



FINAL

Minutes of the 26th meeting of ENSREG 16th January 2014 Brussels

Participants

Official ENSREG members from all EU Member States as well as the European Commission, with the exception of Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, and Romania were represented in the meeting.

Observers from Switzerland, IAEA, and Norway were present.

1.0) Introductory address by the ENSREG Chairperson

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the new members to ENSREG

Mr Sasa Medakovic (HR)
Mr Gabor Petofi (HU)
Mr David Senior (UK)

The chair also reported that Mr Dominique Ristori had been nominated as the DG of ENER and that Mr Massimo Garribba had been nominated as director of ENER D. Both would represent the EC as members of ENSREG.

2.0) Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without change.

3.0) Revised nuclear safety directive

The EC reported on 3 important outstanding aspects of the revised NSD dossier.

Although general agreement on the principles of independence of regulators had been reached, there remained some differences of views on how to formulate the concept into the text safety directive.

The concept of topical peer reviews is still under discussion, with some MS being opposed to the concept. In an effort to unblock the issue the Council presidency had proposed 2 initiatives

- A restricted drafting group to work on the text.
- A joint seminar to be held on the 6th February in Brussels, between national administrations and regulators, to explore how best to implement the concept of topical peer reviews.

The European Parliament has nominated its rapporteur, **Romana Jordan** of the European Peoples Party, who has promised an in depth and speedy assessment of the dossier. The EP opinion is foreseen to be provided by the beginning of April at the EP mini session of the 2-3 April. A public hearing is also foreseen in the ITRE committee on the 12 February where representatives from industry, regulators (chair ENSREG) and civil society should attend. It is anticipated that a finalised text could be issued after EP opinion in April.

The chairman considered it necessary for ENSREG to contribute actively to the peer review meeting of the 6th February where it was essential that ENSREG make their position clearly, to explain how the process would work in practise and how it would feed through into national decision making processes. Offers of assistance were received from France, Germany, Belgium and Austria.

4.0) "Trends in development and needs for nuclear competence in EU" on behalf of the European Nuclear Observatory for Human Resources in the Nuclear Sector – EHRO-N

HLG_r(2014-26)_236 EHRO-N ECVET ENSREG Jan 2014

The JRC gave a presentation on the topic of the European Nuclear Observatory for Human Resources in the Nuclear Sector (**EHRO-N**). EHRO-N had been created in response to the Council conclusions of 2008 and was composed of 2 main instruments

- An **Advisory group** composed of 31 member organisations and operated by JRC Petten ,
- The maintenance of a **Website** of training courses, and stakeholders needs.

Two key reports had been published on the issues of training needs and skills gaps. The first, a "bottom-up" report, identified a 30% supply gap, through a consideration of numbers of university courses, knowledge of the destination of graduates, a definition of a nuclear expert, the age structure and the projected needs. This supply gaps is currently foreseen to be covered by in-house training. The second report, based on a "top-down" needs analysis and starting with the EC roadmap 2050 and the needs of a generation 3 light water reactor design, estimated the future HR requirements to be manageable. An update of the "bottom-up" report would be performed in 2014. Early results conducted in Asia and the US suggest that, within a 5% scatter band, the situation has not changed in the light of the Fukushima event.

ECVET – European Credit System for Vocational education and Training initiative promotes a move towards competence building from knowledge creation. This requires a breakdown into the nuclear roles to identify the competences, learning objectives and learning outcomes. National initiatives in this direction are already being developed by FI, UK, BE, FR.

Spain reported that it is currently suffering from an "age peak" as a consequence of its strong recruitment drive in the 1970s. Skilled employees are now retiring which risks a sudden loss of knowledge for the organisations. Regarding university applications, pre Fukushima, Spain had experienced a fall in numbers of nuclear engineers, whereas post Fukushima there was some evidence of resurgence in interest. The origins of this effect were as yet unknown.

Spain emphasised that the problem was not only one of replacement; there also being a need for an orderly transfer of knowledge. Previously individuals and the organisation gained knowledge as the systems were developed whereas today new students have to learn primarily from theory. With regard to Art 7 of the NSD "ensuring adequate resources for nuclear safety" Spain enquired as to what the regulators should do to conform to the directive.

