

Steering Committee Meeting n° 7

Renewable Energy House, 63-65 rue d'Arlon 1000 Brussels.
12 May 2009 – 3 to 6.30 PM

Minutes

Contents

1.Participants list.....	2
2.Agenda.....	4
3.Main decisions	5
Introduction.....	5
European Wind Initiative: state of play.....	5
SRA/MDS Implementation Plan: state of play	7
Future of TPWind.....	8
4th General Assembly: programme	9
4.Meeting documents	9
5.Next meetings.....	9

Developed by TPWind Secretariat

July 2009

1. Participants list

Steering Committee

Name	First Name	Company/Institute	Alternate
Beurskens	Jos	ECN	
Chaviaropoulos	Takis	CRES	
Flamang	Peter	Hansen Transmissions International	
Gertmar	Lars	ABB	
Hessel	Christoph	GE Wind	
Holtinen	Hannele	VTT	
Kruse	Henning	Siemens	
Nielsen	Frank	LM	
Petersen	Erik Lundtang	Risoe National Laboratory	
Prats	Josep	Ecotecnia	
Quarton	David	Garrad Hassan	
Stroem Madsen	Finn	Vestas	Lise Backer
Thor	Sven-Erik	Vattenfall	
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
Hohmeyer	Olav	Flensburg University
Kariniotakis	George	Ecole des Mines de Paris
MacAskill	Allan	Sea Energy Renewables
Nath	Christian	Germanischer Lloyd
O'Kane	Paddy	Airtricity
Santamaria	Angeles	Iberdrola
Skarzynski	Grzegorz	Polish Wind Energy Association
Villanueva-Monzon	Mauro	Gamesa
Zervós	Arthouros	NTUA

Secretariat

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

2. Agenda

Time	Tuesday May 12 th , 2009
15:00	Introduction and welcome of participants (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson</i>)
15:10	European Wind Initiative: state of play (<i>Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretariat</i>) Following the presentation, an open discussion will follow (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson, to chair</i>)
16:10	SRA/MDS implementation plan: state of play (<i>Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Secretariat</i>)
16:30	Coffee Break
16:45	The future of TPWind: presentation of the first version of the action plan (<i>Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretariat</i>) Following the presentation, an open discussion will follow (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson, to chair</i>)
17:30	The 4 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>)
18:00	Conclusions and next meeting

3. Main decisions

Introduction

Henning Kruse, Chair of the Platform, opened the meeting by providing Steering Committee members with an overview of the most recent achievements of TPWind (i.e. since the previous Steering Committee meeting, held in Marseille on March 17th, 2009):

- The SRA/ MDS Implementation Plan was presented for the first to the European Commission (DG TREN and DG RTD) on April 29th and was well received: the proposal was perceived as complete;
- The European Wind Initiative (EWI) was presented to Member States twice (on March 31st and on April 28th) and was well received: only minor changes to the text were suggested (i.e. underlining the importance of deep offshore technologies and including a social acceptance component). However, Member State and EC representatives stressed the importance of adding indicators of the economic impact of the EWI, which are still missing. The next step will be to present the EWI to the High Level Steering Committee of the SET-Plan, on May 13th;
- Former members of the Finance Working Group will remain in TPWind and will keep providing their valuable inputs by joining other Working Groups, on the basis of their expertise and needs;
- Thanks to the development of the EWI and of the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan, as well as to the new contacts developed with the EC to promote these documents, TPWind is proving successful in moving towards implementation.

European Wind Initiative: state of play

Nicolas Fichaux presented the latest version of the EWI and introduced the discussion.

The presentations of the EWI to Member States on March 31st (at an EC workshop) and on April 28th (at a meeting of the SHERPA Group of the SET-Plan) were positive: the Initiative was well received and only minor changes to the text were requested, i.e.:

- Adding a social acceptance component, which is now included in the fifth strand of the EWI (i.e. the one dealing with the design of economic and spatial planning instruments to deploy on and offshore technologies);
- Underlining the importance of deep offshore technologies, which are particularly important for Mediterranean Countries. The urgency of developing

- reliable floating turbines has therefore been properly stressed in the third strand of the EWI (i.e. the one focusing on offshore);
- Including performance indicators capable of measuring the economic impact of the EWI (e.g. reductions of electricity price, of installation costs of wind turbines, of the average level of O&M costs and so on). Member States and the EC have stressed the fact that without similar indicators it could be difficult to finalize the EWI and obtain the necessary backing to launch it. However, this request still has to be met.

Member States made no comments on the budget of the EWI.

The next step in the development of the EWI is its presentation to the High Level Steering Committee of the SET-Plan, on May 13th.

Henning Kruse, TPWind Chair, and Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretary General, will join the meeting to deliver the presentation.

Following the presentation of Nicolas Fichaux, a discussion on the economic indicators of the EWI followed.

