

## **Final minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of ENSREG**

15 April 2009, 9:30 – 15:30  
Albert Borschette, Brussels

---

### **Participants**

Related document<sup>1</sup>: list of representatives from the Member States and Observers (HLG\_p(2009-08)\_20)

All EU Member States as well as the European Commission, with exception of Estonia, Latvia and Malta, were represented.

**Mr Jamet (Director of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, IAEA), Mr Schmocker (Director of Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate) and Ms Rasa (Cabinet of the Commissioner for Energy)** attended the meeting as observers.

---

### **1. Introductory address by Chairperson**

Related document: adopted minutes (HLG\_M(2009-07)\_Final).

**Mr Stritar, Chairperson of ENSREG** welcomed the new Members (**Prof. Michael Waligórski**, President of the National Atomic Energy Agency of Poland, **Mr Michael Boesgaard Brøndel**, Head of Nuclear Division at the Danish Emergency Management Agency and **Mr Erik Jende**, Senior Adviser at the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority) and urged all the Members to come personally to ENSREG meetings instead of delegating it to other representatives, in order to keep a high level of the Group. Mr Stritar reiterated his request to the Members to send relevant documents early enough so that the Secretariat could make them available for the meeting.

The Chairperson reminded that minutes of the previous meeting (14 January 2009) were adopted in accordance with the new rules agreed in January, as no comments have been received within the given two weeks deadline.

Members were informed about outcome of Mr Stritar meeting with the representatives from the European Nuclear Energy Forum risk group. Mr Stritar has been also invited to the European Nuclear Council (23 and 24 April 2009) to present ENSREG.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

Related document: adopted agenda (HLG\_A(2009-08)\_Final).

The agenda was adopted with suggested changes by Mr Stritar.

---

<sup>1</sup> Legend: Name of Group\_Confidentiality or type of document (Year- Meeting Number)\_Document number.version number (if any).

Confidentiality of document:

- **c** for Consultation. Document discussed at HLG meetings and accessible for public
- **p** for Public. It is HLG final document for release to the public
- **r** for Restricted. Document accessible only for Members and Deputy Members of the Group
- **A** for Agenda
- **M** for minutes

### **3. Review of working programme progression and initialization of the ENSREG report to the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union**

#### **3.1 WG 1 – subgroup on Nuclear Safety**

##### Related documents:

- Final discussion document on consequences of EU instruments in the field of nuclear safety (HLG\_p(2009-08)\_21)
- Summary document of the IRR<sup>2</sup> and IRRS<sup>3</sup> made since 1998 in the EU Member States (HLG\_p(2009-08)\_24)

**Mr Weightman, Chair of WG1**, assisted by **Mr Jende** (SE) introduced the finalised "Discussion document on consequences of EU instruments in the field of nuclear safety" , as well as informed about the status of the other work being done within WG1 related to making better use of results of the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) and the IRRS missions. WG1 is working to develop an efficient and transparent process to select issues from the CNS review meetings of common interest or concern for the EU MS in order to improve through suitable common actions such as making use of good practice already available or developing new knowledge. A similar process is under way for promoting common learning and improvement from the IRRS missions. Some more work is foreseen including a pilot test of the proposed methodologies before finalising the WG1 report. Mr. Jende also informed about an important undertaking in this context done by Parties to the CNS to revise the guidelines for the national reports in order to promote more consistent reports with higher quality of content. This proposal will hopefully be accepted at an extraordinary meeting of the Parties in September this year. Mr Stritar reminded that similar activities as reported by WG1 were going on in WG2 and urged the two working groups to coordinate their efforts.

##### Main agreements:

- WG1 should propose a suitable approach for coordination between WG1 and WG2 of activities related to the CNS and the Joint Convention respectively by the middle of June; to be agreed by ENSREG in July.
- HLG\_p(2009-08)\_21 document to be published under ENSREG CIRCA website without delay, once Mr Jende will send a short explanatory paragraph.

#### **3.2 WG2 – subgroup on improving spent fuel, radioactive waste, management and decommissioning arrangements**

##### Related documents:

- Better exchange of information on waste safety experience (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_1)
- Waste safety reviews for new nuclear power plants (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_2)

**Mr Vincent, Chair of WG2**, informed that with preparation of the documents above (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_1 and HLG\_c(2009-08)\_2), WG2 finalised its work programme. Two comments have been received from UK and SE, respectively: for the exchange of information, it would be better to improve the NEA and IAEA experience feedback system instead of creating a new EU-system; instead of creating a new EU-system; the exchange of views needs to cover more issues than just incidents related to nuclear waste and spent fuel safety, since there are not many incidents reported in this area. Mr Vincent explained that currently internationally existing systems are not sufficient to respond to all needs, which justifies therefore elaboration of an EU system (Operating Experience Feedback).

Main agreements: both reports were adopted. Exchange of information on waste safety experience should not be limited to incidents.

