



Steering Committee Meeting n°6

**EWEC2009, Marseille
17 March 2009 – 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

Minutes

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Developed by the TPWind Secretariat

March 2009

Participants list

Steering Committee

Name	First Name	Company/Institute	Alternate
Beurskens	Jos	ECN	
Borri	Claudio	CRIACIV at Universita di Firenze	
Chaviaropoulos	Takis	CRES	
Flamang	Peter	Hansen Transmissions International	
Gasco	Carlos	Iberdrola	
Gertmar	Lars	ABB	
Hessel	Christoph	GE Wind	
Holttinen	Hannele	VTT	
Kariniotakis	George	Ecole des Mines de Paris	
Kruse	Henning	Siemens	
MacAskill	Allan	Talisman Energy (UK) Ltd	
Nath	Christian	Germanischer Lloyd Industrial Services, Wind Energy	
Nielsen	Frank	LMGlasfiber	
Petersen	Erik Lundtang	Risoe National Laboratory	
Prats	Josep	Alstom	
Quarton	David	Garrad Hassan	
Santamaria	Angeles	Iberdrola	
Stroem Madsen	Finn	Vestas	Lise Backer

Thor	Sven-Erik	Vattenfall	
Villanueva-Monzon	Mauro	Gamesa	Juan Diego Diaz
Widstrand	Susanna	Swedish Energy Agency	

Steering Committee - not represented

Name	First Name	Company/Institute
Buddenberg	Joerg	EWE AG
Gertmar	Lars	ABB
Hohmeyer	Olav	Flensburg University
O'Kane	Paddy	Airtricity
Skarzynski	Grzegorz	Polish Wind Energy Association
Zervos	Arthouros	NTUA

Guests (for the first hour only, i.e. to discuss the EWI)

Name	First Name	Company/Institute
Langlois d'Estaintôt	Thierry	DG RTD, EC

Secretariat

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

Agenda

Time	Tuesday March 17 th , 2009
13:00	Introduction and welcome of participants (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson</i>)
13:15	European Wind Initiative: state of play (<i>Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretariat</i>) A discussion on the EWI with EC representatives will be held after the presentation (<i>Henning Kruse to chair</i>).
14:15	Member States Mirror Group: new ToR and next steps (<i>Susanna Widstrand, MSMG Chairperson</i>)
14:45	SRA/MDS implementation plan: status (<i>Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Secretariat</i>)
15:15	Coffee Break
15:30	The future of TPWind: outcomes of the meetings with the EC and development of the relevant action plan (<i>Nicolas Fichaux, TPWind Secretariat</i>). A brainstorming session on the future of the Platform will be held after the presentation (<i>Henning Kruse to chair</i>)
16:30	TPWind Secretariat new communication strategy: newsletters, website, media coverage (<i>Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Secretariat</i>)
16:45	The future of FWoG (<i>Henning Kruse, TPWind Chairperson</i>)
17:00	Election of chairpersons of TPWind Working Groups (as per terms of reference) with the only exception of the MSMG (<i>Henning Kruse to chair</i>)
17:30	Conclusions and next meeting

Main decisions

Introduction

Henning Kruse, TPWind chairman, welcomed the participants and introduced Filippo Gagliardi, TPWind Project Manager, who joined EWEA in November 2008.

Further to that, Mr Kruse outlined that during the 5th Steering Committee meeting, held in Brussels on October 7th, 2008, the following issues were addressed:

- The mandate of the Executive Committee members was renewed for the next 18 months;
- The first steps of the Member State Mirror Group (MSMG) were discussed;
- The development of the European Wind Initiative (EWI) was examined;
- Participation to the FP7 Energy call for proposals was encouraged;
- A fruitful brainstorming on the future objectives of TPWind was held.

Since then, TPWind and its Secretariat have:

- Approved the Terms of Reference of the MSMG on January 29th, 2009;
- Launched the development of an Action Plan on the Future of TPWind, which will be presented at the next General Assembly;
- Submitted the 11th version of the EWI to the European Commission (EC) on March 10th, 2009;
- Finalized the first draft of the SRA/ MDS Implementation Plan;
- Developed a brochure outlining the results of the 3rd General Assembly and providing an overview of the project identified by TPWind members to transform the SRA into reality (the brochure is entitled "TPWind: The Way Forward" and it was published in March 2009).

