



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ENERGY/WP.4/2001/9
2 January 2002

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project
Twelfth session, 19-20 November 2001

REPORT ON THE MEETING

I. ATTENDANCE

1. The twelfth session of the Steering Committee was attended by sixty representatives of Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Yugoslavia.
2. The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was represented.
3. The following intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations were in attendance: International Energy Agency (IEA/OECD), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Centre for Energy Efficiency (EnEffect), Agency for the Rational Use of Energy and Ecology (ARENA-ECO), Alliance to Save Energy (ASE), Russian Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones Association (RUSDEM).

II. OPENING SESSION

4. The Steering Committee was opened with a statement by the secretariat on behalf of the acting Executive Secretary of UNECE. The project had had a wide range of experience in energy efficiency investment project development, capacity building, involvement of the private sector, government policy and institutional, reforms, standards and labels and the development of

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non-governmental organisations. The statement noted that the Energy Efficiency 21 project had significant extra-budgetary support for sub-regional projects funded by the United Nations Foundation (UNF), UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), co-financing partners and the General Assembly Development Account. During the last year important internal and external developments had provided additional support and opportunities for the project. Within the Project the first private sector investments for greenhouse gas emissions trading were under discussion between Evolution Markets and the sponsors of projects from the health care sector in the Russian Federation based on business plans developed in UNF/UNFIP training courses. Externally, the recent agreements at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP7) in Marrakesh (Morocco) were key drives in the energy efficiency market formation. New support had been accorded to the project from the governments of France, Norway, the United States Department of Energy (USDOE), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the government of Italy with the European Commission under the Fifth Framework Programmes (FFP) Energy.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 1)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.4/2001/2

5. The agenda was adopted.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda item 2)

6. The elected officers were as follows: Chairman: Mr. Bernard Laponche (France), Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Trond Dahlsveen (Norway); Mr. Zdravko Genchev (Bulgaria); Mr. Thomas Sacco (United States of America); Mrs. Milena Presutto (Italy) and Mr. Boris Reoutov (Russian Federation).

V. EXPERIENCE OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY 2000 PROJECT (Agenda Item 3)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.4/2001/4, ENERGY/WP.4/2001/6, ENERGY/WP.4/2001/7

Note: all United Nations documents for the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project are available in English, French and Russian on the UNECE website www.ee-21.net together with selected PowerPoint presentations delivered by delegations during the session.

7. This agenda item was introduced by the secretariat with a presentation of the developments of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project during 2000-2001. This was followed by presentations of supporting institutions on their present and planned participation in the Project. The representative of France outlined activities supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to undertake a series of targeted meetings and/or negotiations called Energy Efficiency Circles (Cercles pour d'Efficacité Energétique). These will help elaborate precise modalities of enhancing energy efficiency trade and co-operation in one or several countries in south-eastern Europe, eastern Europe and the CIS. The representative of Norway described activities under the 1996 Technical Cooperation Agreement for North West Russia including new activities with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO). The delegation of Italy proposed that the Steering Committee endorse a new joint project

between Energy Efficiency 21 and the European Commission supported by the government of Italy under the Fifth Framework Programme FFP Energy. The E-Grids project would promote the transfer of experience on energy efficiency policies in European Union Member States to selected pre-accession central European economies in transition.

8. The representatives of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Europe and Eurasia and the Alliance to Save Energy described the wide ranging activities pursued under the Municipal Network for Energy Efficiency (MUNEE) project which included a co-financing partnership with the United Nations Foundation. They described recent activities in Poland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania and Yugoslavia and highlighted those planned in Bulgaria and Kazakhstan. The representative of the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) confirmed continuing support for the Energy Efficiency 21 Project to its trust fund in particular for activities in south-eastern Europe. The representative of the International Energy Agency (IEA/OECD) described the Climate Technology Initiative and outlined methods for cooperation with the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

9. The UNF/UNFIP Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser, Mr. Glen Skovholt, presented the annual monitoring and evaluation report (ENERGY/WP.4/2001/4) to the Steering Committee along with his recommendations following a mission to project activities in Minsk and consultations with the United Nations Foundation in Washington DC.

10. After discussion, the Steering Committee:

- (a) Noted with satisfaction that the Energy Efficiency 21 Project described in Project Plan for the years 2000-2003 provided UNECE member States with an appropriate region-wide strategy to address commitments undertaken within the framework of the UNFCCC;
- (b) Noted with appreciation that, through an elected Bureau, the Project maintained the coordination needed to eliminate any overlapping or duplication of effort with the programmes of other international institutions and agencies;
- (c) Expressed appreciation to the supporting institutions for their willingness to provide financing, co-financing or in kind contributions for the project and to the UNECE secretariat for project management and assistance to member States in the implementation of the project;
- (d) Welcomed in particular the support and participation of the: Government of France, Government of Norway, Government of Italy and European Commission SAVE Programme, United States Department of Energy and the USAID and Alliance to Save Energy MUNEE Project;
- (e) Welcomed the participation of the International Energy Agency (IEA/OECD) Climate Technology Initiative in project activities;
- (f) Recommended that the Bureau and the secretariat continue their discussions with supporting institutions on the nature and extent of their contributions to the Project;

