

Twelfth Workshop on Energy Statistics

Energy community Secretariat, Vienna, Am Hof 4
22 November 2016

1. Implementation of the Commission Regulation 431/2014

INPUTS:

Mr. Cristian Fetie, EUROSTAT, presented the obligation, implementation, challenges and expectations from the the Commission Regulation (EU) No 431/2014 of 24 April 2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 1099/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on energy statistics, as regards the implementation of annual statistics on energy consumption in households in the EU, as well as expectations from and obligations of the CPs to the Energy Community and explained results and findings from the first collection cycle for 2015 data, raised questions, practical solutions and recommendations in terms of data collection.

According to the Decision of the Ministerial Council (D/2015/02/MCEnC) CPs are obliged to implement the Commission Regulation 431/2014 no later than 31.12.2016, which means that the submission of ESH Questionnaire for reference year 2016 will be mandatory. Two CPs (Albania and Kosovo*) took part in the voluntary reporting (for reference year 2013), while only Albania submitted the ESH questionnaire with AQ 2015.

Ms. Olga Moraru and Ms. Svetlana Bulgac from National Beureau for Statistics (NBS), Moldova, presented the work and results of the sample survey of energy consumption in households in Moldova. The survey was prepared and conducted in 2016 with the aim to obtain detailed information on the end use of each type of fuel and energy consumed in the household sector in Moldova, broken down in line with Regulation on energy statistics.

Alenka Kinderman Loncarevic presented the experience of the Energy Institute Hrvoje Pozar in data collection, processing, aggregation, compilation and validation techniques, from surveys of consumption in households, services and transport to different source of administrative data, regular reporting and targeted surveys from relevant undertakings, in order to produce relevant energy information for Croatia.

So far, surveys of energy consumption in households have been conducted in five Contracting Parties. All detailed surveys conducted so far both in the EU and in the Energy Community revealed that consumption of firewood and other forms of biofuel in households is significantly higher in comparison to estimates and reports obtained from administrative sources. The surveys also provided information about residential building stocks, the patterns of energy consumption for heating and cooling and other information, crucial for designing energy efficiency policy measures.

Participants agreed that surveys in households are the best way to obtain required information, but respecting the circumstances, limited resources and priorities, it is also possible to estimate the end use of energy in household.

CONCLUSIONS:

- The Contracting Parties are invited to invest all efforts to provide information required in ESH questionnaire, on the basis of available data, using any appropriate method, including those elaborated in MESH and any method based on "activity data";
- The Secretariat is invited to continue its support to Contracting Parties to implement the Regulation. Technical assistance to design appropriate mathematical modelling using the available data will be needed in most Contracting Parties.
- The Secretariat invited Contracting Parties to define their needs for technical assistance, with detailed description of activities, including own and external expertise, to clearly define objectives and deliverables, time schedule, estimated budget, and to submit to Secretariat without delay. In cooperation with EUROSTAT and IEA, in particular within EU4Energy program where appropriate, the Secretariat will invest all efforts to provide the required assistance.

2. Reporting of gas and electricity prices (new Regulation)

INPUTS:

Mr. John Goerten, EUROSTAT, presented the new Regulation (EU) 2016/1952 on energy price statistics adopted in October 2016. Recalling that this Regulation was thoroughly discussed at the ESWG meetings in 2015 and 2016, the focus was on its implementation and specific requirements.

The first reporting cycle under new Regulation will be I semester 2017, with deadline (extended) on end September 2017. The derogation will be possible with the reasonably substantiated request until August 2017. New reporting forms shall be prepared and published in due time by EUROSTAT and presented at the next ESWG meeting. Using the reporting forms based on the abrogated Directive 2008/92/EC will not be possible for price reporting for I semester 2017.

Recalling that the Ministerial Council will meet only in autumn 2017, the participants raised the question of the legal basis for NSI to request reporting and to collect additional data on prices, and to report to EUROSTAT under new act. In addition, derogation which may be granted to EU MS, will not be available to any CP of the EnC.

Participants agreed to do their best to maintain the continuity of price reporting to EUROSTAT, even if all required price information will not be made available for the first submission under the new Regulation.

CONCLUSIONS:

- Participants agreed that the Regulation (EU) 2016/1952 should be adopted and implemented in the Energy Community at the earliest convenience. The Secretariat is invited to undertake take necessary steps in this direction.
- The Secretariat is invited to investigate possible ways to create a legal basis for NSIs of the Contracting Parties to continue price reporting and submission to EUROSTAT under the new reporting scheme until the adoption of the Regulation (EU) 2016/1952 by the Ministerial Council. This should also extend to the possibility for derogation.
- NSIs are invited to take into account reporting requirements under the new Regulation and make sure to report, as a minimum, those price data which are reported under current Directive and which will be required under new Regulation.
- The Secretariat shall, in cooperation with EUROSTAT, investigate the legal possibility for CPs to request and be granted a derogation, under the same conditions as for the EU MS.
- If necessary, the Secretariat will organize additional training and missions to the NSIs with the aim to facilitate implementation of the Regulation.