European Wind Initiative

The Secretariat, together with the ad-hoc EWI Working Group established within the Steering Committee, have developed and sent the 11th version of the EWI to the EC on March 10th, 2009.

Nicolas Fichaux presented the latest version of the EWI to the Steering Committee and introduced the discussion on it.

With a foreseen budget of up to € 6 bn, the EWI should become one of the most important instruments for supporting the wind energy sector in the years to come and for ensuring its contribution in meeting the EU's 2020 targets. The EWI will therefore:

- Ensure the European technology leadership on and offshore;
- Making wind energy the most competitive energy source on the market (onshore by 2020 and offshore by 2030);
- Enable the required large scale deployment and grid integration of wind energy on and offshore at high penetration levels.

In order to achieve these objectives, the EWI is divided into six strands:

- EWI1: easing site assessment, and gather data for improved designs on- and offshore (including a more detailed wind atlas);
- EWI2: putting in place the turbine technology and manufacturing capacity needed for both onshore and offshore;
- EWI 3: supporting offshore take-off in the short to medium term and ensures long-term offshore leadership, focusing on support structures, assembly, installation, O&M, decommissioning and environment;
- EWI4: enables large-scale grid integration of on- and offshore wind energy;
- EWI5: design of economic and spatial planning instruments to deploy on- and offshore technologies;
- EWI6: implementation of the training structures to secure the necessary workforce.

The projects required to implement these components will mainly have a high-risk profile, because low-risk activities will be taken care of by the industry itself.

TPWind is keen in having the EWI launched before the end of 2009 as planned, especially in view of the EU's 2020 targets.

Following the presentation of Mr Fichaux, Thierry Langlois d'Estaintot, EC representative from DG RTD, pointed out that the EWI document has improved a lot since the first draft.

Further to that, the EWI is currently the most advanced Industrial Initiative among those originally proposed by the EC in the Strategic Energy technology Plan (SET-Plan) in 2007.

However, he also identified the following areas of improvement:

- The attractiveness of the document could be improved by highlighting its contribution to the development of the EU;
- Clear key performance indicators should be mentioned in order to make the EWI an ambitious Initiative and to monitor its progresses;
- Offshore deployment should remain the most important objective of the Initiative.

As for the next steps, Mr d'Estaintot announced that on March 31st, 2009, the EC will hold a workshop where TPWind will be invited to present the EWI to the Member States.

Following this meeting, the EWI will be examined at national level and, if the case, modified. Once an agreement will be reached by Member States, the EC will be in the position to launch it officially (possibly after the summer).

A discussion followed the intervention of Mr d'Estaintot.

The main conclusions were the following:

- Companies might not be willing to sign a document binding them to a 20% costs reduction. For this reason, this target should be reviewed or removed from the EWI (a first solution would be to leave it in annex III of the text – which deals with key performance indicators - where it would not be perceived as a target);
- It is unlikely that a 20MW turbine will be developed in the next decade. For this reason, this should not be a binding target of the EWI, also because it is still not clear whether turbines will keep growing in size as it happened in the past. The 20MW could therefore be kept as a symbolic target for technological development;
- The EWI should be made as appealing as possible in order to be accepted by Member States. However, it should not point only at cost reduction, but it should look more in general to the overall competitiveness of the European industry. The message of the EWI should be a

balanced mix of ambitious and inspiring long-term goals and of realistic short/medium-term targets, on the basis of which the impact of the Initiative will be measured;

- The implementing rules and structure of the EWI should be clarified by the EC, also in view of the fact that it should be launched as quickly as possible;
- EWI4 could be improved by providing a more detailed definition of what a smart grid is;
- EWI5, which is close to a policy action, could be improved by making clear that some support schemes are less effective in times of financial crisis.

Following this discussion, the Secretariat has reviewed the last version of the EWI and submitted the final text to the EC before the workshop of March 31st, 2009.

Member States Mirror Group

Susanna Widstrand, chairperson of the Member States Mirror Group (MSMG), presented the latest developments of the MSMG, including its new Terms of Reference, which was approved by TPWind Executive Committee on January 29th, 2009.

The approval of this document made the MSMG operational and should therefore be considered as a major achievement.

