



Industrial Development Board

Forty-ninth session

Vienna, 12–15 July 2021

Item 17 of the provisional agenda

**Matters related to intergovernmental,
non-governmental, governmental and other
organizations**

Applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status

Note by the Director General

The present document provides information on the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO), and the Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET), two non-governmental organizations applying for consultative status with UNIDO.

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO), and the Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET), two non-governmental organizations (NGOs) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGOs is available with the Secretariat.
2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines, stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. In line with the procedures established by the Board at its forty-fifth session (IDB.45/Dec.16), the Enlarged Bureau of the Board shall review the present applications of, and information on, the NGOs referred to in the annex to the present document at its meeting prior to the forty-ninth session and submit its recommendations to the Bureau of the Board. The Bureau shall consider the applications and recommendations of the Enlarged Bureau at its first meeting on 12 July 2021.
3. At the subsequent plenary meeting, the President of the forty-ninth session shall inform the Board of the Bureau's recommendations on the applications and with the approval of the Bureau, the President shall present a draft decision to the Board for adoption.

For reasons of sustainability, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to refer to electronic versions of all documents.



Annex

Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO)

Historical background

GEIDCO was established in March 2016 by the State Grid Corporation of China to implement the Global Energy Interconnection (GEI) initiative, which was established in September 2015 to meet global power demand with clean and green alternatives.

The aim of GEIDCO is to promote global energy interconnection (GEI), a globally interconnected grid system on which clean energy can be developed, transmitted, and consumed on a large-scale, worldwide. Such an initiative also aims to promote the world's energy transition towards clean energy, in meeting the challenges of resource shortage, environmental pollution, climate change and universal access to electricity.

Statutes

Available.

Structure of governing bodies and administration

GEIDCO consists of the General Meeting of Members, the Council, an Advisory (Consultative) Board, a Technical (Academic) Committee, internal departments, and international branches. The General Meeting of Members is the highest authority of GEIDCO. The Council, is the executive body of the General Meeting, conducts the day-to-day operations of GEIDCO when the General Meeting is not in session and shall be accountable to the General Meeting.

Executive positions of GEIDCO are:

- Chairperson;
- Vice-Chairperson;
- Secretary-General;
- Assistant to Chairperson;
- Chief Operating Officer (COO);
- Chief Technology Officer (CTO);
- Deputy Secretary-General.

The General Meeting is held once every five years. The Chairperson calls for the General Meeting which can only be convened with more than two thirds of members present. Resolutions of the General Meeting may only be passed by the affirmative votes of half or more of the members present. The Council Meeting is held at least once per year. The Chairperson calls for the meeting which can only be convened if more than two thirds of the Council members are present. Resolutions of the meetings of the Council may only be passed by the affirmative votes of half or more of the Council members present.

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

GEIDCO has expressed its committed to contributing towards the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the work of UNIDO. Since its establishment in 2016, GEIDCO has been working on concept promotion, international cooperation, research studies, technology innovation and project proposal development. GEIDCO's focus is not limited to common energy topics such

as developing renewable energy and improving energy efficiency, but takes on the obligation to make continuous efforts in the area of promoting fair energy trade and carbon market, adapting to climate change, poverty eradication as well as risk and emergency management.

Relations with the United Nations, other IGOs and NGOs

GEIDCO concluded 40 memoranda of understanding with leading international organizations and institutions, and actively participated in events and projects led by UN ECOSOC, UN DESA, UNFCCC, UN ESCAP, UN ECLAC, and UN-OHRLLS, to jointly support sustainable development efforts. Furthermore, GEIDCO has an observer status within the UNFCCC and consultative status with UNEP. GEIDCO's applications for consultative status with UN ECOSOC and UNCTAD are under review.

Membership

GEIDCO has 1,157 members from 132 countries representing power and electricity enterprises, financial institutions, power equipment manufacturers, information and technology enterprises, press and media, universities and research institutions, construction enterprises, consulting firms, and NGOs.

Address of headquarters

Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization
(GIEDCO)

#8 Xuanwumennei Street, Xicheng District
100031 Beijing
China

Representative responsible for liaison with UNIDO:
Ms. BI Yanqiu, Director, Cooperation Division
Email: yanqiu-bi@geidco.org

Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET)

Historical background

GWNET was established in 2017 by four co-founders: Ms. Christine Lins (Austria), Ms. Barbara Fischer-Aupperle (Germany), Ms. Emily Koulouvaris (Greece) and Ms. Irene Giner-Reichl (Austria) and registered as an international association under Austrian law. Its first General Assembly was held on 26 June 2018 where it elected the first Board, in accordance with the Statutes of the organization.

Statutes

Available.

Structure of governing bodies and administration

GWNET's policymaking bodies are its General Assembly (to be convened at least every four years according to the statutes) and its Board. All physical persons approved as members of GWNET by a valid Board decision, are invited to participate in the General Assembly.

The Board consists of a chairperson and five members. The Board members serve pro-bono and are elected by the General Assembly, or – if a change in Board composition is warranted in between General Assembly meetings – through co-option by Board members.

Legal entities can support GWNET as corporate sponsors. Such legal entities do not have a voice in the General Assembly. An Advisory Council advises the policymaking organs and the Executive Director.

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

GWNET is dedicated to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 5 in the overall approach to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Essentially all GWNET activities relate to the accomplishment of UNIDO's objectives in as much as they contribute to the realization of SDG 7 and SDG 5 and other related SDGs.

With a special focus on climate change, sustainable infrastructure and sustainable cities, GWNET has already established a fruitful cooperation with UNIDO, including in the context of the Vienna Energy Forum.

GWNET supports women active in sustainable energy through networking, mentoring and knowledge transfers. It advocates for greater inclusiveness of the energy sector in general, keeping in mind that energy transitions entail deep societal transformations that will benefit from being able to draw from as wide and diverse a talent pool as possible.

Relations with the United Nations, other IGOs and NGOs

GWNET maintains constructive and mutually useful relations to a number of non-governmental organizations which are relevant to GWNET's objectives. It has been invited to participate in the United Nations Secretary General's Technical Working Group on Energy Action to Advance other SDGs in preparation for the High-Level Dialogue on Energy at the General Assembly in the fall of 2021. GWNET has also been invited to participate in the Lancet COVID-19 Commission's Green Recovery Taskforce as well as the Green Growth Knowledge Platform's working group on gender.

GWNET is a member of the IRENA-led Sustainable Energy Jobs Platform. GWNET furthermore co-leads the UNIDO Call to Action on Youth and Women in Sustainable Energy announced on 13 January 2021 and cooperates with the United

Nations system and other relevant international organizations, such as IRENA (several collaborations on Women in Sustainable Energy, Women in Wind), OECD/IEA (in particular the Clean Energy Ministerial Secretariat) and the OSCE. GWNET is preparing its application for consultative status with ECOSOC.

Membership

To date, 1,500 women from all regions of the world have registered on GWNET's "Women Experts in Energy Platform".

Address of headquarters

GWNET – Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition
Auhofstrasse 12/2/4
A-1130 Vienna /Austria
Email: info@globalwomennet.org

Representative responsible for liaison with UNIDO:
Ms. Irene Giner-Reichl, Chairperson of the Board
Email: irene.giner-reichl@globalwomennet.org
