

Statement by Ms. Marta Žiaková,

Chairperson of ENSREG,

following the Group's 52nd meeting of 24 April 2023

The 52nd meeting of European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) took place on 24 April 2023 in Brussels with the remote participation of State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU) and a representative from OECD Nuclear Energy Agency. ENSREG welcomed new members representing Austria, Poland and Slovenia. ENSREG elected its second vice-chair and approved HERCA's request to become observer in the Group.

The three ENSREG working groups informed on their activities and presented their proposals to the Work Programme for 2024-2026.

ENSREG representatives were requested to nominate additional experts to the second topical peer review and agreed on South African participation as observer in the peer review workshops.

In the context of Russia's illegal war on Ukraine, the acting chair of the SNRIU provided an update on the overall nuclear safety situation in Ukraine. He particularly focused on the issue of uninterrupted supply chains and their transport to and from the sites. The experience with diversification of equipment and services was presented. The acting SNRIU chair informed that a number of Ukrainian and foreign companies are now available to assure a reliable supply of equipment and services. The Commission provided updated information on the support to Ukraine by European regulators and on the emergency preparedness arrangements taken by the regulators in response to the war in Ukraine. The Commission presented activities and instruments to support Ukraine and its safety regulator, including the material support.

ENSREG received an update on ongoing and planned stress tests in third countries, the activities within the European SMR pre-Partnership and the Euratom Research and Training Work Programme 2023-2025.

The French Nuclear Safety Authority updated on the investigations into the corrosion issues affecting the piping systems of the French nuclear fleet and the follow up action to be taken. The Commission proposed to organise a workshop to discuss non-destructive examination techniques of nuclear power plant components.

Furthermore, the French Nuclear Safety Authority informed on the ongoing procedure to review the organisation of nuclear safety oversight in France.

Finally, the Commission presented its planned new support instrument to help nuclear safety regulators to address newly emerging challenges on which a webinar for interested regulators will be organised in mid-May.

The next ENSREG plenary will be held on 20 November, 2023.