- (g) Expressed appreciation for the publication by the United Nations of the study 'Energy Efficiency and Energy Security in the CIS' in English and Russian;
- (h) Welcomed the positive cooperation between the UN ECE and the European Commission SAVE Programme under the SACHA projects and considered that this would serve as a model for such collaboration in the future under the European Commission Fifth Framework Programme FFP-Energy E-GRIDS Project;
- (i) Welcomed the publication the final report of the SACHA 2 Project as the UN ECE publication 'East-West Energy Efficiency Standards and Labels' as an e-Book which includes the large data bases of the project as a CD-ROM supplement to the report;
- (j) Recommended that the Bureau and secretariat coordinate closely the activities of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project relevant to the Commonwealth of Independent States with the programmes of CIS which are approved by the governments of CIS Member States.

VI. PRESENTATIONS OF NATIONAL PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS (Agenda item 4)

11. The delegations of Croatia, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Hungary and the Czech Republic presented recent developments in the energy efficiency field and project activities undertaken. The representative of the USAID Mission for the Ukraine presented recent developments on the project and showed a series of public information video spots prepared with USAID support and broadcast on Ukraine television. A representative of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) described relevant CIS projects and activities pursued jointly with the UNECE.

12. The secretariat outline progress on the project on the Rational Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia supported by the General Assembly Development Account. The delegation of Tajikistan described recent project activities and consultations held with government departments and industry in Norway, Denmark, France and Switzerland.

VII. REGIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES RENEUER (Agenda item 5)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.4/2001/3, ENERGY/WP.4/2001/9.

13. This agenda item was introduced by Mr. Zdravko Genchev, Director, Centre for Energy Efficiency (EnEffect) Sofia (Bulgaria) with a summary of recent developments on the project and plans for future activities. He outline the five main objectives of the project and reported progress achieved under each one noting that project operations had begun in all areas during 2001. In particular, consultations and missions had been conducted with local teams in all participating countries. The project had been presented to the meetings of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) and its Business Advisory Council and as part of the UNECE presentation to a meeting of the Stability Pact in Bucharest (Romania).

14. During the discussion, delegations expressed their support for the project as participants and as supporting institutions. The representative of the USAID Bureau for Europe and Eurasia described recent activities under the MUNEE project implemented by the Alliance to Save Energy. The delegation of France welcomed the project noting that careful attention should be given to working on energy and water problems since these were normally managed by different institutions and local authorities. The representative of Norway reported that the Norwegian government was interested in supporting selected activities in selected countries covered by the RENEUER project. The delegations of Albania, Republic of Moldova, Croatia, Yugoslavia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Romania expressed their strong support for the project, its appropriateness for the local circumstances and their willingness to fully engage in project operations.

15. After discussion, the Committee:

- (a) Welcomed the new version of the RENEUER project concept proposal (ENERGY/WP.4/2001/5) revised to include the efficient use of water resources;
- (b) Welcomed the support for and participation in the project provided by the Government of France, Government of Norway, USAID, US Department of Energy;
- (c) Approved the concept proposal with amendments reflecting the additional information and guidance of the Steering Committee from the review of the project;
- (d) Requested the Bureau of the EE21 Project and the secretariat to promote the final Project Document and Work Plan with supporting Institutions and report on progress to the Steering Committee in May 2002 and the Committee on Sustainable Energy in November 2002;
- (e) Requested the Centre for Energy Efficiency (EnEffect) in Sofia to incorporate the recommendations and proposals for activities and support that delegations made during the session into the Project Work Plan for 2002 by the end of 2001;
- (f) Welcomed the support of the USAID Municipal Network for Energy Efficiency (MUNEE) project for the coordination of the requirements and expectations of the participating countries by the end of January 2002;
- (g) Recommended a meeting of RENEUER National Coordinators be held at EnEffect in Sofia before the end of January 2002 to launch the Project Work Plan.

OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 6)

16. The Steering Committee established the following dates for meetings during 2002 which will be supplemented with meetings held for specific project activities.

25-26 March 2002

Ad Hoc Group of Experts Meeting on Energy Efficiency
Investments for Climate Change Mitigation

24-26 June 2002

Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project

23-24 September 2002

Ad Hoc Group of Experts Meeting on Energy Efficiency
Investments for Climate Change Mitigation

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Agenda item 7)

17. The Vice-Chairman presented the draft conclusions and recommendations to the Steering Committee for discussion, guidance and additional information during the closing session. This report provides the agreed conclusions and recommendations under each relevant agenda item as completed and amended during the session.