

Steering Committee Meeting n°9

Renewable Energy House, 63-65 rue d'Arlon 1000 Brussels.
22 March 2010 – 3 to 6.30 PM

Minutes

Contents

1.	Participants list.....	2
2.	Agenda	4
3.	Main decisions.....	5
	Introduction.....	5
	Inclusion of Mr. Tande in the TPWind Steering Committee.....	5
	The 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan	6
	The TOP Wind project.....	7
	The 6 th General Assembly: programme	9
4.	Meeting documents	9
5.	Next meetings.....	10
6.	Annex: List of abbreviations	11

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April 2010

1. Participants list

Steering Committee

Name	First Name	Company/Institute	Alternate
Beurskens	Jos	ECN	
Chaviaropoulos	Takis	CRES	
Gertmar	Lars	ABB	
Hessel	Christoph	GE Wind	Jaco Nies
Holttinen	Hannele	VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland	
Kariniotakis	George	Ecole des Mines de Paris	
Kruse	Henning	Siemens	
MacAskill	Allan	Sea Energy Renewables	
Nath	Christian	Germanischer Lloyd	
Nielsen	Frank	LM	
O'Kane	Paddy	Airtricity	
Petersen	Erik Lundtang	Risoe National Laboratory	
Prats	Josep	Ecotecnia	
Santamaria	Angeles	Iberdrola	
Stroem Madsen	Finn	Vestas	Lise Backer
Tande	John Olav	SINTEF	
Thor	Sven-Erik	Vattenfall	
Donoso	José	Gamesa	
Widstrand	Susanna	Swedish Energy Agency	

Steering Committee - not represented

Name	First Name	Company/Institute
Borri	Claudio	CRIACIV at Università di Firenze
Buddenberg	Joerg	EWE AG
Gasco	Carlos	Iberdrola
Flamang	Peter	Hansen Transmissions International
Hohmeyer	Olav	Flensburg University
Quarton	David	Garrad Hassan
Skarzynski	Grzegorz	Polish Wind Energy Association
Zervós	Arthouros	NTUA

Secretariat

Name	First Name	Company/Institute
Hjuler Jensen	Peter	Risoe
Fichaux	Nicolas	EWEA
Gagliardi	Filippo	EWEA
Wokke	Sharon	EWEA

2. Agenda

Time	Monday March 22 nd , 2010
15:00	Introduction and welcome of participants (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson</i>)
15:15	Presentation of Mr. John Tande and vote on his inclusion in the Steering Committee (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson, to chair</i>)
15:45	The 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan and its managing structure (<i>Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretariat</i>) Following the presentation, an open discussion will follow (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson, to chair</i>)
16:45	Coffee Break
17:15	The TOP Wind project, the upcoming “call for expression of interest” and the future of the Platform (<i>Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Secretariat</i>)
17:45	The 6 th General Assembly: presentation of the Programme and preparation of Working Group meetings (<i>Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Secretariat</i>) Following the presentation, an open discussion will follow (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson, to chair</i>)
18:30	Conclusions and next meeting

3. Main decisions

Introduction

Henning Kruse, Chair of the Platform, opened the meeting by welcoming participants and listing the recent achievements of TPWind, such as the development of the 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan, which was discussed at the 5th General Assembly, and its successful presentation to the European Commission and Member States.

Further to that, he informed Steering Committee members that the Windsec project, which provided funding to the TPWind Secretariat through the FP6 over the past three years, was successfully completed on March 20th, 2010. For this reason, the Secretariat submitted a new proposal to the European Commission on March 4th, 2010, in order to extend the financial support for the 2010 – 2013 period.

The new project, called TOP Wind (Technology platform Operational Programme Wind) should be funded through the FP7 and launched in November 2010 at the latest.

Some of the future tasks of the Steering Committee will be the following:

- ;
- Select new TPWind members through an ad-hoc “call for expression of interest” to be launched in the summer of 2010 (150 members in total will be recruited – i.e. 30 for each of the new 5 Working Groups);
- Approve the new structure of TPWind, to be put in place officially with the launch of the TOP Wind project. The new structure will include an Advisory Board, whose members will be invited by the Steering Committee during the summer of 2010;
- Contribute to the implementation of the Wind Energy Roadmap by joining the wind EII team that the European Commission will establish in the coming weeks.

Election of Mr. Tande as Steering Committee member

On December 8th, 2009, the application of Mr. John Tande was submitted to the secretariat as Steering Committee member. Mr Tande’s candidacy was supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy. Further to that, Mr. Tande is a respected professional, well known both in the Platform and in the wind energy sector. On December 18th, 2009, the TPWind Executive Committee accepted to submit his application to the Steering Committee.

