Assessment of 2\textsuperscript{nd} session of Committee on Energy
Bangkok | 9 – 11 October 2019

**ATTENDANCE**

- **Number of Participants**
  - 112
  - 29 Members & associate members
  - 63% ESCAP members attended
  - 61% delegations headed by officials from capital
  - 29% women representation

**PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

- **Relevance**
  - Relevant to country needs: 88
  - Reflect present trends/issues: 90

- **Efficiency**
  - Organization of work: 95
  - Communications: 94
  - Service by secretariat: 97
  - Time available for...: 98

- **Effectiveness**
  - Gender issues: 76
  - Session documents: 89
  - Review draft regional roadmap: 85
  - Review national roadmaps: 85
  - Promote dialogue: 90
  - Discussion on trends & issues: 88

- **COMMENTS/ SUGGESTIONS**

  **To strengthen effectiveness:**
  - Perhaps, delegate could be tasked with group breakout session or some related topics which they could brainstorm and later present before closing of session's meeting.
  - It would be good there are separate sessions for Pacific and Asia to discuss effectively before a combined session where they can communicate to the Chair. This would allow the Pacific countries to properly talk about their issues effectively.

  **To strengthen efficiency:**
  - As the meeting ended earlier on both days, it may be useful for Secretariat to be better gauge the time needed for the next meeting of the Committee on Energy.
  - ESCAP should present the result relating to SDG7 in graph or simple picture.

This assessment is prepared by the Strategy and Programme Management Division based on written feedback to a survey questionnaire provided to the government delegations who attended the 2\textsuperscript{nd} session of the Committee on Energy.

Please contact us at escap-spmd@un.org should you require further information &/ clarification.

*Responses are rated as follow: 81-100: Very high; 61-80: High; 41-60: Medium; 21-40: Low; 1-20: Very low*
Summary Assessment

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Committee on Energy, second session
Bangkok
9-11 October 2019

I. Introduction

The Committee on Energy, second session was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 9-11 October 2019.

A questionnaire assessing the relevance, effectiveness and quality of the meeting was distributed to each delegation of ESCAP members and associate members. In total, 23 of the 39 members and associate members in attendance submitted questionnaires. The overall response rate is therefore 59 per cent. The present assessment was prepared on the basis of these questionnaire responses.

The main purpose of this assessment is to support the secretariat’s ongoing efforts to improve its servicing of session.

II. Attendance

The Committee on Energy was attended by 63 per cent of all ESCAP members and associate members (39 of 62). 24 of the delegations (61 per cent) were headed by officials from the respective capital. From ESCAP members and associate members, there were 112 individual participants, of whom 38 were female (34 per cent).

A number of other entities participated, including United Nations bodies and agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and observers. From these entities, there were 29 participants, of whom 3 were female (10 per cent).

Therefore, the total number of participants from both governments and other entities is 141 individuals and the total number of female participants is 41 (29 per cent).

III. Relevance of the session

The overall relevance was rated favorably. Respondents agreed that the agenda items reflected the present development trends/issues in the area of strategies on energy for sustainable development and are relevant to the needs and priorities of their countries/territories (See table 1).
There were a few comments and suggestions on how to make the session more relevant to the needs and priorities of participating member States:

- Bhutan is blessed with abundant natural resources for clean energy generation and today only about 6% of the total potential is harnessed. Therefore, such sessions are very important in formulating plans and strategies.
- Include transport sector for next session. Pacific countries are looking into transportation.
- Very much synergistic with our interest-welcome more opportunities to provide ideas for collaboration.
- For most Pacific islands, we have constraints in efficient transportation and human resources to achieve energy targets. Solution-use of wind sail and technical training installation of renewable energy technology.
- The forms of having a tool has the NEXTSTEP to assist with modelling, monitoring of SDG7 goals is relevant to my country needs. As the meeting discussed, most countries are far from achieving their SDG7 goals by 2030, hence the NEXTSTEP and good cooperation assist to fast track their processes.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATED STATEMENT</th>
<th>INDEX (0-100)²</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The agenda items reflected the present development trends/issues in the area of strategies on energy for sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region.</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The agenda items are relevant to the needs and priorities of my country/territory.</td>
<td>88</td>
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</table>

IV. Effectiveness of the session

The respondents rated positively regarding the session’s effectiveness in promoting dialogue on the status and progress towards attainment of Sustainable Development Goal 7 and related needs for regional cooperation. However, the respondents gave a slightly lower rating for the effectiveness of the session in addressing gender-related issues (See table 2).

There were a few comments and suggestions on how to make the session more effective:

- Perhaps, delegate could be tasked with group breakout session or some related topics which they could brainstorm and later present before closing of session’s meeting.
- Countries to present best practice, e.g. efficient cooking practice.
- It would be good there are separate sessions for Pacific and Asia to discuss effectively before a combined session where they can communicate to the Chair. This would allow the Pacific countries to properly talk about their issues effectively.

1 All comments and suggestions provided are recorded verbatim in this assessment.

2 Methodology, an index between 100 and 0 is given, whereby, at a value of 100, all respondents rate to a great extent to the statement, and, at a value of 0, all respondents rate to not at all.

Index = actual value of all aggregated responses - minimum value of all aggregated responses / maximum value of all aggregated responses - minimum value of all aggregated responses.
V. Efficiency of the session

The respondents rated positively on all aspects of efficiency of the session (See table 3). There were a few comments and suggestions on the efficiency of the organizational and servicing aspects of the session:
- Superb and friendly staff.
- None – all good

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVALUATED STATEMENT</th>
<th>INDEX (0-100)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The time available for discussion during the sessions was adequate.</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The servicing by the secretariat was efficient and effective.</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>The communications from the secretariat to the member States on the preparations for the session were effective.</td>
<td>94</td>
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<tr>
<td>The organization of work prior and in between sessions enabled the meeting to proceed efficiently.</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. Other comments

The respondents indicated concrete actions that their government would take in response to the decisions and recommendations of the session included:
- The hydro power sector of Bhutan continues to be the main driver of economic growth, an important source of government revenue and vital instrument for
realizing the growth of socio-economic transformation and gross national happiness. Bhutan has 23GW of hydropower potential, 12uw solar PV and 76mw of wind power. As of today, Bhutan do not have any power generation from solar but have at least 600kW wind power as pilot project and a hydro install capacity of 2326MW. From this, after meeting the domestic demand more than 70% of power generated is exported to India. Furthermore, Bhutan has committed to develop 10MW of hydropower by 2020 and 25MW of energy generation from Renewable sources by 2025 to diversify the energy sources and enhance energy security. Will make use of report, regional roadmap as well as the Sustainable Energy in Asia & Pacific.

- We are looking forward to receiving support from the Secretariat for the pilot program for national roadmap for implementing SDG 7 in Vietnam. Thank you so much.
- I will propose to my government to fully support and endorse the meeting outcomes, through implementation at the recommendation.
- A report should be submitted to the UN ESCAP office.

Other comments and suggestions for the session are as follow:
- As the meeting ended earlier on both days, it may be useful for Secretariat to be better gauge the time needed for the next meeting of the committee on Energy.
- Excellent analysis.
- ESCAP should present the result relating to SDG7 in graph or simple picture.

VII. Conclusion

Overall, responding delegations agreed that the second session of the Committee on Energy was successful.

The session was generally seen as relevant to the needs of the region. The effectiveness of the session was seen to be positive in highlighting regional development trends and issues. The efficiency of the session also received positive feedback.