

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Committee on Energy
Fourteenth session
Beirut, 20–22 June 2023



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

Joint meeting with the Committee on Water Resources on the theme
“Advancing the climate change agenda in the water and energy sectors”
Beirut, 20 June 2023

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

Follow-up issues

4. Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme plan, of technical cooperation activities, and of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its thirteenth session to the ESCWA secretariat.

Energy issues in the Arab region

5. Role of minerals and critical raw materials in support of the energy transition in the Arab region.
6. Potential hydrogen developments in the Arab region.
7. Role of blockchain in the sustainable energy transition in the Arab region.
8. Round-table discussion: progress towards energy-related Sustainable Development Goals.

Programmatic issues

9. Proposed programme plan for 2024 in the field of energy in the light of regional priorities for the period 2021–2025.
10. Date and venue of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Energy.
11. Other matters.
12. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its fourteenth session.

Annotations

Joint meeting with the Committee on Water Resources on the theme
“Advancing the climate change agenda in the water and energy sectors”
Beirut, 20 June 2023

As part of the proceedings of the fourteenth session of the ESCWA Committee on Energy and those of the fifteenth session of the ESCWA Committee on Water Resources, the two committees will hold a joint meeting on the afternoon of 20 June 2023 from 2 to 4 p.m. on the theme “Advancing the climate change agenda in the water and energy sectors”, prior to the opening of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Energy. Member State representatives are invited to participate actively in the discussion, which will be based on document E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/CRP.1 - E/ESCWA/C.4/2023/CRP.1.

1. Opening of the session

The fourteenth session of the Committee on Energy will open at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 21 June 2023. The Chair of the thirteenth 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 set out in documents E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/L.1 and E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/L.2, respectively, or in amended forms.

Follow-up issues

4. Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme plan, of technical cooperation activities, and of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its thirteenth session to the ESCWA secretariat (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/3)

The Committee will consider energy-related activities undertaken by the ESCWA secretariat since its thirteenth session (online, 20–21 September 2021), including ESCWA programme plan activities, technical cooperation activities carried out to support member States, and activities pursuant to the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirteenth session to the ESCWA secretariat.

* 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.

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and comment thereon. Member State representatives are also invited to brief the Committee on national efforts undertaken pursuant to recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its thirteenth session to member States (E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/8/Report, para. 3).

Energy issues in the Arab region

5. Role of minerals and critical raw materials in support of the energy transition in the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/4)

The Committee will discuss the role of minerals and raw materials in supporting the energy transition in the Arab region, and key challenges and opportunities for the sector. The Committee will also be briefed on the outcomes of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Extractives (online, 6 December 2022) on the theme “Minerals and raw materials in support of energy transition”.

The Committee is invited to take note of developments and trends in the field of minerals and critical raw materials, and present views and recommendations thereon.

6. Potential hydrogen developments in the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/5)

The Committee will discuss means of diversifying the energy mix by adopting alternative energy carriers, including hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives, to ensure a just and sustainable energy transition in the Arab region. It will also be presented with an overview of existing and planned hydrogen developments, and of major challenges and opportunities for hydrogen production and use in the region.

The Committee is invited to take note of trends in hydrogen developments and present views and recommendations thereon.

7. Role of blockchain in the sustainable energy transition in the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/6)

The Committee will review promising use cases from around the world that leverage blockchain technology to accelerate the sustainable energy transition. The Committee will also discuss means to leverage this technology to enable the Arab region to capitalize on its wealth of renewable energy resources, while expanding access to modern energy services.

The Committee is invited to take note of the key enabling factors offered by blockchain technology and present views and recommendations thereon.

8. Round-table discussion: progress towards energy-related Sustainable Development Goals (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/7)

The Committee will review recent progress made in the Arab region towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 targets, and will discuss the priority actions required over the next three years to accelerate its achievement. It will also examine longer-term strategies towards 2030.

The Committee is invited to take note of the developments and trends in the field of energy and present views and recommendations thereon. Member State representatives are also invited to summarize national progress towards SDG 7.

Programmatic issues

9. Proposed programme plan for 2024 in the field of energy in the light of regional priorities for the period 2021–2025 (E/ESCWA/C.3/2023/8)

The Committee will review the proposed programme plan for 2024 of the ESCWA secretariat in the field of energy, which was formulated in the light of the regional energy priorities for 2021–2025, as discussed at the thirteenth session of the Committee and summarized in document [E/ESCWA/C.3/2021/CRP.1](#).

The Committee is invited to take note of the proposed ESCWA programme plan for 2024 and provide comments and recommendations thereon.

10. Date and venue of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Energy

The Committee will discuss the date and venue of its fifteenth session.

11. Other matters

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

12. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its fourteenth session

The Committee will review the draft recommendations of its fourteenth session for discussion and adoption.
