

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE EUROPEAN NUCLEAR SAFETY REGULATORS GROUP (ENSREG) 2010-2011

Introduction - ENSREG Main Activities 2010-2011

ENSREG's central mission is to strive for the continuous improvement in nuclear safety and radioactive waste and spent fuel management and their regulation, and to promote openness and transparency in those areas. In light of this, ENSREG's main activities in 2010 - 2011 will be focused on:

1. seeking continuous improvement through:

- 1.1 pushing forward a programme of self-assessments and peer reviews of Member States (MS) nuclear safety and radioactive waste management regulatory bodies, in cooperation with the IAEA;
- 1.2 pursuing the programme of work to identify key areas for improvement arising from review meetings of international conventions on nuclear safety, radioactive waste and spent fuel management and to implement those improvements in MS;
- 1.3 facilitating a consistent and high standard of implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive¹ by the 27 MS to include providing guidance on:
 - the framework and methodologies that may assist in addressing the challenges of ensuring suitably qualified staff and knowledge resources in the nuclear field;
 - the information in relation to the regulation of nuclear safety to be made available to the workers and the general public;
 - the format of the reports to the Commission under the Directive.
- 1.4 in the context of a possible proposal from the Commission of a directive on a policy on long term waste management and long term spent fuel management, prepare a proposal for the contents to be included into such directive and actively participate in the process of its adoption.

2. seeking enhanced openness and transparency by:

- 2.1 putting in place a comprehensive ENSREG web-site that, in time, will be viewed as providing independent authoritative information on nuclear safety, radioactive waste and spent fuel management, and their regulation in the EU; and;
- 2.2 organising an ENSREG led European Conference, accessible to all stakeholders, to be held every two years, dedicated to furthering the central mission of ENSREG for continuous improvement.

¹ Hereinafter, the reference to the "Nuclear Safety Directive" is made to the Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom of 25 June 2009 establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations (OJ L 172, 2.7.2009)

Working Group Programmes

ENSREG has set up Working Groups covering three areas, namely:

Working Group 1 (WGNS) – Improving Nuclear Safety arrangements;

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

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

The details of the Work Programmes that underpin the main ENSREG activities for 2010-2011, with corresponding deliverables and milestones, were elaborated by each of ENSREG's Working Groups and approved by ENSREG.

The deliverables of this Work Programmes are reports underlining particularly the progress made in further enhancing EU and/or worldwide improvements in nuclear safety and the safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste.

Working Groups should report to ENSREG about the progress of their work towards the end of 2010 and prepare the draft for inclusion in the ENSREG Report for the Council and Parliament, by Spring 2011. The summary report should be submitted to the Council and Parliament by the ENSREG before July 2011.

Working Group 1 – Improving Nuclear Safety arrangements (WGNS)

The work of WGNS will be delegated to three Sub-groups:

Sub-Group A – Format of and Guidance for the MS Reports under Article 9(1) of the Nuclear Safety Directive

Phase 1

- A1. Propose main objectives of Reports and how they will be used.
- A2. Prepare outline structure of Report including size/scope (Based on A1).
- A3. Determine the interrelations with other reports (IAEA Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) / Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (JOC)), optimising the work required by MS to prepare reports for all three.
- A4. Identify compliance topics needing further guidance or advice.

Phase 2

- A5. Develop detailed guidance on content of MS reports.
- A6. Develop guidance on principles to be applied when responding on specific Articles (as agreed by ENSREG).

Timescales

Phase 1 At January ENSREG meeting, proposals to be discussed, particularly to clarify Item A1 as far as possible. *{Complete}*

All items to be developed in more detail, status to be reported to each ENSREG meeting and finalised by October ENSREG meeting.

Phase 2 By July 2012, subject to detailed planning once Phase 1 agreed.

Sub-Group B – Self-assessment guidance – Article 9(3) of the Nuclear Safety Directive

- B1. Provide justification for the basis that self-assessments should be based on IAEA International Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) guidance. Noting that IRRS missions look beyond the scope of the CNS or JOC obligations and Full Scope IRRS missions are beyond the scope of the Directive.
- B2. Use the WGNS reports on IRRS missions and CNS lessons learned to propose any appropriate and justified modifications to IRRS self-assessment guidance.
- B3. Propose appropriate processes to compile the key issues arising from each Convention review meeting and to update the IRRS mission analysis report to inform B2.
- B4. Assist IAEA to develop IRRS self-assessment guidance (taking account of B2).

Timescales

- B1. By January 2010 ENSREG meeting *{Complete}*
- B2. By October 2010 ENSREG meeting
- B3. By October 2010 ENSREG meeting
- B4. After January 2010 ENSREG meeting (and discussion with IAEA) for review by January 2012

Sub-Group C – Scheduling and resourcing of self-assessments and peer reviews – Article 9(3) of the Nuclear Safety Directive

- C1. Develop a provisional schedule for self-assessments and peer reviews for all MS over the next 10 years on the basis of MS input (European Programme).
- C1.(a) ENSREG members to provide response to ‘consequential actions to the coordination group.
- C2. Look at bounding cases of Directive requirement and full-scope IRRS missions to identify the range of potential resource requirements.
- C3. Identify with IAEA what they can support regarding this density of peer reviews and scope the necessary MS resources to meet the objectives.

