



Minutes of the 55th meeting of ENSREG

28 November 2024

Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels, Belgium

Participants

ENSREG members representing national authorities responsible for nuclear safety and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste from 22 EU Member States and the European Commission participated in the physical ENSREG meeting, which took place on 28 November 2024, in Brussels. No member representatives were present from Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia or Malta.

Observers from the Council of the European Union, WENRA, HERCA, IAEA, OECD NEA, Switzerland, Ukraine, and United Kingdom participated in the open session of the meeting.

Türkiye participated in the closed session discussions on Türkiye Stress Test Peer Review Report from ENSREG Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries and in the open session.

The draft amended agenda of the meeting is included in Annex I.

The list of all participants is attached as Annex II.

Part I – Closed session (members only)

1. Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda

HLG-p(2024-55)_211 Agenda of the 55th ENSREG meeting

The ENSREG chairperson, Mr Juan Carlos Lentijo, opened the closed session of the 55th ENSREG meeting reserved for members only.

Mr Lentijo presented the amendments made to the draft agenda after its distribution to ENSREG members. No additional amendments were proposed by the members. The draft amended agenda was adopted.

The Chair welcomed seven new ENSREG members: Ms Pascale Absil representing the Belgian Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC), Mr Pierre-Marie Abadie representing the French Autorité de sûreté nucléaire (ASN), Mr Francesco Campanella and Ms Silvia Amicucci representing the National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection of Italy, Ms Jessica Hilschmann representing the Ministry of Health and Social Security of Luxembourg, Ms Monika Lepasson, representing the Climate and Radiation Safety Department of the Estonian Environmental Board, and Ms Guna Šmerliņa representing the Environmental Quality Division of the Pollution Prevention Department of the Ministry of Climate and Energy in Latvia.

The list of ENSREG members as of 28 November 2024 is presented in Annex III.

ENSREG took the decision to:

- Adopt the draft amended agenda.

2. Administrative matters

- ENSREG collaboration on Teams

ENSREG Chair informed about the use of Microsoft Teams in some of the ENSREG working groups and proposed to start using it for ENSREG members' collaborative work.

The Commission informed about its intention to start using Teams on draft ENSREG documents, consultations and requests for views and comments, which will allow all members to work on the same document and avoid having several versions circulating at the same time. Final documents will still be shared via CIRCA BC or on the ENSREG Website and sent by email as it is currently the case.

Upon working group 3 request, ENSREG also clarified that observers' experts can participate in working groups' activities.

ENSREG took the decision to:

- Support the use of the Microsoft Teams collaborative tool. ENSREG Secretariat will invite ENSREG members to join the ENSREG group in Microsoft Teams.
- Confirm that ENSREG observers' experts can take part in the working groups' activities when their expertise is necessary in the matters discussed in working groups.

3. Preparation of the next Commission Communication on a Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC)

The Commission informed ENSREG about the ongoing preparatory work on a new Communication on a **Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC)**. This document is foreseen in the Euratom Treaty. The previous PINC was issued in 2016-17. Beyond reporting on the investments in the nuclear sector, it will also look at enablers of investments such as capacities available with regulators in order to process licensing applications (human, budgetary resources). As part of the data collection process, the Commission would like to consult ENSREG members on the national resources available in all respective regulatory authorities for activities linked to investments in the nuclear sector and their evolution. The Commission plans to reflect these indicators in an aggregated form in the PINC 2025 section on regulatory capacity.

In response to comments raised by Finland and France, the Commission clarified that it would provide a simple table with a column on statutory staff, a column on resources used beyond the perimeter of the national regulator and related bodies (like TSOs) and a column on mechanism in place to estimate future needs. The intent is not to constrain too much the data format. The Commission stressed that, due to the data aggregation, it is not expecting a statistically important difference in case of variation in cut-off dates for submitted data.

ENSREG:

- Expressed support to this consultation and committed to provide the requested data in a flexible way by the deadline set by the Commission.

4. Report from the ENSREG Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries

20241113 Türkiye Stress Test National Report final

Turkey Stress Test Peer Review Report for ENSREG Plenary

Mr Petteri Tiippana, the chair of the Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries and team leader for the Türkiye Stress Test Peer Review, presented the work of the Board and the status of the ongoing and potential stress tests in third countries. Mr Tiippana:

- Presented the Türkiye Stress Test Peer Review Report, prepared by an ENSREG peer review team and approved by the ENSREG Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries. A mission to Ankara is foreseen to present the results.
- Informed ENSREG that the Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries will define a strategy for upcoming stress test-related activities in third countries after the completion of the Türkiye peer review exercise. The aim is to address a peer review invitation from Iran and future engagement with Egypt, as well as to review the national action plan update from Armenia (that was expected by the end of 2024).

