



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/L.1
31 August 2021
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Committee on Energy
Thirteenth session
Online, 20-21 September 2021



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Follow-up issues

4. Implementation of energy-related activities and of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its twelfth session.
5. Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region.
6. Activities of the Group of Experts on Fossil Fuels.

Energy issues in the Arab region

7. Extractive industries as a driver of sustainable development: transition to sustainable systems.

Programmatic issues

8. Round-table discussion: regional priorities in the field of energy for the period 2021-2025.
9. Date and venue of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Energy.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its thirteenth session.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

The thirteenth session of the Committee on Energy, which will be held online, will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, 20 September 2021. The Chair of the twelfth session of the Committee will give a welcome statement and the ESCWA secretariat will deliver the opening address.

2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: “Member States shall chair the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations.* Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers”. The Committee shall elect two vice-chairs and a rapporteur from the representatives of member States, according to the rotation by alphabetical order and in view of developments regarding participation in the current session.

3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which apply to subsidiary bodies, states: “At the beginning of each session, once the Chair has assumed his/her duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda”. Pursuant to that rule, the Committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work as submitted in documents E/ESCWA/C.6/2021/L.1 and E/ESCWA/C.6/2021/L.2, respectively, or in amended forms.

Follow-up issues

4. Implementation of energy-related activities and of recommendations made by the Committee at its twelfth session (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/3)

The Committee will consider energy-related activities undertaken by the ESCWA secretariat since its twelfth session, whether included in the ESCWA programme plan or technical cooperation activities carried out to support member States, or activities pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee at its twelfth session.

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and present suggestions and comments thereon.

5. Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/4)

The Committee will review the Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab region (REGEND), which is funded by the Swedish Agency for International Development (Sida), and related activities carried out in the period 2018-2021. The Initiative aims to improve food, water and energy security, enhance adaptation to climate change and mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals in regional and national policies. The Initiative also aims to improve livelihoods in rural communities by encouraging investments in small-scale, environmentally friendly and affordable renewable energy applications, while promoting gender equality and social inclusion to support rural development.

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and present comments thereon.

* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are as follows: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, Algeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Oman, the State of Palestine, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania and Yemen.

6. Activities of the Group of Experts on Fossil Fuels (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/5)

The Committee will review the activities of the Group of Experts on Fossil Fuels, which was established pursuant to the Committee's recommendation at its eleventh session (Cairo, 14-16 May 2017). The Group of Experts has held its second meeting in Amman on 28 November 2019 and its third meeting online on 10 December 2020. The Group of Experts reviewed energy-related economic developments, trends and projections in the Arab region, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the energy sector, financing and capital market of Arab oil companies. The Group of Experts was also briefed on the results of the G20/T20 meeting on climate change, the role of the carbon circular economy, challenges and opportunities of monetizing gas flaring, and hydrogen potential to support the energy transition in the Arab region.

The Committee is invited to take note of the Group's activities and to adopt its recommendations.

Energy issues in the Arab region

7. Extractive industries as a driver of sustainable development: transition to sustainable systems (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/6)

The Committee will review developments in the extractive industries sector as a driver of sustainable development, in particular the relevant initiative launched by the Secretary-General, the global round table and the five regional round tables, in which challenges and opportunities in the extractive industries sector in the Arab region were discussed and ESCWA made a series of recommendations on the future of the sector.

The Committee is invited to take note of the developments and trends in the field of extractive industries, and present views and recommendations thereon.

Programmatic issues

8. Round-table discussion: regional priorities in the field of energy for the period 2021-2025 (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/CRP.1)

The Committee will discuss regional energy priorities for the coming period, in the light of a background paper that provides ESCWA's views on those priorities.

The Committee is invited to contribute to the debate and to raise national priorities and challenges in the field of energy.

9. Date and venue of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Energy

Under this item, the Committee will consider the date and venue of its fourteenth session.

10. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the members of the Committee may wish to raise and discuss.

11. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its thirteenth session

The Committee will consider the draft recommendations for discussion and adoption.
