



**Statement from Mr. Andy Hall,
Chairperson of ENSREG,
following the Group's 29th meeting of the 15th January 2015**

HERCA-WENRA presented their recently published work on emergency preparedness and response (EP&R), with particular emphasis on better cross-border coordination of protective actions during the early phase of a nuclear accident. ENSREG encouraged HERCA-WENRA to continue their work and develop more detailed guidelines. ENSREG encouraged individual regulators to initiate an exchange of views with civil protection authorities at the national level, and to report back to ENSREG in the middle of 2016 with a synthesis of national findings. This preparatory work is of high relevance for the national implementation of the revised Basic Safety Standards Directive due by early 2018.

Following a preliminary review of working group structures, ENSREG decided to first review and revise its current work programme for decision at the next meeting. The revised work programme would then clarify the best structure and mission for future Working Groups.

Hans Wanner, Chair of WENRA, attended the meeting to exchange initial thoughts on the first Topical Peer Review (TPR) of the Nuclear Safety Directive. ENSREG reached consensus that the TPR should be performed on technical safety related issues. ENSREG mandated ENSREG WG1 to cooperate with the WENRA Reactor Harmonisation Working Group (RHWG) to develop proposals on both the topic and the process for the 2017 TPR exercise and to deliver their findings at the next ENSREG plenary meeting in summer 2015. Upon finalisation of the topic, the full process and terms of reference should be defined by the first ENSREG meeting of 2016.

ENSREG approved the objectives of the 3rd ENSREG Nuclear Safety conference, to be held in Brussels on the 29th and 30th June 2015. The conference will showcase ENSREG's work and seek perspectives on Nuclear Safety from the international regulatory community, including Asian nations with new nuclear build programmes.

ENSREG members exchanged views on the potential for collaboration on licensing issues related to new fuel suppliers for VVER reactors, in the context of supply diversification and energy security. Three members mentioned that they have experience with alternative supplies for VVER reactors. No specific safety concerns were voiced.

ENSREG discussed the potential safety implications associated with the recent drone overflights of some European Nuclear Reactor sites. ENSREG considered this to be primarily a security issue. The EC informed that it is currently evaluating the potential for the creation of a regulatory framework for drones most probably linked to responsibilities of the European Aviation Safety Agency. ENSREG will continue to monitor the situation.

ENSREG endorsed the nomination of Dr. C. Housiadas, chairman of the Greek Atomic Energy Commission as the vice chairman of ENSREG and as chair of ENSREG WG3, without prejudice to any eventual reorganisation of the ENSREG WG structures. Dr Housiadas replaces Mr Molin in both roles. ENSREG thanked Mr Molin for his service and contributions.