

ENSREG Work Programme 2018-2020

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European Nuclear Regulators Group (ENSREG) Work Programme 2018-2020

1 - Introduction

ENSREG's central mission, as an expert advisory group to the European Commission, is to promote the highest standards and the continuous improvements of nuclear safety and radioactive waste and spent fuel management and their regulation, and to promote openness and transparency in those areas.

At the 28th meeting a reflection group was formed to consider ENSREG practices. The reflection group recommended that the structure of the work programme should be revised and at the 30th meeting were requested to produce a new ENSREG work programme for the period 2016-19. This new work programme was produced by the reflection group and the working group chairs and was presented to the 31st ENSREG meeting (November 2015). Several changes and improvements to the text presented were made during that meeting. The revised work program, implementing the changes asked by ENSREG members, was approved in January 2016, following a silence procedure.

The 2016-2019 ENSREG work programme was shaped by recent European legislative changes, in particular Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom as amended by 2014/87/EURATOM (the amended Nuclear Safety Directive) and Council Directive 2011/70/EURATOM (the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive). A key proportion of ENSREG's work in this period therefore concerns supporting the safety objectives of these Directives and assisting implementation by Member States. During 2016-19, ENSREG would continue to facilitate the follow up of the implementation of the National Action Plans following the European Stress Tests. This work programme also included a number of specific areas of work where ENSREG will be providing advice to the European Commission at their request, in matters such as nuclear safety cooperation, long term operation of nuclear plants, decommissioning and emergency preparedness and response.

Whilst this work programme aimed to set out the key areas of work in the period 2016-19, there was a need to make amendments during 2017, mainly in order to align the wording of the activities to the final terms of reference for the upcoming Topical Peer Review and to include the latest ENSREG decisions with regard to this process. ENSREG mandated to revise the work program in its 32nd Meeting (June 2017). The revised version of the work program covers the period between 2018 and 2020, and will be subsequently revised upon the mandate of the ENSREG Plenary.

2 - ENSREG's main activities in 2018-2020 concern the following topics:

1. **Supporting the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive:** Whilst it is Member States' responsibility to appropriately transpose and implement European Legislation, ENSREG will play a role in assisting Member States through a number of areas of work, such as technical guidance to assist with reporting requirements (in particular those under Article 9 of the Nuclear Safety Directive and Article 14 of the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive). A critical task for ENSREG in this period will be, working with WENRA, to provide a mechanism to implement the first 'topical peer review' as required by the Amended Nuclear Safety Directive. The topical peer review will consider ageing management of nuclear reactors. With reference to the implementation of the Spent Fuel and

Radioactive Waste Directive, ENSREG will continue to support Member States particularly for specific aspect of interface between National Programmes and National Reports.

2. **Providing advice to the European Commission and coordination of Member State regulatory bodies on matters related to the safety of nuclear installations and the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste:** ENSREG has been requested by the EC to provide advice on matters related to the long term operation of nuclear power plants, emergency preparedness and response and the transport of radioactive material in the context of improving the safety standards and facilitating harmonisation within the EU. The EC has also requested ENSREG for its advice as regards the revision and implementation of assistance and technical cooperation programs, such as those under the EC's Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC).
3. **Facilitate active participation in peer review within the European Union and oversight of the completion of the stress test 'National Action Plans'.** ENSREG played a pivotal role in the 2011 European Stress Tests and has since held two workshops to review progress on the National Action Plans created by member states. ENSREG will continue to provide oversight in this area by putting in place an agreed reporting schedule. ENSREG will also contribute to the peer review of National Action Plans from at least two states outside of the EU. During this period ENSREG will continue to facilitate EU participation in peer reviews via the IAEA's 'Integrated Regulatory Reviews Service' (IRRS) and 'Integrated Review Service for Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management, Decommissioning and Remediation' (ARTEMIS) peer review services, thereby supporting the continuous improvement of nuclear safety and management of spent fuel and radioactive waste in Europe.
4. **Seeking enhanced openness and transparency** throughout ENSREG's activities, including provision of revised guidelines to Member States on reporting and transparency as part of the ENSREG wide work on reporting under Directives, developing a communication strategy for ENSREG implementing a new approach to the ENSREG website and holding an ENSREG conference in 2017 and 2019.