Ms Widstrand added that cooperation activities with other MSMGs have been launched, also in view of the fact that the EC encourages collaboration between European Technology Platforms and asks for joint programming.

The request of Ms Widstrand of having MSMG members to attend TPWind General Assemblies as observers was unanimously accepted by the Steering Committee.

SRA Implementation Plan: progress

TPWind published its Strategic Research Agenda/Market Development Strategy (SRA/MDS) in July 2008. This document identifies the R&D needs and priorities of wind energy operators and is structured around 5 thematic priorities: wind conditions, wind turbine technology, wind energy integration, offshore deployment and European research infrastructure (a transversal action line).

The implementation of the SRA is now more important than ever, especially in view of the EU's 20% binding target for renewable energy production by 2020. To this purpose, TPWind members identified 45 project ideas during the 3rd General Assembly (GA) that will transform the SRA into reality.

All project ideas have been included in the SRA Implementation Plan, which will be finalized before the 4th General Assembly.

Filippo Gagliardi presented the latest version of the SRA Implementation Plan, which is almost complete (only some information on projects identified by Working Group 6 are still missing).

The Implementation Plan is divided into four components:

- Introduction and background;
- Overview of the identified projects;
- Tentative action plan for their implementation (Gantt chart);
- Conclusions and next steps.

The SRA Implementation Plan will not be published, because it contains confidential information (e.g. budget estimations or envisaged sources of funding).

However, it will be used to plan the next steps of the Platform and monitor its progresses.

In order to inform the outside world, a brochure on the results of the 3rd GA (which provides a first outline of the projects identified by TPWind members) was developed and launched at EWEC 2009.

Following the presentation, a discussion on the Implementation Plan was held.

The main conclusions were the following:

- TPWind needs both the EWI and the SRA Implementation Plan, since the latter could be used to lobby for national or FP7 / FP8 funds. This would allow wind energy operators to receive additional resources and to have an exit strategy should the EWI not fly;
- The need for both the EWI and the SRA Implementation Plan should be presented and clearly explained to both the EC and TPWind members.

Future of TPWind

Nicolas Fichaux presented the main components of an action plan that will guide the development of the Platform in the years to come (the plan will be finalized and presented to TPWind members before the end of 2009).

The goal of the action plan will be to ensure that TPWind will expand its activities and scope, so as to become a true EU flagship.

As a matter of fact, TPWind is an important tool for wind energy operators and the EC, because it is the only network with enough expertise and critical mass to identify the R&D needs of the whole sector (the development of the EWI would not have been possible without TPWind).

For this reason and thanks to its excellent management, the EC appears to be willing to renew its financial support to the Platform through a "Windsec 2" project (to be launched in 2010 or 2011).

The main components of the action plan on the future of the Platform will be the following:

- Projects: development of the EWI, of the SRA implementation plan and of a permanent R&D forum;
- Dissemination: publication of more newsletters and articles, more effective use of the website and increased participation to external events;
- Cooperation: development of partnerships and cooperation actions with relevant stakeholders (other Technology Platforms – e.g. SmartGrids, ESTEP and Waterborne; TSOs; DSOs and other international organisations – e.g. AWEA).

The plan will be based on the inputs of TPWind members and of the EC (and ad-hoc brainstorming session was held on January 29th with Mr Tostmann and Mr Gambi, from DG TREN).

Following the presentation, a discussion on the future of the Platform followed.

The main conclusions were the following:

- TPWind should expand its activities and cooperate with other organizations in order to reach the outside world. However, it should never forget its nature: its main objective should always remain to help the wind energy sector to identify its R&D needs and to secure the necessary public support;
- TPWind should get involved in the management of the EWI, once it will be launched;

- TPWind members might be reshuffled in the future, once the EWI will be up and running. For the moment however, the Secretariat will only:
 - Verify whether members who have not joined the last General Assemblies still want to be involved in the Platform. Those who will express their intention to leave TPWind will be replaced;
 - Propose a progressive enlargement of TPWind Working Groups (with one or two members to be included every year).

TPWind new communication strategy

Following the feedbacks collected from TPWind members during the 3rd GA, the Secretariat has developed an action plan to improve its performances.