3. Update on compliance of Contracting Parties with reporting requirements and need for assistance

INPUTS:

EUROSTAT's experts Mr. Goerten and Mr. Fetie presented the compliance of the CPs with the obligations related to implementation of the acquis on energy statistics, namely Regulation (EC) No 1099/2008 and Directive 2008/92/EC.

In terms of annual collections and price collections, the CPS recorded outstanding progress so that all CPs have submitted all five AQ for year 2014 and almost all half-yearly collections on prices.

In terms of annual data collection, most concerns are related to quality and timeliness. In particular, the importance of answering the questions raised by Eurostat and / or the IEA during the checking and validation process of the data transmitted through the joint energy annual questionnaires was stressed; without a clear and complete answer to those questions mostly related to the quality of certain figures, it is difficult to ensure a globally high quality of the data submitted. In addition, more efforts are required to provide all information necessary for SHARES tool, since monitoring of RES trajectory and target is also an obligation under the Treaty.

Compliance with the requirements from Annex C and Annex D of the Regulation (EC) No 1099/2008 is not satisfactory yet. Although only one CP regularly submits most of the monthly reports to EUROSTAT, many other NSIs make their monthly statistics publicly available on their dedicated web pages or transmit questionnaires to UNSD, as agreed at the JODI training for the Energy Community in March 2015. In IEF JODI database may be found monthly oil and gas data from FYR of Macedonia, Moldova and Ukraine. IEF notified of the first data submission from Albania, whereas Montenegro shall begin submission in January 2016, with data from 2013 onward.

The Secretariat made it clear that compliance with the Regulation includes compliance in all aspects, including monthly and short-term monthly data collections. It was a gentlemen's agreement in the EnC to build reliable annual statistics at first and at a later stage to work on monthly data. Recalling the reporting obligations stemming from the acquis on oil stocks, the oil monthly data are emphasized as a matter of highest priority in 2017.

Mr. Adrian Jasimi, ECS, informed the participants of the General Policy Guidelines: Roadmap on Implementation of the Certain Deadlines of Council Directive 2009/119/EC in the Energy Community, adopted by the MC on 14 October 2016, where CPs are invited to begin regular monthly participation in the submissions of the JODI Oil Questionnaire before 1

January 2018, and to communicate to the Secretariat by 31 March 2018 the proposed legal basis and Action Plan for collecting all oil data necessary to submit the Monthly Oil Statistics (MOS) Questionnaire.

All CPs submit price data for the 1st semester 2016, although very often quality was not at the expected level. Major concerns are related to completeness (breakdown in consumption bands, components of electricity prices, data only for households or only for industrial customers), inconsistent and erroneous data and timeliness.

Ms. Celine Rouquette, IEA, presented the project EU4Energy (a 4-year project funded by the EU aimed at continuing the work achieved through the Inogate programme) and its three components managed by the IEA, focusing more particularly on the IEA for EU4Energy Data component. EU4Energy and the Energy Community share not only the geographical scope, namely the CPs and Observers involved in both initiatives, but also the area of work and objectives. The objective of the component EU4Energy Data is to expand energy data collection beyond energy balances, enhance energy data use and evidence-based policy making. The work plan of EU4Energy Data defines tasks and timeline towards dedicated support to develop energy statistics strategy, capacity building and networking. There is a room for synergies, cooperation and coordination in these activities and in all dedicated support schemes.

CONCLUSIONS:

- Contracting Parties are invited to invest all efforts to improve quality, primarily timeliness and consistency of annual data.
- Acknowledging that full compliance with Regulation 1099 /2008, Annex C and D is still not realistic for all CPs although it is an obligation under the Treaty, all Contracting Parties shall commence dissemination of monthly data, with the focus on oil monthly data.
- CPs are invited to take note of the General Policy Guidelines of the MC. The Secretariat encourages CPs to begin submission of monthly oil data either to EUROSTAT or to UNSD in 2017 in accordance with the General Policy Guidelines of the MC. Lack of any activity in this direction shall be considered as non-compliance and may lead to infringement procedure.
- The Secretariat shall look into the possible ways, in cooperation with EUROSTAT and UNSD, as to reduce the burden on NSIs and avoid double reporting of the same information to different institutions (EUROSTAT and UNSD). The Secretariat shall inform NSIs in the course of 2017.
- The CPs are invited to begin preparations to implement the Regulation on price statistics.
- The IEA and ECS shall closely coordinate and align their efforts in the areas of common interest within EU4Energy Data in order to achieve synergies and to avoid any duplication. EU4Energy Data took note of the presented tasks and obligations which will be discussed with respective NSIs in more details during envisaged country missions.
- In case that NSIs need support in the form of technical assistance, training or capacity building to comply with the acquis, it will notify the Secretariat and propose the activities budget and time schedule. EUROSTAT, IEA for EU4Energy Data and Secretariat will cooperate and coordinate their activities aimed at providing such support.