IAEA reported that it was involved in several knowledge management initiatives

Action : ENSREG members to identify potential National Contact points (names or organizations) for collecting information on national strategies and the national supply and demand of Human Resources in the Nuclear Energy Sector and to communicate these to Ulrik.VON-ESTORFF@ec.europa.eu

5.0) Nuclear safety Cooperation with USNRC

HLG_r(2014-26)_226 Nuclear Safety Cooperation with USNRC

HLG_r(2014-26)_227 Draft Agenda - Prioritisation of Safety Improvements resulting from Post-Fukushima NPP Safety Re-evaluations

The EC, as representative of EURATOM in the International context (in addition to its Council stress test mandate), had explored the possibility of organising a joint meeting between ENSREG and USNRC to exchange views on safety checks following the Fukushima event. They reported that USNRC was in principle willing to participate to such an initiative. The EC enquired if ENSREG considered it worthwhile to proceed.

Countries were cautious of an initiative being aware of existing bilateral links to USNRC. They were clear that should such an initiative proceed, ENSREG should take the lead. They felt, however, that there was a need to identify topics for discussion and that these might be considered within WG1 and/or WG4. Regarding timing, the issue was not considered to be urgent and the Chairman proposed to give a positive signal to NRC.

- [ENSREG took the decision to give a positive signal to NRC supporting the initiative. WG1 and WG4 would collaborate to propose potential topics and a time frame for cooperation.](#)

6.0) Possible actions in support of decommissioning activities at Fukushima

The Chairman reported that there was perhaps some evidence that Japan was increasingly open to offers of International support and that this might constitute an opportunity for Europe to present an offer of assistance in the area of decommissioning.

Several countries reported that they had offered assistance in the past via their bilateral channels without significant uptake. Some reported that this stemmed from the fact that the Japanese were overwhelmed by the scale of the Fukushima problem.

IAEA suggested that considerable European support was already being channelled to Japan through the IAEA.

- [ENSREG took the decision to write a letter to the Japanese regulator offering ENSEEG support in the decommissioning activities at Fukushima](#)

7.0) ENSREG Workprogramme 2014 – 2016

HLG_r(2014-26)_230 WG1 Workprogramme 2014-16

HLG_r(2014-26)_228 ENSREG WP 2014-2016 - proposal for contribution WG2

HLG_r(2014-26)_225 Draft Work Programme for ENSREG WGTA (WG3) for 2014-2016

ENSREG approved its WP for 2014-2016 in principle based on the documents presented by WGs 1, 2 & 3. The Secretariat will prepare a consolidated ENSREG WP from the contributions already received as well as a contribution yet to be submitted from WG4. The finalised document would be circulated for approval by written procedure by the end of February 2014. It was proposed that WG3 and WG4 should also contribute to the ENSREG Masterplan.

- ENSREG approved its WP for 2014-2016 in principle

8.0) ENSREG Working Groups

8.1) WG4 Report

HLG_r(2014-26)_241 ENSREG WGIC 20140116

8.1.1) Approval of Terms of Reference ToR

HLG_r(2013-24)_206 ToR ENSREG WG IC

WG4 presented their ToR which were approved with small additions.

- ENSREG approved the refined terms of reference of its Working Group 4 on International Cooperation

8.1.2) Commission presentation

HLG_r(2014-26)_242 INSC -ENSREG Presentation -AVM 2014 01 16

HLG_r(2014-26)_238 IND PROGR 2014-2017 Rev JM 2014 01 10_cl

HLG_r(2014-26)_239 STRATEGY 2014-2020 Rev 2014 01 10_cl

DG DEVCO reported that a new 7 year programme for the INSC had been adopted by Council on the 13th December 2013 to a value of 225M€.

The main objectives of the Instrument are to

- Promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety standards and radiation protection;
- Responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations;
- Establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in third countries

with a focus on accession countries and the neighbourhood of the union, although this is not limiting.

There was clear need to plan actions carefully and to avoid duplication with existing IAEA and MS activities. In this respect ENSREG was mentioned explicitly in the regulation to provide opinion on the direction of future work. Specific actions envisaged were, training and tutoring horizontal issues, support for nuclear regulators outside of the EU, hardware activities in Ukraine, and mining legacy clean-up actions. The foreseen budget split was, 50% safety, 35% waste, 10% safeguards with an emphasis on larger contracts to minimise administration.

DG DEVCO indicated their satisfaction with the pragmatic level cooperation with ENSREG which had led, in their opinion, to an improved directive text in a timely manner. They emphasised that since the regulation obliges the EC to consult with ENSREG, DG DEVCO would require an opinion from ENSREG on the Strategy paper and the MIP.

