



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ENERGY/1998/22
7 July 1998

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
Eighth session, 6-8 October 1998
(Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF
INDEPENDENT STATES (CIS) COUNTRIES

Note by the secretariat

1. At its sixth session, the Committee on Energy considered the report "The Present Situation and Prospects for the Fuel and Energy Complexes in the Commonwealth of Independent States" (ENERGY/R.131/Add. 1) prepared by a CIS Task Force Ad hoc Group of Experts from CIS Countries on Energy Policy and Strategy with the assistance of the ECE Regional Adviser on Energy. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the report and requested that this activity be continued in order to appraise the possible developments in the CIS countries and their energy policy implications.

2. In September 1997, a Joint Statement of the ECE secretariat and the CIS Interstate Economic Committee established the basis for enhancing cooperation between the two institutions including in the energy sector. In 1997, the CIS Interstate Economic Committee agreed to launch the project "Analysis of Energy Efficiency and Saving Policy in the Commonwealth of Independent States" as a continuation of the previous work in this field. The CIS Interstate Economic Committee requested that this project be undertaken within the framework of the Joint Statement with the assistance of the ECE secretariat.

GE.98-31509

3. The present study is being implemented under the auspices of the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project in accordance with Activity 4: Implementation of Energy Efficiency Policies, 4.4 National and international Energy Efficiency Programmes contained in the Project Plan 1997-2000 (ENERGY/WP.4/R.5/Rev.1). It is to provide assistance on the study of energy efficiency and a related symposium to present and review the study, to the CIS Interstate Economic Committee with the support of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project and the Regional Adviser on Energy.

4. This study and the associated symposium will also be carried out in conjunction with the joint activities of the Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and ECE in the preparation of the "Guideline for Energy Conservation Laws for Economies in Transition, including the Russian Federation and Selected Countries of Central Asia" (see ENERGY/1998/9). Within ECE, this guideline is being prepared within the framework of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project.

5. The study and symposium on Energy Efficiency and Security in the Commonwealth of Independent States is to provide a collective view of experts from each CIS country on the potential of energy efficiency improvements over the next decade. The main conclusion of the previous work by the CIS Task Force was that energy efficiency was a crucial policy priority for all branches of the economy. It was the most common energy policy priority among CIS countries but also needed coordination measures within the ECE region as a whole. A new Ad hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency from CIS Countries will be convened to analyse the technical and economic potential for energy conservation measures in relation to overall energy projections for all CIS countries to the year 2010. The group will then consider the policy implications for energy demand, production and the security of energy supplies and energy trade. It will review, in general terms, the investment implications of these projections, in particular for investments to improve energy efficiency.

6. When completed the study on Energy Efficiency and Security in the Commonwealth of Independent States will provide analysts and decision makers with information and guidance on the wide ranging implications of implementing national energy conservation policies. The ESCAP-ECE Guideline for Energy Conservation Laws is intended to complement this by describing such laws needed to accomplish this, how relevant legislation has been developed and how energy conservation laws are being implemented in a selection of CIS countries at present.