Following his introduction, Mr Tande was elected unanimously as the 26th TPWind Steering Committee member.

The 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan

Nicolas Fichaux presented the 2010 – 2012 Wind Energy Roadmap Implementation Plan, which was developed on the basis of inputs provided by TPWind members at the 5th General Assembly, held in Brussels in November 2009.

The Implementation Plan, finalized in January 2010, was presented to the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre and SET-Plan High-Level Steering Group representatives in February and March. The Wind Energy Roadmap was always well welcomed and only minor adjustments to its Implementation Plan had to be implemented as a consequence of the meetings.

According to the latest information available, three European Industrial Initiatives (EIs) are expected to be launched at the Madrid SET-Plan workshop on June 3rd and 4th, 2010, i.e. the Wind, Grids, and Solar one. Their launch would imply that their managing structures will be put in place and that their Implementation Plans will be translated into calls for proposals or other funding opportunities at both EU and national level.

TPWind will play a key role in the implementation of the Roadmap, through the Wind EI team, which will be composed of EC, EIB, Member States, industry and R&D community representatives. The team will agree, on a yearly basis, which actions included in the Implementation Plan should be launched, how and by whom. Its proposal will have to be approved by the SET-Plan High Level Steering Group before being transmitted to relevant EU and national authorities for implementation.

This managing structure, recently identified by the European Commission, is very similar to the one originally proposed by TPWind at the Stockholm SET-Plan workshop in October 2009.

In his presentation, Nicolas Fichaux also outlined the upcoming calls for proposals of the New Entrants Reserve (NER) 300, which will be launched at Member State level. The NER 300 calls (their budget will be equivalent to 300 m carbon allowances, i.e. approximately € 4 bn) will be funded through the EIB and will aim at supporting carbon capture and storage (CCS) as well as renewable energy (RES) projects.

Every Member State will have the right to submit a maximum of 3 projects to the European Investment Bank, which will rank them on the basis of their financial robustness. The final decision will however be taken by the European Commission, which should fund a minimum of 8 CCS and 34 RES actions. However, there will be no upfront split between the CCS and RES funds, which means that every application will have to be very competitive in order to be selected for funding.

There will be two NER 300 calls:

- In 2010, equivalent to 200 m allowances (for projects starting in 2011);
- In 2012, equivalent to 100 m allowance (for projects starting in 2013).

Compulsory specifications for wind energy projects have already been identified and are outlined below:

- Off-shore wind (minimum turbines size 6 MW) with nominal capacity 40 MW;

- Off-shore wind (minimum turbines size 8 MW) with nominal capacity 40 MW;
- Off-shore wind (minimum turbines size 10 MW) with nominal capacity 40 MW;
- Floating off-shore wind systems with nominal capacity 25 MW;
- On-shore wind turbines optimised for complex terrains (e.g. forested terrains, mountainous areas): with nominal capacity 25 MW;
- On-shore wind turbines optimised for cold climates (compatible with temperature lower than - 30°C and severe icing conditions) with nominal capacity 25 MW.

Steering Committee members expressed the concern that the small size of offshore projects identified by the EC, combined with the obligation to already have permits in place, will not facilitate the development of many applications. The solution could be to add additional turbines to be tested to existing wind farms.

Further to that, Steering Committee members highlighted the fact that actions focusing on training were removed from the Wind Energy Roadmap by the European Commission, even if the lack of specialized human resources could become a bottleneck in the development of wind energy.

However, the EC is aware of the gap and TPWind will push for the implementation of corrective policies. This will be done in the framework of TOP Wind, i.e. the new project that will provide financial support to the Platform over the 2010 – 2013 period, since one of its planned deliverables is a report on current training opportunities for EU wind energy operators combined with a gap analysis that will represent the starting point for developing ad-hoc policies.

Nicolas Fichaux concluded by thanking Steering Committee members for their support and commitment in the development of the Wind Energy Roadmap and of its 2010 – 2012 Implementation Plan, which represent major achievements for TPWind and were always considered high quality deliverables at EU level.

The TOP Wind project

Filippo Gagliardi presented the TOP Wind project proposal, which was submitted to the EC on March 4th, 2010, in order to renew funding for the TPWind Secretariat. So far, its costs have been covered by the FP6 Windsec project, which was launched in 2007 and ended on March 20th, 2010.

The TOP Wind consortium will be the same of Windsec. Partners will be EWEA (which will be the project leader), Garrad Hassan, and Risoe/DTU. Should it be selected for funding, it will be launched in November 2010 at the latest.

Before the launch of TOP Wind, the structure of the Platform will be renewed by launching an ad-hoc “call for expression of interest”, which will be used to select new Working Groups members (150 in total, to be divided into 5 Working Groups – current Working Groups 5 and 6, focusing on policy issues, will be merged).

