



**Economic and Social
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project

Eighteenth session
Geneva, 30 - 31 May 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION *

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
opening on Wednesday 30 May 2007, at 10 a.m.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Recent developments of the EE21 project
4. Launching of the project "Financing Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation"
5. Round Table: Focus on the activity "Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Inter-fuel Substitution in the Russian Federation"
6. Presentations of National Participating Institutions and National Coordinators

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7. Input to the “Environment for Europe” Belgrade conference
8. Other business
9. Conclusions and recommendations

II. MANDATE AND PURPOSE OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

1. In accordance with the procedures of the project, the Steering Committee reviews progress and provides guidance on the execution of the project, and meets at least once each year of the duration of the project. The Steering Committee determines the activities, results, work methods, participation and procedures, budget, calendar of events and timetable of the project. It secures cooperation with other Sectoral Committees of the Commission, in particular the Committee on Environmental Policy. The Steering Committee undertakes a critical evaluation of the results of the Project. The Chairman of the Steering Committee reports on the progress and activities of the project to the Committee on Sustainable Energy.
2. The objective of the new phase of the Energy Efficiency 21 (EE21) project 2006-2009 is to assist South-east European, East European and CIS countries to enhance their energy efficiency, diminish fuel poverty arising from economic transition and meet international environmental treaty obligations under the UNFCCC and the UNECE (ENERGY/WP.4/2006/5). The new phase of the EE21 Project is designed to cover the development of carbon emissions trading standards and emissions tracking; finance for energy efficiency investments through advisory services to project sponsors and investors on bankable projects. The intention is to promote a sound business environment and corporate governance to introduce the economic, institutional and regulatory reforms needed to support energy efficiency investments to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms. These objectives are to be met through energy efficiency investment project development, capacity building, private sector involvement, government policy, institutional reforms, standards and labels, and development of NGOs.
3. During the 2006 meeting, the Steering Committee noted that the activities of the EE21 Project provided UNECE member States with an appropriate region-wide strategy to address their commitments towards climate change mitigation and to meet their international treaty obligations under the UNECE and UNFCCC; and expressed appreciation for the financial support to the project provided by the United Nations Foundation (UNF), United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), United Nations Environment Programme / Global Environment Facility (UNEP/GEF); and European Business Congress (EBC) (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2006/6).
4. The Steering Committee, during the same session, requested the Bureau and the secretariat to introduce the amendments to the Project Plan 2006-2009 agreed during the Steering Committee session. The final version of the project plan was then endorsed during last session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (ECE/ENERGY/WP.4/2006/6/Add.1).

5. The Ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation (Geneva, 31 May –1 June 2007) will contribute to the definition of the implementation activities of the project (ENERGY/WP.4/GE.1/2007/1).

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

6. In accordance with UNECE practice, the EE21 Steering Committee will adopt its agenda.

Item 2: Election of Officers

7. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedures, the Steering Committee is expected to elect a Chairman and a number of Vice-Chairmen. The UNECE reforms encourage each Bureau to consist of at least five or more members.

Item 3: Recent Developments of the EE21 project

8. The secretariat will make a presentation on the recent developments of the EE21 Project. Members of the Bureau will give special presentations on recent experience and expectations for the project.

Item 4: Launching of the Project "Financing Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation"

9. The implementation phase of the project will be launched during the Steering Committee session. The Chairman and the secretariat will make a presentation.

Item 5: Round Table : Focus on the status of the activity "Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Inter-fuel Substitution in the Russian Federation"

10. Most small to medium-sized cities in the Russian Federation are not yet connected to natural gas supply networks. Fuel switching to natural gas to generate heat and electric power would be a cost effective way to increase energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions. The objective is to demonstrate how such an improvement to local energy infrastructure could be successfully developed and financed, which could have a larger multiplier effect in the Russian Federation and in other countries participating in the project.

Item 6: Presentations of National Participating Institutions and National Coordinators

11. National delegations, representatives of supporting institutions and the private sector will report on their plans for participation in the project. National Coordinators and representatives of National Participating Institutions will have the opportunity to report on their experience and lessons learned in implementing energy efficiency policies, projects and demonstration zones, including the decision-making process they pursue.

Item 7: Input to the “Environment for Europe” Belgrade conference

12. Within the context of the “Environment for Europe” process, as part of the UNECE input to the Belgrade Conference (10-12 October 2007), an analytical paper will be submitted for consideration to the Ministers on public sector participation in the Energy Efficiency Equity Fund.

Item 8: Other business

13. At the time of writing there were no matters for discussion under this item.

Item 9: Conclusions and recommendations

14. The Chairman of the Steering Committee and the secretariat summarize conclusions and recommendations of the session. The report on the meeting will be circulated after the meeting.

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