross-border investment;
- Privatization of existing natural gas
companies;
- Vertical versus horizontal
organizational structure of gas
industry enterprises;

- Fuel substitution;
- Market regulations to enhance or discourage natural gas including in particular fuel price regulations;
- Price subsidies and gas pipeline tariffs.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 2.

12:30 - 02:00 p.m.

Lunch break

02:00 - 03:30 p.m.

3. Natural Gas Markets in the ECE Region and Europe in Particular.

Under this item deliberations will focus on:

- Organizational structure and political regulations affecting the gas industry and gas markets;
- Demand for gas by established and newly emerging gas markets;
- Interregional new gas development projects;
- Emerging gas requirements in eastern and Central Europe and members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the role of the Middle East and Africa in meeting these requirements;
- Policy initiatives and regulations at the national/regional levels leading to the further integration of gas markets in Western Europe, such as "open" access to gas pipelines and consumption taxes;
- Competitive factors influencing fuel choice.

03:30 - 04:00 p.m.

Break

04:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 3.

Monday, 22 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

4. Measures and Incentives to Promote Exploration and Development of Gas Resources.

This item will mainly deal with:

- Clauses in exploration and production agreements;
- Differences between oil and gas terms;

- Production shares of gas versus oil in production sharing agreements;
- Associated versus nonassociated gas production and their potential on gas markets development;
- Off-take arrangements and price guarantees;
- Valuation of natural gas;
- Risk assessment of oil versus gas exploration and the role of oil and gas prices and other fiscal measures.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 4.

12:30 - 02:00 p.m.

Lunch break

02:00 - 03:30 p.m.

5. Inter- and Intraregional Gas Trade Prospects, including the Financing of Natural Gas Development and Gas Trade Projects.

Under this item discussion will center around the following topics:

- The views of private bankers on gas trade contracts;
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Association (MIGA) of the World Bank and other investment guarantee organizations;
- Access to international capital markets by state-owned companies;
- Innovative financing techniques for the natural gas industry;
- Government options for attracting foreign capital;
- Long-term contractual obligations between exporter and importer in a changing gas markets structure.

03:30 - 04:00 p.m.

Break

04:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 5.

Tuesday, 23 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

6. New and Emerging Gas Utilization Technologies including Efficiency Measures and their Potential in the Middle East and Africa.

This item will cover the following:

- Alternate motor fuels and fuel additives;

- Compressed natural gas (CNG);
- Liquefied natural gas (LNG);
- MTBE;
- Methanol.
- Cogeneration and other options for electric power generation

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 6

12:30 - 02:00 p.m.

Lunch break

02:00 - 03:30 p.m.

7. New Developments in Gas Transportation Technology.

Under this item, the following issues will be discussed:

- New developments in pipeline technology, onshore and offshore and access to such technology;
- Storage and shipping technology, such as liquefaction and liquids extraction, storage of LNG and LPG; LNG and LPG carriers; safety measures;
- Cost of insurance for natural gas transportation.

03:30 - 04:00 p.m.

Break

04:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 7.

Wednesday, 24 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

8. International Multilateral Initiatives of Relevance to the ESCWA and ECA Regions.

This item will highlight the following:

- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) Rio de Janeiro, European Energy Charter;
- Free Trade Agreements in North America;
- Coordinating Conference on the Assistance to the Newly Established Commonwealth of Independent States and follow-up actions.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 8.

12:30 - 02:00 p.m.

Lunch break

02:00 - 03:30 p.m.

9. Prospects of the LPG Industry and its
Role in Meeting Regional Fuel
Requirements.

03:30 - 04:00 p.m.

Break

04:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Continuation of item 9.

Thursday, 25 June 1992

09:00 - 10:30 a.m.

10. Panel discussion and formulation
of recommendations.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Break

03:00 - 05:30 p.m.

Adoption of the draft final report.

Friday, 26 June 1992

Field visits to selected sites of gas
facilities in Syria.