Further detail and expected delivery dates of the tasks ENSREG expects to perform against these topics are set out in the next section. Tasks are prioritised on the following basis:

- High Priority – Tasks which must be undertaken by ENSREG in accordance with Commissioning decision 2007/530/Euratom; any other legal obligations; or work of major strategic importance to nuclear safety, management of spent fuel of radioactive waste.
- Medium priority – Tasks which should be undertaken in support of ENSREG's purposes; work of strategic importance to nuclear safety, management of spent fuel of radioactive waste.

Low priority – tasks which could be undertaken to support ENSREG's purposes but may make a limited contribution nuclear safety, management of spent fuel of radioactive waste; tasks of an administrative nature.

3 - Areas of work and key deliverables

1. Supporting the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive

Topic 1(a): Report under Art. 9(1) of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2009/71/EURATOM as amended by Directive 2014/87/EURATOM.				
Deliverable	Priority <small>(H/M/L)</small>	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Revise guidance for next report to address the lessons learned from 1st report and to address the new issues arising from the revised Nuclear Safety Directive	H	2018	WG1 (task group)	<p>WG1 task group will be established for the review of the guidelines, to address feedback from the 1st set of national reports in 2014, taking into account the recommendations from the European Commission's report and the new issues arising from the revised Nuclear Safety Directive. To be presented to the Plenary for agreement in 2018. Reports under Art. 9(1) are required in July 2020. WG3 will contribute to the work of WG1 task group in relation to the review of the guidelines pertaining to public information/transparency.</p> <p>High priority task supporting compliance / consistency in MS reporting.</p>

Topic 1(b): Topical Peer Reviews (TPR) according to Art. 8e point 3 of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2014/87/EURATOM: Definition of scope and methodology, conduct 1st TPR, lessons learned and follow-up.				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. TPR Workshop	H	May 2018	TPR Board, Participating Countries, Secretariat	The main outcome from the workshop would be the Summary report. High priority task supporting Art. 8e of NSD.
2. TPR Workshop Summary report		Sept 2018	TPR Board	Endorsement by ENSREG at next plenary or by written procedure if appropriate (second half of 2018)
3. ENSREG communication to the public of the TPR results and Stakeholders' engagement.		2018 – Beginning of 2019	TPR Board, ENSREG Chair and Secretariat	Detailed proposals for stakeholder engagement were prepared by WG1 and WG3 and endorsed by ENSREG. ENSREG decided to organize a workshop with NGOs experts and the public after the endorsement by ENSREG of the peer review report end on 2018. The objective of this workshop may be to present and discuss the results of the TPR.
4. Definition of appropriate ENSREG follow up measures of relevant findings and recommendations from the topical peer review process		October 2018	TPR Board, ENSREG	Concrete follow-up actions will depend on the outcomes from the TPR review process and should be discussed in the October 2018 ENSREG meeting to be included in this work plan. An ENSREG implementation plan is scheduled for Spring 2019. ENSREG could approve a Follow-Up ENSREG report in 2020 about the progress of national actions and a final report in 2023. No additional peer reviews should be envisaged.

Topic 1(c): Implementation of Art. 8a-8c of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2014/87/EURATOM.				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Implementation of Art. 8a-8c of the amended Nuclear Safety Directive.	L	After 2020	Plenary and task group as appropriate, in coordination with WENRA and the EC-JRC.	Plenary will follow-up the work carried out in WENRA, no further activities are initiated before the finalisation of work. The guidance on VDNS principles implementation is being developed by the IAEA through a consultancy process.
2. Benchmarking on specific safety improvements related to the implementation of Art. 8a.	M	2020	Plenary and task group as appropriate.	ENSREG decided to organize before 2020 benchmarking exercises between EU countries on specific safety improvements to support getting a converging implementation of the Safety Objective. Afterwards, WENRA decided to analyse the implementation of certain RLs of Issue F at different EU countries to support getting converging implementation of the Safety Objective. A decision on whether to develop an ENSREG process or to follow-up on WENRA activities and results should be taken in 2020.
3. Follow-up on the status of implementation of the WENRA Safety Reference Levels.	L	At WG1 meetings (from 2017).	ENSREG Plenary, in coordination with WENRA Chair	ENSREG will follow-up the implementation status of the WENRA SRLs, for informative purposes. The follow-up by ENSREG of the status of implementation of WENRA SRLs will be done through the appropriate reporting from WENRA Chair at ENSREG meetings. No reporting or deliverables from WG1 are needed for this activity. Low priority assigned because work in this area being led by WENRA and no specific deliverables are expected.

