

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

Committee on Energy
Twelfth session
Beirut, 24-25 June 2019



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.

Progress achieved since the eleventh session

4. Implementation of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its eleventh session.
5. Implementation of energy-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work.
6. Implementation of technical cooperation activities with member States.

Developments in the field of energy in the Arab region

7. Status of energy systems in the Arab region.
8. Activities of the expert group on fossil fuels.

Arab cooperation in addressing climate change

9. Exploring the interface between nationally determined contributions and the Sustainable Development Goals: common goals.
10. Arab Centre For Climate Change Policies: an integrated approach to climate change.

Progress achieved towards the energy-related SDGs in the Arab region

11. Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals in national development plans.
12. Progress in the field of energy: related SDGs in the Arab region.
13. Water – Energy – Food nexus in the Arab region.
14. Round-table discussion: Energy in national sustainable development plans.

Programmatic issues

15. Proposed programme plan for 2020 in the area of integrated natural resource management for sustainable development.
16. Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee on Energy.
17. Other matters.
18. Adoption of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its twelfth session.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

The twelfth session of the Committee on Energy will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, 24 June 2019, at the United Nations House in Beirut. The representative of Mauritania, the country that chaired the eleventh session of the Committee on Energy, will give the welcome speech. The representative of the ESCWA secretariat will then give the opening speech.

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”. Pursuant to that rule, upon which the rotation by alphabetical order has fallen, shall chair the twelfth session of the Committee on Energy, succeeding Mauritania, which chaired the eleventh session from 14 May 2017 to 24 June 2019, the date of the twelfth session. The Committee shall elect two vice-chairs and a rapporteur among 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 Commission, 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 will have before it the provisional agenda and annotations for this session in document E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/L.1. It will also have before it the proposed organization of work in document E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/L.2. The committee shall adopt the agenda and the organization of work as submitted or in amended forms.

Progress achieved since the eleventh session

4. Implementation of recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its eleventh session (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/3)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the activities undertaken by the ESCWA secretariat pursuant to the recommendations made by the Committee at its eleventh session, held in Cairo from 14 to 16 May 2017.

* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, 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 to provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

5. Implementation of energy-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work
(E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/4)

Under this item, the Committee will consider progress in implementing energy-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work, since its eleventh session.

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and to make proposals and recommendations thereon.

6. Implementation of technical cooperation activities with member States
(E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/5)

Under this item, the Committee will review the technical cooperation activities undertaken by ESCWA in the field of energy, following requests from member States. Activities include advisory services, capacity-building and field projects.

The Committee is invited to take note of the activities and to discuss future needs and priorities in the field of technical cooperation.

Developments in the field of energy in the Arab region

7. Status of energy systems in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/6)

Under this item, the Committee will review developments in the field of energy in the Arab region by source (fossil fuel, renewables) and electricity production, undertake the facets of energy vulnerability in the Arab region and evaluate the strategies addressing this situation, in order to enhance the capacity of the region in taking advantage of its natural resources. This also includes the proper choice of infrastructure, technology, governance practices and sustainable management, given that it is an indispensable priority for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The committee also will consider trends in terms of policies, techniques, regional interconnection and sustainable development.

The Committee is invited to take note of developments and trends in the field of energy, and provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

8. Activities of the expert group on fossil fuels
(E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/7)

Under this item, the Committee will review the activities of the expert group on fossil fuels, which was established by the executive secretariat in accordance to a recommendation made by the Committee at its eleventh session. The expert group acts as a subcommittee of the Committee on Energy. The expert group held its first meeting in Beirut on 5 December 2018.

The Committee is invited to take note of the expert group's activities and to guide its future work.

Arab cooperation in addressing climate change

9. Exploring the interface between nationally determined contributions and the Sustainable Development Goals: common goals (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/8)

Under this item, the Committee will be noted with the linkages between nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and the targets of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a focus on the targets of SDGs 7 and 13. Most intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) submitted by Arab countries are already clearly referenced SDG 7 and 13 targets, even when they lack quantifiable objectives associated with the proposed action plans and measures.

The Committee is invited to take note of the presented linkages and provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

10. Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies: an integrated approach to climate change (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/9)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the work of the Arab Centre for Climate Change, which was established pursuant to resolution 329 (XXX) adopted by ESCWA at its thirtieth session (Beirut, 25-28 June 2019) considering the scope of work and activities undertaken by the Centre between July 2018 and May 2019, and shows how integrated approaches and partnerships have been pursued to scale up the work of ESCWA on climate change.

The Committee is invited to provide proposals and recommendations on strengthening member States' participation in the Centre's work and on ways to support it.

Progress achieved towards the energy-related SDGs in the Arab region

11. Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals in national development plans (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/10)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the importance of the implementation of SDGs into existing national plans, strategies and policies through a multi – stakeholders approach for adaptation to national contexts, underlining the interlinkages between the social, economic and environmental development pillars; in addition to policy analysis, development, implementation and monitoring and the contextualization of issues.

The Committee is invited to provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

12. Progress in the field of energy: related SDGs in the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/11)

Under this item, the Committee will evaluate the progress in terms of the Goal's indicators for energy access, energy efficiency and renewable energy as well as other SDGs that have explicit or implicit links to sustainable energy and priority actions for the next four years.

The Committee is invited to review progress and provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

13. Water – Energy – Food nexus in the Arab region (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/12)

Under this item, the Committee will consider existing initiatives under the – water – energy - food nexus approach, and capacity-building activities undertaken by the secretariat to support those initiatives in

member States to implement related SDGs. The Committee will also consider collaboration with the League of Arab States in this field.

The Committee is invited to provide guidance on applying the water- energy – food nexus in relevant ministries, and to provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

14. Round-table discussion: Energy in national sustainable development plans
(E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/CRP.1)

Under this item, the Committee will discuss the importance of achieving the water – energy – food nexus under the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals through creating a sustainable approach between relevant sectors, and adopting this approach as a lifestyle by the citizens and the government in order to face the challenges and benefit from the opportunities. Discussions will also cover major challenges that have been overcome and the way forward.

Programmatic issues

15. Proposed programme plan for 2020 in the area of integrated natural resource management for sustainable development (E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/13)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the proposed programme plan for 2020 that was prepared under ESCWA subprogramme 1 on the integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development. The proposed programme plan for 2020 was presented to the ESCWA Executive Committee, which adopted it at its fifth session (Beirut, 18-19 December 2018).

The Committee is invited to take note of the plan and to provide proposals and recommendations thereon.

16. Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee on Energy

Under this item, the Committee will consider the date and venue of its thirteenth meeting.

17. Other matters

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

18. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Energy at its twelfth session

Under this item, the Committee will consider the draft recommendations made at its twelfth session for discussion and adoption.
