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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
WORKING PARTY ON GAS

Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources  
Seventeenth session, 16-17 June 1994

REPORT

ATTENDANCE

1. The session was attended by representatives of Austria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation and Spain. Algeria participated under Article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

AGENDA ADOPTED (Agenda item 1)

2. DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE WORKING PARTY ON GAS  
CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF GAS (Agenda item 2)

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/24, paras. 26, 27, 31 and 32 and ENERGY/WP.3/7,  
paras. 8 and 12.

3. Decision:

to take note of the decisions of the third session of the Committee on Energy and of the fourth session of the Working Party on Gas of concern to the work of the Meeting of Experts.

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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND RECOVERY FACTOR IN GAS RESERVOIRS (Agenda item 3)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/R.9

4. Decisions:

- (a) to invite a Rapporteur from the Russian Federation to prepare, by 1 September 1994, a final version of a questionnaire, taking into account comments and recommendations made by delegations during the session;
- (b) to request the secretariat to send this questionnaire to Governments by 15 December 1994;
- (c) to invite Governments to send replies to the questionnaire by 1 March 1995 to Mr. V. Ermakov, Chief of Laboratory, VNIIGAZ, pos. Razvilka, 142 717 Moskovskaya Oblast, Leninsky Rayon, Russian Federation, and to the secretariat;
- (d) to invite Mr. Ermakov to prepare a draft consolidated report by 1 May 1995, for consideration at the next session;
- (e) to invite Governments to send to the secretariat, by 1 October 1994, their proposals with regard to the feasibility of organizing a workshop on "New Developments and Trends in Gas Exploration and Production Technologies".

ASSESSMENT OF NATURAL GAS RESOURCES AND ANNUAL COLLECTION OF DATA ON NATURAL GAS RESERVES (Agenda item 4)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/R.12

5. Decisions:

- (a) to collect information on natural gas reserves on an annual basis;
- (b) to request the secretariat to send a reminder to Governments to complete the questionnaire;
- (c) to invite Governments to submit replies to the questionnaire on their natural gas reserves by 1 March 1995, calculated as of 31 December 1994;
- (d) to request the secretariat to issue the information received by 1 May 1995 for consideration at the next session.

PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE EXPLORATION OF NATURAL GAS DEPOSITS LOCATED IN ABNORMALLY HIGH PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS AND EXTREMELY DEEP GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS (Agenda item 5)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/R.6/Add.1/Rev. 1 and Adds. 2-4

6. Decisions:

- (a) to invite Governments to send further replies, if any, to the questionnaire by 1 November 1994, to Mr. V. Ermakov (see para. 4(c) above);
- (b) to invite Mr. Ermakov to prepare a draft report based on available replies and any additional information on this subject, by 1 March 1995;
- (c) to request the secretariat to issue the draft report by 1 May 1995 for consideration at the next session.

GLOSSARY ON NATURAL GAS RESERVES AND ECONOMY OF THEIR EXPLOITATION  
(Agenda item 6)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/R.10

7. Decisions:

- (a) to invite Governments, who have not done so, to send their comments to the Glossary to Mr. H. Porth, Rapporteur from Germany, Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Bodenforschung, Abt. 1, Postfach 510153, 3000 Hannover 51, Germany, by 1 October 1994;
- (b) to invite Mr. Porth to send a revised version of the Glossary to the secretariat by 31 December 1994;
- (c) to request the secretariat to issue a revised version of the Glossary by 1 March 1995 for consideration at the next session.

DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS OF UNCONVENTIONAL GAS RESOURCES, SUCH AS TIGHT FORMATIONS, METHANE FROM COAL SEAMS, HYDRATES ETC. AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WITH THEIR PRODUCTION (Agenda item 7)

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/R.11

8. Decisions:

- (a) to invite Mr. C. Jaracz, Rapporteur from Poland, to send to the secretariat a revised version of the questionnaire by 1 October 1994;
- (b) to request the secretariat to issue a revised version of the questionnaire by 31 December 1994;
- (c) to invite Governments to send replies to the questionnaire to Mr. C. Jaracz, Polish Oil and Gas Institute, ul. Powstancow Warszawskich 35, 38400, Krosno, Poland, with a copy to the secretariat, by 1 March 1995;
- (d) to invite Mr. C. Jaracz to prepare a draft report and send it to the secretariat by 15 April 1995, for consideration at the next session;
- (e) to request the secretariat to invite Mr. R. Malone, Expert from the United States of America, to contribute to the preparation of a draft report, or to deliver a lecture at the next session on the Developments and Prospects of Gas Hydrates.

PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF GAS CONDENSATE RESERVES AND RESOURCES, INCLUDING METHODS OF ENHANCED CONDENSATE RECOVERY (Agenda item 8)

9. Decision:

to invite the Delegation of Algeria to inform the secretariat on the status of the preparation of the seminar on this subject.

PROGRAMME OF WORK (Agenda item 9)

10. Decision:

to adopt the programme of work of the Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources as described in the annex to this report.

OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 10)

Improvement of the work of the Meeting of Experts

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/R.28

11. Decisions:

- (a) to take note of the information provided by the secretariat;

- (b) to request the secretariat to report to the Working Party on Gas on the unanimous decision of delegations to continue the work of the Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources as an independent technical group;
- (c) to invite Governments to stimulate the work of this Meeting of Experts by sending their representatives to its sessions.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda item 11)

12. 12-13 June 1995, starting at on 12 June at 3 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda item 12)

13. Mr. A. van Adrichem Boogaert (Netherlands) and Mr. A. Bauk (Croatia) were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda item 13)

14. The Meeting of Experts adopted the report of its seventeenth session on 17 June 1994.

ANNEX

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1994-1996

06.5.5.5 Assessment of natural gas resources, including geological and geophysical methods of prospecting for natural gas (continuing)

Description: Assessment and evaluation of natural gas resources, reserves and production.

Work to be undertaken: Exchange of views, experience and other relevant information.

06.5.5.5.1 Relationship between the production technology and recovery factor in gas reservoirs (1988-1995)

Description: Exchange of information on recent technologies and related studies to increase gas recovery. Address issues on increased gas recovery of concern to economies in transition.

Work to be undertaken: To consider a draft consolidated report on "New Developments and Needs to Improve Exploration and Production of Natural Gas in Eastern and Central Europe during the Transition Period".

06.5.5.5.2 Problems encountered with the exploration of natural gas deposits located in abnormally high pressure and temperature conditions and very deep geological deposits (1988-1995)

Description: Exchange of information and experience on recent technical developments in methods of exploration of deep geological formations and problems encountered with their exploration.

Work to be undertaken: To consider a draft consolidated report on this subject prepared by the Rapporteur from the Russian Federation.

06.5.5.5.3 Developments and prospects of unconventional gas resources, such as tight formations, methane from coal seams, hydrates, etc. and problems encountered with their exploration and production (1990-1995)

Description: Exchange of information and experience on production and utilization of coal-bed methane, including economic, environmental, safety and other factors associated with this resource and other non-conventional gas resources.

Work to be undertaken: To consider a draft consolidated report on "Developments and Prospects of Gas Resources from Tight Formations" prepared by the Rapporteur from Poland.

06.5.5.4 Glossary of natural gas reserves and the economy of their exploitation (1988-1995)

Description: Improvement, update and extension of the Glossary.

Work to be undertaken: Consideration of a final version of the Glossary.

06.5.5.5 Assessment of natural gas resources and annual collection of data on natural gas reserves (1992-1995)

Description: Annual survey of natural gas reserves.

Work to be undertaken: To consider replies to the annual questionnaire on natural gas reserves and to prepare a summary report.

06.5.5.6 Problems related to the assessment and development of gas condensate reserves and resources, including methods of enhanced condensate recovery (1993-1995)

Description: Exchange of information on recent technologies related to the assessment and calculation of condensate reserves and resources and on problems encountered with the development of gas condensate fields.

Work to be undertaken: To consider organizing a workshop on this subject.