- ENSREG gave a favourable opinion to both the Strategy Definition Paper and the Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2014-2017 of the European Commission's Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation

8.1.3) Draft position paper

HLG_r(2014-26)_237 131205 ENSREG_INSCv1YP

WG4 reported that, in the context of its collaboration with DG DEVCO, it had prepared a draft ENSREG position paper which had been taken on board by the EC in developing the INSC. WG4 had also contributed to the Strategy Paper and Multiannual Indicative Programme. The draft Position paper had been distributed to members for comment.

WG4 proposed that the ENSREG point of view should be to focus on European approach to nuclear safety and give visibility on ENSREG activities. In this respect it was proposed that WG4 should coordinate with WG1 to coordinate ENSREG programmes. It was proposed that all WG chairs should meet periodically to share information.

Members announced that they were generally supportive of the instrument despite the reduction in budget, but considered that there remained a significant resource to support and execute a meaningful programme.

With regard to the position paper, members considered that nuclear safety should be understood in its broader and all inclusive context and that the CNS, WENRA safety levels peer reviews, benchmark of practise with WENRA safety levels and the periodic safety review concept should be mentioned explicitly .

The chairman thanked WG4 for their contributions and proposed that the draft position should be updated based on the comments received and circulated for approval by silent procedure.

- ENSREG took the decision to revise the draft position paper based on the comments received and circulated for approval by silent procedure

8.2) WG1 Progress Report

***HLG_r(2014-26)_233 WG1 Report to ENSREG26
HLG_r(2014-26)_231 ENSREG Master Plan-31Dec2013***

8.2.1) Approval of new WG1 Chairperson

8.2.2) IRRS Missions lessons learnt workshop 22-23 January

HLG_r(2014-26)_232 IRRS WG1 Workshop ToR 2013 12 10 Final.doc

WG1 met on the 22nd October 2013 in Bonn. The group identified a sub group with representatives from UK, BE and PL to prepare ToR and a programme for the joint ENSREG/IAEA Workshop on IRRS missions in EU member states to be held on the 22nd – 23rd January 2014. The UK encouraged all countries to take advantage of the IRRS mission process and findings, as they had obtained great value from their IRRS missions exercise.

They discussed and refined the Draft ENSREG Masterplan developed by H. Klonek and B. Hedberg based on current and future tasks of WG's and existing MS's obligations was discussed with WG1 and WG2 members as well as issues relating to the WG1 Work Plan 2014-2016. The Draft WG1 Work programme had been distributed for comment after the meeting before being finalised for presentation to the ENSREG meeting for approval.

The chairman appreciated the ENSREG masterplan which formed a good basis for simplifying ENSREG activities

The group had an exchange of views on the early preparatory steps for 2nd NAcP-Workshop 2015. The conclusion from the 1st NAcP Peer review workshop of April 2013 had been to organise a 2nd workshop in April 2015 with a more focused approach on technical solutions. The workshop will be based on the NAcPs updated by the end 2014 and a consideration of the WENRA Reference Levels will play an important role. A sub group from UK (leader), FR, DE, AT, ES volunteered to produce a draft conceptual proposal for the event. Further detailed ToR for the workshop would be developed during 2014 and finalised by September 2014. WG1 would report on progress made at next ENSREG plenary.

FR requested clarification on the annual revisions of the NAcPs. It was confirmed that a revised NAcP should be published at the end of 2014 and that this plan should be kept updated.

FI reported that there was a strong desire for cooperation between ENSREG and the WENRA reactor harmonisation group and that the 2015 NAcP workshop was a natural occasion for presenting results. WG1 and WENRA RHWG would exchange ideas on the follow-up and implementation of reference levels. The chairman invited WENRA to make a proposal to WG1 on the nature of future collaboration.

At the request of the ENSREG, WG1 had been asked to examine and report back on the Design Pre-Licensing (DPL) proposal "ERDA roadmap" presented to the 24th ENSREG meeting of the 28th May 2013. After extensive debate WG1 considered the task to be too large for WG1 to handle suggesting that it would require a dedicated task force to treat the topic. Finland was of the opinion that the DPL concept assumed that the licensing process was the same in each country, when in fact it was not. Changes to the licensing process would require changes to national laws which would not be feasible. There was agreement on the need for harmonisation on nuclear safety requirements and this process was already underway if not yet fully achieved. Harmonisation of the licensing process was however quite a different issue and perhaps a step too far. FI considered that if FI and SE should ever consider building a similar NPP, that there would certainly be good cooperation between regulators. It was considered that to harmonise requirements for European nuclear facilities would be a better objective in the foreseeable future.