The main conclusions were the following:

- Key performance indicators (KPIs) measuring the economic impact of the EWI should factor in the prices of raw materials, since these will have a considerable influence on the cost of production of wind turbines. However, this could prove to be difficult, since the prices of raw materials are traditionally very volatile;
- One of the alternatives could be to measure the impact of the EWI by comparing the future price of wind power with those of other sources of energy. Should this option be implemented, the EWI could aim at ensuring that wind power will be 20% cheaper than solar energy by 2020;
- Another possibility could be to ask an independent body (e.g. EWEA, the EC, the SET-Plan Steering Committee or the JRC) to develop economic KPIs. However, the EC and the JRC (the Joint Research Centre) will be in charge of evaluating the progresses of the EWI over the 2010 – 2020 period and for this reason they are not in the position to identify KPIs in a transparent manner;
- Further options put forward by Steering Committee members were to:
 - Use installed capacity as a KPI. However, this would not be relevant, because capacity alone does not measure the economic impact of the EWI;
 - Compare the current level of funding of wind energy with the desired one (i.e. in an EWI scenario), in order to use this delta as a measure of the economic impact of the European Wind Initiative;
 - Rely on the NAPs of Member States (i.e. the plans to implement the new RES Directive) and their targets to assess the competitiveness of wind energy;
 - Stick to the KPIs already included in the EWI without adding more unless explicitly requested by Member States at a later stage;

- Reintroduce the KPIs discussed in the first versions of the EWI (i.e. achieving a 20% cost reduction, a 20% penetration level and a 20 MW wind turbine by 2020).

Because of the different views expressed by Steering Committee members, a common approach on the economic indicators of the EWI could not be found. The discussion was therefore postponed to after the meeting of May 13th, where Member States will be called to assess the EWI for the third time.

Finally, Steering Committee members underlined the importance of developing, in the near future, a good managing structure for the EWI, since it is still not clear who is going to finance it (some Member States have already clarified that they are not ready to contribute to the creation of a new EU funding instrument that would not be under their control) and who is going to run it (the EC, TPWind, Member States or a combination of them).

The EWI will be finalized after the 4th General Assembly, on the basis of the comments received from TPWind members.

SRA/MDS Implementation Plan: state of play

Filippo Gagliardi presented the latest version of the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan, which was finalized in April 2009.

The document contains a list of 45 projects that TPWind members intend to implement in order to transform the SRA/MDS into reality.

The SRA/MDS Implementation Plan has already been presented to the EC (DG TREN and DG RTD) on April 29th and further meeting will be organized with the European Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI – responsible for the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme) and with the European Investment Bank (EIB). The aim of these meetings is to present the projects to EC and EIB officials, so as to collect their feedbacks and verify whether EU Institutions would be willing to provide them with financial support.

The first reactions are encouraging: DG TREN and DG RTD are both open to the possibility of using the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan as one of their sources for drafting future FP7 Energy calls for proposals.

However, a further prioritization and a more detailed description of its projects would be required.

Following the presentation of Filippo Gagliardi, some areas of improvement were identified:

- A “leadership team” should be set up within TPWind once the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan will be finalized (i.e. after the 4th General Assembly, when it will be further discussed) in order to drive projects forward;
- The differences and interconnection between the EWI and the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan should be clearly presented and explained to TPWind

members at the 4th General Assembly. As a matter of fact, the EWI is expected to become one of the instruments for funding the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan. The priorities of the EWI and of the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan are the same, but their rationales are different: the EWI is a Programme launched by the SET-Plan of the EC; the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan is a list of actions identified autonomously by TPWind;

- The projects included in the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan should be implemented as soon as possible, since they can answer urgent needs of the wind energy sector.

The SRA/MDS Implementation Plan will be finalized after the 4th General Assembly, on the basis of the comments received from TPWind members.

Future of TPWind

The first version of the Action Plan on the Future of TPWind, finalized in April 2009, was presented by Nicolas Fichaux.

Following the presentation, the following points were raised by Steering Committee members:

- TPWind should provide the members of the Platform with an overview of the current EU and international funding opportunities available to wind energy operators. To this purpose, a database should be uploaded on the internal website of the Platform;
- The Secretariat of TPWind should be ready to act as a help-desk whenever required by the members of the Platform in order to help them in accessing EU and international funds for their projects;
- Cooperation with other ETPs should be considered essential for the future of TPWind, which should therefore tighten its relationships with ESTEP, SmartGrids and Waterborne;
- The staff of the Secretariat might have to be increased if TPWind will be involved in the management of the EWI as from 2010;
- Following the launch of the EWI and the completion of the SRA/MDS Implementation Plan, a new call for expression of interest should be launched in order to reshuffle TPWind members (i.e. in 2010 or 2011). As a matter of fact, the Platform is closed since 2007 and this will not be sustainable in the long term;
- WG3 would be willing to invite TSOs and/or DSOs to their next meeting as observers. The request was approved by the Steering Committee.

The Action Plan on the future of TPWind will be finalized after the 4th General Assembly, on the basis of the comments received from TPWind members.

4th General Assembly: programme

The agenda of the 4th General Assembly, to be held on May 13th and 14th, was presented and explained by Filippo Gagliardi.

Day one will be dedicated by Working Group meetings only, while day two to the plenary session, which will include two presentations from the EC: one on the EWI and one on the future Communication on Financing Low Carbon Technologies.

Garrad Hassan and RISOE will provide Secretaries for developing the minutes of Working Group meetings.

Steering Committee members approved the proposal of holding only one General Assembly per year as from 2010.

4. Meeting documents

The main documents of the 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

TPWind 5th General Assembly (GA) will take place on Tuesday the 10th of November, 2009, in Brussels.

The 8th Steering Committee meeting will take place on the afternoon of Monday the 9th of November, 2009, in Brussels, immediately after an Executive Committee meeting.

The 6th General Assembly is planned for March 2010.