The action plan, presented by Filippo Gagliardi, is composed of the following components:

- Launch of a new monthly newsletter, to keep TPWind members updated on the developments of the Platform;
- Participation to more external events, to provide TPWind with more visibility;
- Development on new online tools for the website, including a database of relevant funding schemes and a document sharing tool to facilitate the work of Working Groups (to be included in the members' area);
- Review of General Assemblies to facilitate interaction within Working Groups (WG). For this reason, day one of the 4th GA will be dedicated to WG meetings, while the plenary session will be held on day two. The 5th and 6th GAs will last only one day instead of two.

The new monthly newsletter will represent the cornerstone of the new communication strategy of TPWind and it will be divided into four components:

- News from the Secretariat;
- News from Members (where TPWind members will have the opportunity to publish short articles on their most recent plans, achievements or R&D efforts);
- Events (which will be open also to events organized by members);
- Funding opportunities.

The first issue of the newsletter will be released towards the end of March / beginning of April and will be sent to TPWind members, to people included in the reserve lists of the Platform as well as to selected EC and EWEA representatives (more than 200 people in total).

Future of Finance Working Group

The new strategy for the Finance Working Group (FWoG), agreed by its chairperson (Mr. Monzon) and TPWind Executive Committee during a conference call held on February 25th, was unanimously approved.

According to the new strategy, the duty of identifying and monitoring funding opportunities for wind energy operators will be temporarily taken over by the Secretariat, which will act under the supervision and mandate of the Steering Committee. An ad-hoc group of financial experts (preferably selected among TPWind members) will be established to support the Secretariat and TPWind Steering Committee on a case by case basis and to answer specific needs (e.g. R&D, demonstration activities and so on).

This ad-hoc group, which will be consulted by the Secretariat whenever needed or considered appropriate by the Executive or Steering Committee, will not be an official body of the Platform (i.e. will not be one of its Working Groups), but will act as a consultative body.

The current members of the FWoG will be invited to join other TPWind WGs on the basis of their individual expertise and qualification, where they will keep providing their valuable contribution to the work of the Platform and the development of the wind energy sector.

The Secretariat will develop an action plan to put in place this strategy before the next General Assembly.

The reason for approving this change in the FWoG strategy has to be identified in the new operational context currently faced by TPWind.

As a matter of fact, FWoG members were given the task of monitoring all relevant sources of funding for wind energy operators, as well as of encouraging the participation and involvement of the private sector (as defined in the Terms of Reference).

However, the broadness of this objective and the change in the EC financing paradigm (characterized mainly by the development of the EWI and of the EU economic recovery plan) caused them to face considerable difficulties in their work, especially in view of the smaller dimensions of the FWoG (due to the fact that potential participants opted to join other WGs).

Despite the complex circumstances, FWoG members were able to provide TPWind with a valuable and professional contribution, especially through the development of the final section of the SRA/MDS and through the analysis of the EWI and of JTIs. The dedication and hard work of FWoG members and of its chairperson contributed to the success of TPWind so far and played a key role in making the Platform a strong and effective network.

Election of Working Group Chairs

The chairpersons of Working Groups 1 (Mr. Petersen of RISOE), 2 (Mr. Beurskens of ECN), 3 (Ms. Holttinen of VTT), 4 (Mr. MacAskill of Sea Energy Renewable), 5 (Mr. Gasco of Iberdrola) and 6 (Mr. Zervos of NTUA) had their mandate renewed for the next 18 months.

No other candidates were proposed.

Presentations

The main documents of the 6th Steering Committee meeting will be made available on TPWind website (<http://www.windplatform.eu/9.0.html>).

On demand, the Secretariat can provide the PowerPoint presentations.

Next meetings

The next Steering Committee meeting will be organised in combination with the 4th General Assembly (GA).

The meeting will therefore take place on Tuesday the 12th of May, from 3 to 7pm, at the Renewable Energy House (Rue d'Arlon 63, Brussels).

As for the 4th GA, it will be held on May 13th and 14th at the Management Centre Europe (MCE), located in Rue de l'Aqueduc 118, Brussels.

The Assembly will focus on the EWI, the SRA implementation plan and the future of the Platform. The first day will be dedicated to Working Groups meetings only, while the Plenary Session will be held on the second day.

The Secretariat will therefore support Working Groups chairs to prepare their meetings for day one.