Some members registered their disappointed with the apparent lack of motivation for the concept of Design Pre-Licensing (DPL) while others were not clear which designs should be pre-licensed by everyone.

FR enquired if there could be an exchange views within ENSREG regarding reporting to art 9 of the Nuclear Safety Directive. The EC considered that such discussions might be a little premature given the current status of the revised NSD. They indicated that they were currently looking to simplify reporting requirements. AT reminded that WG1 had already authored draft guidance and requested that the lessons learnt be shared before MS started to author their reports.

With the retirement of the current chairman Hartmut Klöckner, WG1 proposed Antonio Munuera to ENSREG for approval, as their new chairman. The Chairman thanked Mr Klöckner for his commitment, and exceptional service to ENSREG WG1. ENSREG appointed Antonio Munuera as the new Chairman of WG1.

The next WG1 meeting was foreseen for the 21st January in Brussels.

- [ENSREG took the decision to appoint Antonio Munuera as the new Chairman of WG1.](#)

8.3) WG2 Progress Report

[HLG_r\(2014-26\)_229 ERDO-WG-EC-ENEF Workshop - Summary Report](#)
[HLG_r\(2014-26\)_234 ENSREG WG2 - summary of activities - 2014-01-16](#)
[HLG_r\(2014-26\)_235 ENSREG 26 - WG2 report back - draft 2014-01-09](#)

The WG2 chairman reported on the group's activities since the previous ENSREG meeting. The group meet in Vilnius on the 18th October, 2013 and discussed following issues

Format and guidance for MS Reports - Art 14.1 of the Waste Directive Task Group 1 to be re-established

Following the TG meeting of the 21st -22nd January a final proposal was prepared based on feedback from trail use (ES, FR, UK). This would be treated at the WG2 meeting on the 14th February and presented to the next ENSREG plenary for endorsement.

Self-assessment & Peer Reviews

Final draft proposal to amend existing ENSREG-IAEA MoU to cover also the requirements in the Waste Directive has been developed and will be considered for WG2 approval at the 14th February meeting and then presented at the next ENSREG.

Mr. Louet, chair of WG2 – subgroup A, reported that they were currently working closely with IAEA to prepare ToR of a modular peer review mission service ARTEMIS, to address the peer review needs of the waste directive based on the ENSREG document HLG_r(2012-21)_162. One challenge was to seamlessly interface IRRS and ARTEMIS. There was also a need to revise the MoU between ENSREG and IAEA to cover the waste directive.

Some countries expressed their opposition to the new ARTEMIS proposal preferring to expand the IRRS system of missions to cover the waste directive needs. It was emphasised that the needs (and sometimes also the timing) of the waste directive were significantly different to those of the NSD and as such a simple extension of the IRRS offering would be difficult. The IAEA reassured that any mission offering would respect the countries different needs and timings, and would minimise burden. SE cautioned that there was a need to involve stakeholders other than regulators to define the needs of any system.

The chair concluded that developments should be continued with the support of the IAEA and that countries would be free to select whichever offering best fitted their need, either separately or simultaneously.

ENSREG Master Plan

The high level overview confirmed that MS/WG2 members are currently actively engaged in Joint Convention activities with reports being due October 2014. National Reports [Art 14.1] as well as National Programs [Art 14.3] were due by 23 August 2015.

Proposal WG2 Work Programme 2014-2016

Finalisation of tasks in current work programme is foreseen by early 2014

Work programme 2014-2016 is forward looking and focused on

- implementation of requirements in the Waste Directive
- the Workshop/seminar/conference 2016, (Preparatory work to start second half 2015)
- feedback of experience developing National Programs & first National Reports
- review and update of guidelines as deemed necessary

A draft work programme was circulated for comments and a revised version will be drafted based on comments received.

“National Waste Management Systems”

The topic will be discussed at next WG2 meeting where four members (Austria, Belgium, Spain, UK) will present their national approaches. Feedback from trial use of the draft guidelines for reporting will be presented and used as input for the finalisation of the draft guidance for MS reports.