Topic 1(d): Report under Art. 14 of the spent fuel and radioactive waste Directive 2011/70/EURATOM.				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Analysis and development of an ENSREG position on specific common issues regarding the relation of National Programmes and National Reports under Directive 2011/70/Euratom.	H	2018-2019	WG2	A task group within WG2 will be established to develop a technical position on specific issues of the relation between National Programmes and National Reports. In this process, special focus will be put on definition and implementation of key performance indicators.
2. Analysis and issue of an ENSREG position concerning the radioactive waste and spent fuel inventories reporting.	H	2018-2019	WG2	<p>The objective is to elaborate within the WG2 a technical position on the data to be reported in the inventories, considering the availability of the data, main assumptions underlying national inventories, reporting needs (including aggregated inventory data at the EU level) and rationale for their provision.</p> <p>To reach the objective due consideration will be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the national frameworks and needs; the Commission first report on implementation of the Directive 2011/70/Euratom (COM(2017)236final); other on- going international initiatives, in particular the implementation of the IAEA/EC/NEA joint project on the harmonised set of inventory data and tool; IAEA Status and Trend project.

2. Advice to the European Commission and coordination of member state regulatory bodies

Topic 2(a): Advice to the Commission and coordination of regulatory bodies on issues concerning: long term operation, new build and decommissioning.				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Analyse and issue an ENSREG position concerning the use of "best available" versus "best applicable" technologies in the frame of NPP LTO	L	2020	High level task group and Plenary	The activity could be initiated upon request from the EC and after a decision at ENSREG Plenary level.
2. Analyse and issue an ENSREG position concerning the use of "best available" versus "best applicable" strategies/technologies in the frame of NPP decommissioning	L	2020	High level task group and Plenary	The activity could be initiated upon request from the EC and after a decision at ENSREG Plenary level.
3. Analyse and propose way forward to ensure effective constructive public engagement in the decision making process regarding LTO and decommissioning	M	2018-2019	Plenary / WG3	WG3 and ENSREG Plenary to consider and discuss the urgency and relative priority, considering the work load for 2018-2020.
4. Identify and/or set up links with and initiate collaboration with the Decommission Funding Group (DFG) on financial issues related to decommissioning, spent fuel and waste management	M	2019	WG2	<p>Delivery approach and additional deliverables to be agreed by plenary following proposals from WG2 after the adoption of the Commission decision, Rules of Procedure and 2 year DFG work plan (not yet adopted/finalised). Careful consideration will be given to i) ongoing activities in this area (e.g. Decommissioning Funding Group), ii) competence of regulators represented in ENSREG in this area, and iii) independence of the regulator.</p> <p>Continued work to take due consideration to the finalisation of the Non Paper in preparation by WG2.</p>

Topic 2(a): Advice to the Commission and coordination of regulatory bodies on issues concerning: long term operation, new build and decommissioning.				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
5. Organise a technical meeting between EU regulatory authorities, TSOs and industry on Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspect Items (CFSI) issues	H	2019	WG1	The issue of Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspect Items (CFSI) in the supply chain has been identified during the 2017 ENSREG Conference as a key issue. A technical meeting on this issue gathering the different actors of the supply chain as well as utilities and regulatory authorities should be organised to share information and identify possible ways to improve the situation and the necessary controls.

Topic 2(b): Emergency Preparedness and Response				
	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Monitor and report on implementation of HERCA-WENRA approach in the field of EP&R.	M	2017-2019	Plenary/ member states	Based on the information provided from these regulators' associations on the implementation of the so-called HERCA-WENRA approach, ENSREG might consider the definition of a strategy and means to promote greater convergence on certain topics (such as alignment of criteria for protective actions in cross-border situations, public information and international cooperation), in close cooperation with civil protection authorities at national level and with the Euratom Article 31 group.

3. Openness and transparency and communication of ENSREG activities

Topic 3(a): ENSREG Regulatory Conference on Nuclear Safety:				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Deliver ENSREG Conference in 2019	H	2019	2017/19 Steering Committee for the ENSREG Conference	Lead member state supported by volunteers from other member states. Venue & administrative support from the Commission. Review conference organisation based on lessons learned from previous conference in 2017, increase participation from the industry and other stakeholders, include additional topics reflecting main areas of interest for the public and NGOs. For proposal to late 2018 ENSREG Plenary.

Topic 3(b): ENSREG website and communication				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Improve with the support of the European Commission the content and management of the ENSREG Website to ensure transparency and better access of the public to relevant information	M	Ongoing	Website management team	A specific group the “website management team” has been formed to manage the website.
2. Survey among website visitors	M	Ongoing	Website management team	WG3 Chair will cooperate with the website management team.

