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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Working Party On Gas

Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas

Third session, 24 January 2002

REPORT

1. The third session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas was attended by the representatives of the following countries: Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.
2. Chairman of the session: Mr. Ante ZEDELJ (Croatia); Vice-Chairperson: Mrs. Maria Teresa SÃO PEDRO (Portugal).
3. The Group of Experts adopted its agenda (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2002/1) (Agenda item 1).
4. The Group of Experts took note of the decisions of the twelfth session of the Working Party on Gas (ENERGY/WP.3/2002/2) (Agenda item 2).

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I. Technological and ecological norms, required for the design and operation of gas distribution networks (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2000/6 and Add.1) (Agenda item 3)

5. Decisions:

(a) To invite those countries who have not yet replied to the questionnaire to send their replies to the secretariat, before 1 April 2002;

(b) To invite the General Rapporteur from the Russian Federation to prepare a draft consolidated report by 1 June 2002, for consideration at the next session.

II. Existing standards and regulations on permissible concentrations of harmful components in gaseous fuels and gaseous fuel combustion products (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2000/7 and Add 1.) (Agenda item 4)

6. Decisions:

(a) To invite those countries who have not yet replied to the questionnaire to send their replies to the secretariat, before 1 April 2002;

(b) To invite the General Rapporteur from Poland to prepare a draft consolidated report by 1 June 2002, for consideration at the next session.

III. Use of horizontal wells in underground gas storage (ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/2000/8) (Agenda item 5)

7. Decisions:

(a) To request the secretariat to send out a questionnaire before 1 March 2002;

(b) To invite those countries which have an appropriate experience to send replies to the questionnaire to the rapporteur from Hungary (Mr. Tamas KOROSI, Senior Ministerial Counsellor, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Vigado u.6, Budapest, H-1051, Hungary, fax: 36 1 235 4430) with a copy to the secretariat before 1 June 2002;

(c) To invite the rapporteur from Hungary to prepare a draft report before 1 September.2002.

IV. Programme of work (Agenda item 6)

8. Decisions:

(a) To include in the programme of work a new programme element "Gas networks balancing", proposed by the delegation of Hungary; and to invite Mr. S. Bogoly, rapporteur from

Hungary, to prepare a project proposal, including a questionnaire, before 1 April 2002 and submit it to the secretariat;

(b) To include in the programme of work a new programme element “Existing standards for CNG filling stations”, proposed by the delegation of Portugal; and To invite Mrs. SM.T. Sao Pedro, rapporteur from Portugal, to prepare a project proposal, including a questionnaire, before 1 April 2002 and submit it to the secretariat;

(c) To request the secretariat to organize, together with the Chairman of the Group of Experts, Mr. A. Zedelj and the rapporteur from Slovenia, Mr. D. Skerbinek, a presentation by one of the leading companies on “Application of new techniques and technologies in the diagnostics of gas transmission lines”, to be made at the next session of the Group of Experts;

(d) To consider launching at the next session an update of the project “Methods for detection of gas leakages during extraction, transportation, distribution and storage of natural gas”;

(e) To accept, with appreciation, the proposal of Mr. N. Riley, United Kingdom, to make presentations at the next session on the “Transport and storage of hydrogen” and “Economics of synthetic natural gas manufacture from lignite – an experience from N. Dakota, USA”.

(f) To approve the programme of work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts, as reproduced in the Annex.

V. Other business (Agenda item 7)

9. No other business was discussed under this agenda item.

VI. Date of next session (Agenda item 8)

10. The fourth session of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts will be held in Geneva, on Thursday, 23 January 2003.

VII. Election of Officers (Agenda item 9)

11. Mr. Ante ZEDELJ (Croatia) and Mrs. Maria Teresa SÃO PEDRO (Portugal) were re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairperson, respectively.

ANNEX

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2002-2003

06.5.6 GAS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, STORAGE AND RATIONAL USE OF GAS(continuing)

06.5.6.1 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transportation systems: diagnostics of gas transmission lines (1996-2003)

Description: Study of various methods and techniques applied in the diagnostics of high-pressure gas pipelines in different countries.

Work to be undertaken: To organize a lecture by one of the leading companies/organizations on the “Application of new techniques and technologies in the diagnostics of gas transmission lines”.

06.5.6.2 Methods for detection of gas leakages during extraction, transportation, distribution and storage of natural gas (1994-2003)

Description: Study of various aspects related to gas leakages and methods of their detection.

Work to be undertaken: To launch an update of this topic at the next session.

06.5.6.3 Use of horizontal wells in underground gas storage (2000-2003)

Description: Review and analysis of methods and techniques used in drilling and operation of horizontal wells in underground gas storage.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of replies to the questionnaire prepared by the Rapporteur from Hungary.

06.5.6.4 Technical and ecological norms required for the design, construction and operation of local gas distribution systems, including household gas installations (1999-2003)

Description: To review existing norms, standards and techniques related to the design, construction and operation of gas distribution networks and household gas appliances.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of a draft consolidated report prepared by the rapporteur from the Russian Federation.

06.5.6.5 Existing standards and regulations on permissible concentrations of harmful components in gaseous fuels and gaseous fuels combustion products (1999-2003)

Description: To review and study standards and regulations applied in countries.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of a draft consolidated report prepared by the rapporteur from Poland.

06.5.6.6 Gas networks balancing (2002-2003)

Description: Exchange of experience in balancing of gas transportation networks as an instrument to enhance security of gas supply.

Work to be undertaken: Review of the questionnaire to be prepared by the rapporteur from Hungary.

06.5.6.7 Existing standards for CNG filling stations (2002-2003)

Description: To compile an inventory of existing standards (national and international) on the compressed natural gas filling stations.

Work to be undertaken: Review of the questionnaire to be prepared by the rapporteur from Portugal.
