



Brussels, 14 December 2015
MOVE C1/DR/JFG

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

FOR A SUB-GROUP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DIRECTIVE 2014/94/EU ESTABLISHED UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FORUM (STF)

1. INTRODUCTION

These are terms of reference for a sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU set up under the Sustainable Transport Forum (STF).

1.1. Context and rationale

The Commission has been promoting actions towards a market up-take of alternative fuels. This is reflected in the Commission Communication "Clean Power for Transport: A European alternative fuels strategy"¹ and in the proposal for a Directive on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure², which became Directive 2014/94/EU³.

Given the regulatory, technical, operational and economic challenges hampering the deployment and use of alternative fuels, it is envisaged that a dedicated sub-group examining these aspects in a more integrated manner is established under the Sustainable Transport Forum (STF).

1.2. Mandate

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU should assist the STF to advance the implementation of the said Directive with recommendations aimed at facilitating the deployment and use of alternative fuels at EU level.

2. OBJECTIVES, TASKS, DELIVERABLES AND TIMETABLE

2.1. OBJECTIVES

Taking into consideration the measures and the timelines contained in Directive 2014/94/EU for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, as well as the results of the meetings, the findings and the recommendations issued by the Expert Group on Future Transport Fuels, and the studies and works supported by the TEN-T Programme,

¹ COM(2013) 17 final of 24.1.2013

² COM(2013) 18 final of 24.1.2013

³ Directive 2014/94/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, OJ L 307, 28.10.2014, p. 1

the main objectives for the sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU are as follows:

1. To address the implementation by Member States of their national policy frameworks. The sub-group shall in particular look into the elements the national policy frameworks shall contain.
2. To address the main barriers (especially market barriers, infrastructure availability, the permit and the building of infrastructure processes) that hamper the deployment of alternative fuels.
3. To maintain links and coordinate with other activities and initiatives in the area of alternative fuels – in order to avoid duplication as well as to gather relevant information – including the relevant ESSF⁴ and CEN/CENELEC working groups, EU and national/regional feasibility, pilot projects, EU policy- and legislative initiatives, research projects. etc.
4. To exchange information on on-going and planned alternative fuels strategies, including national policy frameworks and to provide guidance and support for the creation of effective business cases for provision and use of alternative fuels
5. To enhance the public awareness with regard to the risks and benefits of alternative fuels.

2.2. TASKS

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU has a central role in carrying out tasks dedicated to identifying, assessing and recommending the STF remedial actions and possible solution to the technical, regulatory, economic and operational issues associated with the establishment of framework conditions (guidelines, standards, regulations) facilitating the promotion and implementation of alternative fuels at EU level.

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall analyse and recommend concrete remedial actions the following potential market barriers that are hampering the deployment of alternative fuels: organisational, operational, cost related and the lack of information.

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall collect and share information on relevant initiatives regarding alternative fuels at international, national, regional and local level. The sub-group shall gather information from and ensure coordination with the relevant international initiatives, research projects, EU and national/regional infrastructure projects, ongoing EU policy- and legislative initiatives. The sub-group shall share experience, good practice and lessons learned from other initiatives or sectors.

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall inform and exchange about the progress of on-going alternative fuels projects, provide guidance and support for the creation and assessment of effective local or regional business cases and assess the availability of EU, national and investment funds that could be used to co-finance alternative fuels infrastructure.

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall inform and exchange about general risk assessments and public perception issues regarding alternative fuels

⁴ Commission Decision of 24.9.2013 on setting- up the group of experts on maritime transport sustainability - The European Sustainable Shipping Forum (ESSF), COM(2013) 5984 final

and consider action to promote the benefits and use of alternative fuels. The sub-group shall address public environmental, safety and security concerns.

2.3. DELIVERABLES AND TIMETABLE

The sub-group shall report to the STF Plenary. It shall report on all meetings to the STF Plenary. A rapporteur shall be appointed and shall participate to the STF meeting and report about progress.

The sub-group is requested to address to the STF a report, of maximum 50 pages plus Annexes, which includes an analysis and a set of conclusions and recommendations.

The report is to be made publicly available.

The main section of the report should include – where appropriate - the following main deliverables:

1. Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU

D.1.1 Proposals for recommendations, where useful including guidelines, standards, or rules needed, for a safe, effective and efficient implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU.

2. Barriers

D.2.1 Proposals for recommendations on concrete remedial actions addressing the identified barriers.

3. Business case

D.3.1 Recommendations on business opportunities and factors to be taken into account for business analyses.

D.3.2 Business cases or plans for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure

4. Public awareness

D4.1 General Overview and /or information material on risks and opportunities related to alternative fuels.

D4.2 Tailored public campaign concept

3. OPERATION OF THE EXPERT GROUP

3.1. Identification and selection of experts

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall include the relevant expertise along the alternative fuels value chain, representatives of the following sectors to ensure informed assessment and decisions on all of the areas covered by the current ToR: energy providers, vehicles manufacturers, research and innovation institutes, operators and users, service providers, technical standardisation organisations, regional and local authorities, civil society.

The experts will be proposed by the Commission, confirmed by the STF and appointed by the Commission on the basis of the following criteria:

- high level of expertise in at least one of the relevant fields indicated above;
- appropriate range of skills in the different fields covered by Directive 2014/94/EU, combined with the ability to examine related questions and analyse the general context (legislative, economic, etc.) pertaining to alternative fuels technology.

Provided that the above two conditions can be satisfied, other criteria are also taken into consideration:

- appropriate balance between academic and industry expertise;
- a reasonable balance of geographical origins.

3.2. Working method

The sub-group will be chaired by a representative from the Commission in cooperation with a vice-chair. The vice-chair will be a representative from the sub-group members and shall be appointed by the sub-group on simple majority.

The Chairpersons of the sub-group decide on its working methods; they are however requested to ensure that the sub-group members and the supporting expertise are best exploited to allow for such in-depth analysis in all the areas covered by these ToR.

The sub-group assigns a rapporteur by simple majority.

The European Commission will provide administrative, secretariat activities and technical expertise.

The rapporteur will prepare and coordinate the reports of this sub-group, on the basis of all members' written contributions and of relevant material and events identified by the group members and/or the Commission. Commission staff responsible for the sub-group will support the rapporteur in these tasks.

The sub-group shall cooperate with and provide input to other relevant sub-groups established under the STF.

3.3. Meetings

The meetings of the sub-group shall be held on Commission premises. The sub-group shall meet at least twice per year. Commission officials with an interest in the proceedings may attend meetings of the sub-group.

The Chairpersons of the sub-group and the rapporteur will be in regular contact with the members of the sub-group to ensure progress and the smooth running of the sub-group. Ad-hoc external experts may attend the meetings to provide appropriate information and orientations.

3.4. Duration

The sub-group on the Implementation of Directive 2014/94/EU shall be disbanded as soon as its mandate is fulfilled.