Timescales

- C1. At January 2010 ENSREG meeting MS to be informed of need to provide information for Item 1 *{Complete}*
 - C1.(a) Replies required by end-March 2010
- C1.1 Presentation to July 2010 ENSREG meeting
- C2. By October 2010 ENSREG meeting
- C3. By January 2011 ENSREG meeting

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

Task 1: Seminar “Better use of Joint Convention in EU”

- Draft and agree upon the objectives, agenda and time-table for the seminar
- Agree with Atomic Questions Party objectives, agenda and time-table for the seminar
- Conduct the seminar
- Document and report the results of the seminar

Timetable: Task 1 completed during the Spanish Presidency, if applicable to the Presidency

Task 2: Format of and Guidance for MS Reports²

- Propose main objectives of Reports and how they will be used.
- Prepare outline structure of Report.
- Determine the interrelations with other report (CNS, JC), optimising the work required by Member States (MS) to prepare reports for all three.
- Identify compliance topics needing further guidance or advice.
- Develop detailed guidance on content of MS reports.
- Develop guidance on principles to be applied when responding on specific Articles (as agreed by ENSREG).

Timetable

- Status of all items reported to each ENSREG meeting
- To be coordinated with WGNS.

Task 3: Self-assessment guidance

- Identify and review existing IAEA self-assessment guidance.
- Prepare an outline of a proposal of an appropriate set of self-assessment guidance (questions, process, reporting) to be used for ENSREG to consider
- Propose appropriate processes how identify and take into account key issues arising from each Convention review meeting

Timetable

- Status of all items reported to each ENSREG meeting
- By July 2011, subject to detailed planning.

² Tasks 2-5 are built on the assumption that there will be a Waste Directive in place. Tasks are in line with WG-1's corresponding activities, which are related to the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive.

Task 4: Peer Review Guidance

- Identify and review existing IAEA (and other) Peer Review guidance.
- Prepare an outline of a proposal of an appropriate Peer Review guidance for ENSREG to consider
- Propose appropriate processes how identify and take into account key issues arising from each Convention review meeting

Timetable

- Status of all items reported to each ENSREG meeting
- By July 2011, subject to detailed planning.

Task 5: Scheduling and resourcing of self-assessments and peer reviews

- Develop a provisional schedule for self-assessments and peer reviews for all MS over the next 10 years on the basis of MS input.
- Develop a mechanism how to organize peer reviews and respective teams
- Identify with IAEA what they can support regarding peer reviews and scope the necessary MS resources to meet the objectives.

Timetable

- Status of all items reported to each ENSREG meeting
- To be coordinated with WGNS.

Task 6: Exchange of information, discussions on waste safety implementation issues

- Exchange of information related to functions and operations of national regulatory systems
- Discussions on WS issues and possible events, sharing of lesson learned etc.

Timetable

- Ongoing, at each meeting as need arises.

Working Group 3– Improving in Transparency arrangements (WGTA)

Goal:

Make nuclear safety information and the work of ENSREG in regulating nuclear safety accessible to interested EU citizens.

Objectives:

- To promote good practice among MS with regard to openness and transparency on issues relating to the safety of nuclear installations
- To propose the features of a website that, once established, will improve the access of European citizens to accurate and timely information on important nuclear safety issues within the EU.
- To identify appropriate methods for notifying interested parties of the existence of website and other methods of accessing information and providing feedback to ENSREG or other EU bodies (e.g., European Commission, European Parliament).
- To consider other ways for making information accessible and comprehensive and allowing engagement with and feedback from EU citizens To propose methods for gauging the effectiveness of efforts made to improve transparency and openness in nuclear safety (such as through the use of Eurobarometer surveys).
- To disseminate via ENSREG, guidance on the types of nuclear safety information that should be made available to stakeholders and means of achieving this.

Work Programme for 2010 - 2011

The work programme for WG3 in the period 2010 – 2011 will build on the work undertaken over the previous two years. A key development has been the adoption of the Nuclear Safety Directive³.

The key activities to be undertaken by WGTA in the period 2010 – 2011 are:

1. ENSREG Website

- Establish process for website maintenance by January 2010.
- Maintain website (ongoing).
- Conduct review of website content and traffic by mid-2011.
- Based on review, enhance website content and features by end 2011.
- Encourage ENSREG members to promote the use of the website (ongoing).

³ See in particular Article 8

2. EU International and legal framework for transparency in the nuclear field

- Identify roles for nuclear safety regulators in EU International and Legal Framework summary document by end 2010.

3. Key Principles for National Regulators on common practices for improving transparency

- Finalise development of Key Principles for National Regulators on Common Practices for Improving Transparency by mid-2010.

4. Implementation of Article 8 of the Nuclear Safety Directive on Information to the Public

- Prepare recommendations for ENSREG on the implementation of Article 8 of the Nuclear Safety Directive by end 2010. The Recommendations should take account of the “roles” identified under Activity 2 and “key principles” developed under Activity 3 above.

5. Proposed ENSREG sponsored Conference

- Contribute to the organisation and programme for the proposed ENSREG sponsored conference in accordance with timetable agreed.

6. Contacts with other Groups

- Maintain contact with the Working Group on Public Communication of Nuclear Regulatory Organisations (WGPC) of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) on areas of mutual interest.
- Explore the possibility of closer co-operation with IAEA on areas of mutual interest.
- Establish contact with the European Nuclear Energy Forum's (ENEF) working group on transparency.