Next WG2 meeting is foreseen for the 14th February in Brussels

8.4) WG3 Progress Report

HLG_r(2014-26)_240 ENSREG 26 (16-01-14) - Progress Report for WG3

The WG3 Chairman reported that no WG3 meeting had been held since the last ENSREG plenary, but that work had continued on the ENSREG Website and on developing the ENSREG Work Programme 2014-2016.

The 2014 - 2016 WGTA Work Programme would focus mainly on the topics of

- Review and assessment of progress achieved by European Nuclear Regulators in transparency issues as well as providing them with guidance and assistance
- Overhaul of the ENSREG website and the preparation of a concept for future developments of the ENSREG website based on survey and stakeholder feedback
- Stress Tests Follow-up actions

Survey and Review of transparency

- Survey in the light of the 2014 reporting date on Public Information in the Nuclear Safety Directive (survey and assessment of reports)
- Survey in the light of the 2015 reporting date on Transparency in the Waste Directive (survey and assessment of reports)
- Peer Review on national implementation of ENSREG “principles” for openness and transparency” (survey with a view to review the national implementation of these principles)

Assessment and Guidance on transparency issues

- Review of the rulings of the ACCC (Aarhus) and the ECIC (Espoo) (with a view to develop guidance for European Nuclear Regulators)
- EU International and legal framework for transparency in the nuclear field (update of document, concept paper regarding balance transparency and security)

Other Activities

- ENSREG Report 2015 (template, contribution WG3 and introduction)
- 3rd ENSREG Conference (contribution to organisation and programme)
- Contacts with other groups (maintain NEA CNRA WGPC, ENEF WGT, explore IAEA and establish NTW)

9.0) A.O.B.

9.1) NUSHARE Project

Item not treated.

9.2) ENSREG Chair

The chairman reported that he had received a strong indication from the new federal minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety that he would retire soon from his post, but that the matter remained to be ratified by the president of the republic. Consequently there was a need for ENSREG to consider the matter of a new Chairman.

EC highlighted the need for continuity from ENSREG in the period of the passage of revised NSD through the EP and Council. The chairman was invited to consider if he would be prepared to stay in position until the next meeting at which time a decision could be taken on a new chairman.

IT and AT thanked the Chairman for his early warning on this issue and supported the position of the EC. They requested the chairman to keep ENSREG informed of developments. In the meantime all ENSREG members should prepare themselves for the discussions on the selection of a new ENSREG chairman and to consider their potential candidacy.

The chair accepted to remain in position until the next meeting.

10.0) Next Meeting

In response to a request from the UK to identify future meetings the next 2 dates of the 27th May 2014 and 16th October 2014 were fixed

Agenda Point	Document	ENSREG Approval
4.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_236 EHRO-N ECVET ENSREG Jan 2014</i>	
5.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_226 Nuclear Safety Cooperation with USNRC</i>	
5.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_227 Draft Agenda - Prioritisation of Safety Improvements resulting from Post-Fukushima NPP Safety Re-evaluations</i>	
7.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_230 WG1 Workprogramme 2014-16</i>	Approved In principle
7.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_228 ENSREG WP 2014-2016 - proposal for contribution WG2</i>	Approved In principle
7.0	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_225 Draft Work Programme for ENSREG WGTA (WG3) for 2014-2016</i>	Approved In principle
8.1	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_241 ENSREG WGIC 20140116</i>	
8.1.1	<i>HLG_r(2013-24)_206 ToR ENSREG WG IC</i>	approved
8.1.2	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_242 INSC -ENSREG Presentation -AVM 2014 01 16</i>	
8.1.2	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_238 IND PROGR 2014-2017 Rev JM 2014 01 10_cl</i>	
8.1.2	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_239 STRATEGY 2014-2020 Rev 2014 01 10_cl</i>	
8.1.3	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_237 131205 ENSREG_INSCv1YP</i>	Approved by silent procedure
8.2	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_233 WG1 Report to ENSREG26</i>	
8.2	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_231 ENSREG Master Plan-31Dec2013</i>	
8.22	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_232 IRRS WG1 Workshop ToR 2013 12 10 Final.doc</i>	
8.3	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_229 ERDO-WG-EC-ENEF Workshop - Summary Report</i>	
8.3	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_234 ENSREG WG2 - summary of activities - 2014-01-16</i>	
8.3	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_235 ENSREG 26 - WG2 report back - draft 2014-01-09</i>	
8.4	<i>HLG_r(2014-26)_240 ENSREG 26 (16-01-14) - Progress Report for WG3</i>	