Topic 3(b): ENSREG website and communication				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
3. Update of “ENSREG Protocol for Maintenance of the ENSREG website”	M	2nd semester of 2018	Website management team	WG3 Chair will cooperate with the website management team

Topic 3(c): ENSREG report and revision of its work plan:				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. ENSREG report	H	2019	Plenary/EC high level task group	Every two years. Contributions from the working groups and the Secretariat.
2. Revision of individual working group work programmes	M	Ongoing	Working Group 1-3 Chairs	Revised as needed, when necessary or at least yearly.
3. Preparation of the 2020-2022 Work Programme	M	2020	ENSREG Chair, working with working groups chairs and EC	If appropriate a review of the new work programme format, utilised in this work programme, will also be undertaken.

Topic 3(d): Communication plan for the ENSREG and on-going communication/transparency activities				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Specific communication plans for ENSREG activities	M	2018-2020	WG3	Mapping the activities of ENSREG WP and proposing specific communication plans, if applicable and so decided by ENSREG. Priorities would be assigned accordingly.
2. Prepare/Update the “Guidance” document regarding openness and transparency	M	Depending the conditions/Upon request	WG3	Update/further develop the “Guidance for National Regulatory Organizations on Principles for Openness and Transparency” on the basis of “Concept/information/survey the national implementation of the ‘Principles’ identified in the current ‘Guidance’ document”, and the communication articles in both directives (safety waste).

4. Implementation of peer review, 'Stress Tests' and 'National Action Plans'

Topic 4(a): National Action Plan 2015: Identify a follow-up process for outstanding issues to support full implementation and for future reporting requirements				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Reporting scheme on the Stress Tests NAcPs implementation status	M	On going	WG1	Stress Tests National Action Plans were updated in 2017 by Member States. Each participating country Status will issue and publish an updated report on the implementation of the NAcPs every 2 years, until completion of their respective NAcPs.
2. WG1 to report to ENSREG plenary on implementation of the Stress Tests NAcPs	M	2018-2020	WG1	Ongoing, WG1 will allow the different countries which participated to the process to update on the NAcP implementation process. Participants will provide a short presentation to WG1 when they have completed their NAcPs and may provide information about the implementation of the actions contained in their respective NAcPs. WG1 may produce a Status report on the implementation of the NAcP. WG1 presents a status report in 2018, based on the updated NAcP reports from December 2017 and the information provided by the participating countries within the WG1.

Topic 4(b): Stress Tests Peer Reviews in Belarus and Turkey				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Belarus	H	2017-2018	EC lead task group	Ongoing, perform peer review mission in March 2018, results to be presented by the Stress Test Board in June-July 2018.
2. Turkey	H	2018-2019	EC lead task group	Identify pool of experts, adapt if necessary peer review process, perform peer review, issue peer review report. 2019 date an estimate.
3. Iran	H	2019-2020	EC lead task group	Identify pool of experts, adapt if necessary peer review process, perform peer review, issue peer review report. 2020 date an estimate.

Topic 4(c): IAEA IRRS and ARTEMIS Peer Review Missions in the EU Member States: follow the schedule, maintain a pool of experts, ensure active participation, support process improvement, lessons learned and follow-up				
Deliverable	Priority (H/M/L)	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Consideration of IRRS and ARTEMIS Pools of experts and IRRS indicative programme	M	Every WG1 & WG2 meeting	WG1 & WG2 peer review coordinators	Working Group 1 and 2 working in partnership across IRRS and Artemis peer review programmes for EU countries.
2. IRRS and ARTEMIS indicative programmes update to ENSREG	M	Every ENSREG Plenary meeting	WG1 and WG2 Chair	Both the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel require international peer review missions. The calendar for missions should be coordinated by WG1 and WG2.

4 - Working Groups

ENSREG has three working groups which meet as required to support the work of ENSREG and these working groups will, as appropriate put in place their own more detailed work programmes to manage the deliverables attributed to them. Where working groups do not have a specific task to deliver for ENSREG they will, in consultation with the Chair and Plenary, either disband or move to a dormant state pending allocation of further work.

Working Group 1 (WGNS) - Improving Nuclear Safety arrangements and International Cooperation;

Working Group 2 (WGRWMD) - Improving Radioactive Waste Management, Spent Fuel and Decommissioning arrangements;

Working Group 3 (WGTA) - Improving in Transparency arrangements.