

**ENERGY CHARTER
SECRETARIAT**

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Brussels, 22 November 2022

Related documents: CC 773

DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Report by the Chair of the Working Group on Governance Issues and extension of the Working Group's mandate

The Energy Charter Conference, at its 33rd Statutory Meeting held on 22 November 2022, **took note** of the attached Report by the Chair of the Working Group on Governance Issues and **approved** the extension of the mandate of the Working Group until the implementation of all the remaining assignments.

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE ISSUES AND EXTENSION OF THE WORKING GROUP'S MANDATE

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Working Group on Governance Issues in 2022.

Meetings and officers

1. In 2022, the Working Group held three ordinary meetings; two of them were conducted online (24 February and 19 September) and one was held in hybrid mode (16 May). All the meetings were chaired by the Working Group's Chair, Ms. Klara Rakhmetova (Kazakhstan), while Mr. Towfick Sufian (Yemen) was acting as Vice-Chair.

The Working Group continued to address the following main topics (in line with the mandate given in the Conclusions of the 2019 Review, the Group's terms of reference and related tasks by delegations)

2. The Working Group continued discussing *potential revisions to the Staff Manual* in close consultation with the Staff Committee. After three years, this activity is still in progress and will be subject to further discussions next year, given the intention of the Secretary-General to suggest further amendments.¹
3. After finalisation of the amendments to the Staff Manual, the Working Group will resume the discussion on the draft Manual on the applicability of the internal regulations and rules to Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General.²
4. At its last meeting this year, the Working Group finalised the discussion on the draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Energy Charter Conference. On 10 October, the amendments to the Rules of Procedure were approved by the Conference by correspondence (CCDEC 2022 17).
5. Although the structure of the Energy Charter Secretariat (the Secretariat) was approved last year,³ the Secretary-General suggested – taking into account the comments of the Staff Committee – to consider a new structure for more efficiency and to reflect the day-to-day work and the new challenges of the Secretariat. This new structure was discussed at the meetings on 16 May and 19 September. The discussion will continue next year.²
6. To raise funding for the Organisation and support the Secretariat in implementing activities on clean energy transition, on 16 May, the Secretariat presented a draft concept note for the proposed Foundations Partnership Network (FPN). At its last meeting, the Working Group discussed the concept note, revised its terms of reference (ToR) and recommended the Conference to establish the FPN and to approve its revised ToR. On 10 October, the

¹ Subject to the extension of the Working Group's mandate.

² Room Document 1 Rev of 25 February 2022 (meeting of 24 February 2022), conclusion 5.

³ CCDEC202125.

Conference established the Foundations Partnership Network and approved its terms of reference (CCDEC 2022 18).

Outlook

7. The initial term of the Working Group's mandate was until the 32nd meeting of the Energy Charter Conference in 2021 (CCDEC 2020 07). On 5 December 2021, the term was extended until the 33rd meeting of the Conference (CCDEC 2021 18).
8. The Working Group was productive and finalised most of its mandate objectives, however, some activities and additional assignments are still in progress. Taking this into account, **the Conference is invited to take note of this report and to extend the mandate of the Working Group until implementation of all the remaining assignments.**