Steering Committee and Member States Mirror Group members will not change to ensure continuity.

The Steering Committee will be in charge of selecting new members during the summer, according to the following criteria:

- Candidate's years of experience;
- Candidate's specific areas of technology interest;
- Candidate's motivation;
- Balance of private and public organizations represented in the Platform;
- Balance of large companies and SMEs;
- Balance of Countries;
- Gender balance.

Further to that, the Steering Committee will be in charge of selecting the members of the new Advisory Board, i.e. a consultative body that will be established to support the Platform by providing external advice and by facilitating the development of new and stronger relationships between TPWind and key sectors and stakeholders (especially oil & gas, ocean and grid operators, which will play a key role in the implementation of the Wind Energy Roadmap in order to avoid duplication of efforts and fragmentation of activities).

Moreover, Working Groups will receive more support from Secretaries in the framework of TOP Wind; since they will support Chairs and Vice-Chairs not only in the preparation of Platform's meetings but also in the management of Working Groups. To this purpose, a yearly Work Plan will be established for each Working Group and their members could be divided into flexible, non-compulsory task forces, which will clarify where the expertise of TPWind lies and will encourage cooperation between WGs by making the development of cross-sectoral activities easier.

Finally, TPWind meetings will be scheduled since the launch of the TOP Wind project, in order to ensure facilitate the planning of Platform's activities.

Following the presentation of Mr. Gagliardi, Steering Committee members provided the following inputs in order to improve the implementation of the TOP Wind project:

- The selection of Advisory Board members will be essential to ensure its proper functioning. Invitations should therefore be for individuals, not organizations,;
- Task forces could be useful tools to improve the overall effectiveness of TPWind, but they should remain flexible and non-compulsory. Besides, the list of task forces included in the TOP Wind project will be adjusted depending on the platform's needs;
- TPWind should focus primarily on the implementation of the Wind Energy Roadmap. However, publishing a revised version of the SRA/MDS document could help the development of future Roadmap Implementation Plans (which have to be in line with the R&D challenges faced by the sector);
- As far as the scheduling of TPWind meetings is concerned, the Advisory Board should meet before the annual General Assembly (not after) and the workshop with EU officials could be organized as a major event (instead of a closed doors meeting), in order to further increase the visibility of the Platform (if the budget will allow it);

- Moreover, the Steering Committee should be in charge of identifying, together with the Advisory Board, the topics to be targeted by the annual general energy event, so as to ensure their relevance for TPWind;
- Finally, considering that TOP Wind should be launched in November 2010, the entire scheduling of TPWind meetings could be postponed by one month, in order to make sure that the Secretariat will have enough time to organize the first events properly.

All these aspects will be taken into consideration by the Secretariat in the negotiation of the Grant Agreement with the EC, should TOP Wind be selected for funding.

Further to that, the next Steering Committee meeting will focus also on the implementation of the TOP Wind project, which can be fine-tuned on the basis of the inputs provided by its members.

The 6th General Assembly: programme

The agenda of the 6th General Assembly, to be held on March 23rd, 2010, was presented by Filippo Gagliardi, together with the toolbox sent to Working Groups Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Secretaries to prepare and manage WG meetings.

Working Groups meetings will focus on the launch of the Roadmap and on the implementation of the actions included in its 2010 – 2012 Implementation Plan.

An unofficial list of known national priorities, in terms of support of wind energy, will be included in the delegates' package, so as to provide WG members with more information on the role that national funds could play in the implementation of the Roadmap.

Further to that, Working Group 3 will also focus on the interactions between the Wind and Grid Roadmaps, so as to ensure their proper implementation and avoid duplication of efforts or fragmentation of R&D activities, as requested by the European Commission.

As from 2010, only one General Assembly per year will be organized: the next one will therefore take place in the first week of April 2011.

4. Meeting documents

The main documents of this SC meeting are available online at the following address: <http://www.windplatform.eu/9.0.html>.

On demand, the Secretariat can provide PowerPoint presentations.

5. Next meetings

The next Steering Committee meeting will be organized in the second week of November 2010.

The first General Assembly of the new Technology Platform (i.e. in the framework of the TOP Wind project) will take place in the first week of April 2011.

The exact dates of meetings will be identified by the Executive Committee and notified to all TPWind members.

6. Annex: List of abbreviations

EC = European Commission

EIB = European Investment Bank

EIT = European Institute of Technology

ETS = Emission Trading System

EWI = European Wind Initiative

FP6 = 6th Framework Programme for Research and Development

FP7 = 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development

GA = General Assembly

MS = Member State

MSMG = Member States Mirror Group

NER = New Entrants Reserve

SC = Steering Committee