---

<sup>2</sup> International Regulatory Review Team

<sup>3</sup> Integrated Regulatory Review Service

### **3.3 WG3 – subgroup on improvements on Transparency Arrangements**

#### Related documents:

- Ms McGarry's presentation (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_08)
- Mr Molin presentation (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_9)
- ENSREG power point template (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_04)
- ENSREG letter template (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_07)
- Draft document on nuclear safety regulation (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_03)
- Improvements in transparency arrangements (HLG\_p(2009-08)\_23)

**Ms McGarry, Chair of WG3**, made a presentation on the work of WG3. The following results were announced: the ENSREG holding page is online under the Commission's website ([http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/ensreg/ensreg\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/ensreg/ensreg_en.htm)) and technical specifications for the development of the specific ENSREG website have been completed. WG3 has started to develop the content part of the website.

Preparation of the guidance for national nuclear regulators has been postponed to December this year. WG3 is working in cooperation with the NEA (Working Group on Public Communication of Nuclear Regulatory Organisations - WGPC<sup>4</sup>).

WG3 prepared a document about European and International legislation governing transparency in nuclear energy domain. **Mr Molin** (AT) presented this document and suggested, on a purely personal basis, some ideas of a possible follow-up of it, e.g. elaborating guidelines for the content of the environmental impact assessment for nuclear installations; Council resolution for acceptance of Member States that the Commission publishes art.41 notifications (new investments); transparency in art.37 procedures.

Ms McGarry informed that templates for ENSREG power point presentation and a letter for correspondence have been uploaded under CIRCA.

#### Main agreements:

The document about European and International legislation governing transparency in nuclear energy domain will be published under CIRCA at the same time as the minutes of the meeting, if no requests for modifications are received by then.

The follow-up of this document will be:

- A proposal by WG3 how to analyse and establish a summary of (national) implementation of this legislation (good practices). (NEA-WGPC questionnaire to the regulators has already some information that could be used as a basis of this analysis)
- A proposal by WG3 how to establish common criteria on how to apply some of these rules

Action: Members to send their comments, if any, to the document about nuclear safety regulation by the same date as for the draft Minutes of this meeting.

### **3.4 Report to the EP and the Council of the European Union**

Related document: draft template of the report (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_12).

Ms McGarry presented a template for the structure of the report that was worked out by WG3. It is intended to take about 20-30 pages. WG3 suggested that a press conference should be organised for the adoption of the report; the Chairperson asked the Commission to suggest on how to proceed.

Members discussed possible content of the report, in particular about the need to put forward some ideas of the future work of ENSREG; present nuclear energy situation within EU in introduction; to refer to the latest publications about nuclear energy (e.g. NEA nuclear energy outlook); to point out the most relevant IAEA Safety Fundamentals; to put emphasis on continuous improvement.

---

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nea.fr/html/nsd/cnra/wgpc.html>

#### Main agreements:

- The template of the structure has been adopted with change requested by Mr Vincent.
- First draft of the report will be sent to the Chairperson by 8 May, on the basis of which Mr Stritar will prepare the foreword.
- Members will receive the draft report by end of May and will have two weeks to send their comments or suggestions.
- The report will be presented for adoption by ENSREG on 2 July. It was agreed that the report will be finalised for submission to the EU Institutions by 17 July.

#### Actions:

Responsibilities for drafting the report have been decided as follows:

Foreward, "Conclusions and future actions", executive summary: **Mr Stritar**

"Safety of Nuclear Installations" part: **Mr Weightman**

"Safety of the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste" part: **Mr Vincent**

Introduction, "Openness and transparency" part: **Ms McGarry**

All contributions to the report have to be sent for compilation to Mr Stritar.

#### **4. Modification of the ENSREG rules of procedure**

Related documents: adopted rules of procedure (HLG\_p(2009-08)\_22)

At the meeting of January 2009, Members agreed to change procedure for the adoption of the minutes. This required also revision of ENSREG rules of procedure.

Members discussed on whether all documents should be accessible to the public or solely final documents, as drafts may contain mistakes and showing them too early may be counterproductive. The Chairperson had clarified the difference between final document and documents in draft status that can be seen by the citizens for transparency reasons. The Commission reminded the right of public to have access to the documents, in accordance with the Regulation EC 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.

Main agreements: the rules of procedure have been adopted, taking into account a proposal of reformulation made by AT to Art.4.

#### **5. Potential common actions related to imports of contaminated products into the EU**

Related documents: Mr Renneberg presentation (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_10)

**Mr Renneberg** (DE), at the end of his presentation, asked to the Commission to organise a meeting with the Member States to discuss possible actions. The Commission intends to take an initiative at EU level for such meeting.

#### **6. Report on Council negotiations on the draft Directive on Nuclear Safety**

**Mr Krs** (CZ), Member of ENSREG and Chair of the Council's Atomic Questions Group during CZ Presidency, informed about the ongoing progress of Council negotiations.

#### **7. Any other business**

#### **Report on Scientific Group of Experts under art.31 of the Euratom Treaty**

Related documents: Mr Ulbak presentation (HLG\_c(2009-08)\_11)

**Mr Ulbak** (DK) made a presentation about Scientific Group of Experts under art.31 of the Euratom Treaty.

The Commission informed that at the request of the Members, it registered ENSREG acronym under Office for Harmonisation in Internal Market. The registration applies to the EU Member States. The Commission offered to register this acronym also in the States who ensure participation of Observers at ENSREG meetings, namely Norway and Switzerland. ENSREG agreed with that proposal.

#### **8. Information about the next meeting**

Main agreements: next meetings will take place on 2 July. Objective: adoption of the report to the EP and the Council.