Conference Call of the Bureau of the Group of Experts on Gas

19 June 2017, 16:00

Minutes

A. Participants

Attendees:

- Mr. Francisco de la Flor Garcia (Spain), Chair
- Mr. Torstein Indrebø (Norway), Vice-chair
- Mr. Alexandre Chachine, on behalf of Vice-chair
- Mr. Dan Hooper (United States)
- Mr. Rafael Huarte, IGU
- Mr. Branko Milicevic, UNECE secretariat

Regrets:

- Mr. Tamas Korosi (Hungary), Vice-chair
- Mr. Alexander Karasevich (Russian Federation)
- Mr. Boris Maksijan (Croatia), Vice-chair

B. Summary of discussions and decisions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with no changes.

2. Report from the Eighth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (11-14 June 2017, Astana, Kazakhstan)

Vice-chairs Indrebø and Huarte and the secretariat reported from the round table on the role of natural gas in achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The roundtable reinforced the message that gas will continue to have a role to play in practically all SDGs. This would require a partnership between the gas industry, governments, and other players so that the transition towards the future energy system could be sustained. There was a strong sense in Astana that the United Nations could provide platform for such a partnership.

3. Progress in implementation of the current work plan (model framework, case studies, publications)

The secretariat informed the Bureau on the progress in implementation of the current work plan. The Model Framework draft is mostly ready and will be presented at the Madrid industry meeting on methane emissions in July. The Model Framework will be released as an official UN publication. The secretariat is working with several companies and organizations (Enagas, Gazprom, John Crane, and Statoil) to develop a number of case studies that might be attached the Model Framework.

The secretariat also re-iterated the need to accelerate work on publications – methane emissions, best practices in LNG, use of gas in transport.

4. Update by the secretariat on the 2018-2019 work plan

The secretariat informed the Bureau that the work plan will soon be sent to be processed and translated as a Committee document.

5. Methane emissions industry meeting (13 July, Madrid)

The Chair informed the Bureau about the preparation for the methane emissions industry meeting organized jointly by Marcogaz and GIE and hosted by Enagas in Madrid. Draft agenda is ready. The industry participations seems to be very strong. The mentioned Model Framework will be presented there as one of the background documents.

6. Date of the next Bureau call

The next conference call will be held in mid-July 2017.

7. Any other business

No other business raised.