The Commission and Mr Tiippana thanked Turkish regulator NDK and the management of Akkuyu NPP for their cooperation and perfect hosting of the TPR team. The Türkiye representative stressed that Akkuyu is still under construction and commissioning stage, therefore some of the findings and recommendations can be followed up only after the start of commercial operation. Türkiye will prepare its National Action Plan (NaCP) after analysing the peer review report and after a commissioning license is issued by NDK.

The Commission thanked the Turkish representative for excellent cooperation and strong commitment to the peer review exercise and the peer review team for their involvement and dedication in addressing the right issues and analysing the proposed ways forward. The Commission also stressed the political importance for ENSREG to be involved in the follow-up, ensuring that the recommendations in the report are timely and adequately addressed. The Commission and Mr Tiippana referred to the foreseen mission to Ankara as a good occasion to clarify the timeline and priorities for the implementation of the recommendations (before and after the commissioning) and the preparation of the NaCP.

In relation to Iran, the Commission stressed the need to evaluate if a meaningful stress test exercise could be conducted under current conditions.

Following a point made by Germany, the Board will also analyse the relevance of stress test rules for new nuclear plants in the EU.

ENSREG took the decision to:

- Endorse the Türkiye peer review final report;

- Continue involvement in ensuring that the recommendations in the report are timely and adequately addressed;
- Based on peer review experience, analyse the relevance of stress test rules for new NPPs in the EU.

Part II – Open session

5. Opening of the open session

The ENSREG chair started the open session of the 55th plenary by welcoming the observers. The chair also welcomed special invited guests: Ms Lydie Evrard, IAEA Deputy Director General, and Mr Jean-Luc Lachaume, Chair of HERCA.

He informed briefly about the outcomes of the closed session.

The chair informed the plenary about a request received from several members to have a discussion on the lessons learned from the June 2024 ENSREG Conference. Due to a full agenda of this meeting, the discussion on the lessons learned from the ENSREG Conference will take place during the next plenary meeting and will be merged with the start of the preparations for the 2026 ENSREG Conference.

6. Review of WG1, WG2 and WG3 activities since the 54th ENSREG plenary (20 March 2024)

6.1 WG1 regular report

WG1 report to 55 Plenary

WG1 held a meeting on 15 October 2024. Ms Iga Pocztarek-Tofil, chair of WG1, reported on the following activities of the working group since the last 54th ENSREG plenary:

- On WG1 task on Best Available Technologies (BAT) / Accident Tolerant Fuel (ATF) (ENSREG Work Programme Task 3.2.2), WG1 was seeking further guidance from ENSREG and the Commission on further steps to be taken.
- On Counterfeit Fraudulent and Suspect Items (CFSI), Finland took the lead. In 2026, NEA OECD Working Group on Supply Chain will organize a workshop or a technical meeting on CFSI (probably in Finland) and called to submit ideas for topics. Representatives of WG1 will also be invited to participate to discuss legal limitations and ways of improving information sharing between NEA OECD and ENSREG.
- On the TPR I Status on Aging Management and implementation of NAcPs:
 - the status report on the implementation of the TPR-I NAcPs has been approved by written procedure in June;
 - the remaining countries will continue reporting to WG1, which will then report to the plenary;

- 11 out of 18 countries have completed their NAcP. Italy has also submitted its NAcP. 7 countries remain with open actions;
- for open NAcPs, expected completion dates range from 2024 to 2028.
- WG1 has been informed about TPR-II peer review workshops organized in Autumn 2024.
- Next steps for ENSREG WG1 will be to develop a general guidance document for the TPR process based on a questionnaire, which will be distributed to all Member States. Received replies will be analysed in a workshop. The first draft of the guidance document is expected by early 2026.
- On the EU-IRSS programme, draft guidelines will be finalised and tested during 2-3 pilot IRRS missions before issuing a final methodology/IRRS guidelines.
- On Stress Test NAcP implementation, no changes were reported. Countries with open actions will continue to report to the WG1 including closure presentations and WG1 chair will continue to report to the plenary.

Following WG1 presentation, several ENSREG members (AT, FR, SE) as well as WG1 and ENSREG chairs, the Commission and WENRA representatives exchanged views on BAT/ATF taxonomy related matters and the way forward on these topics which are included in the ENSREG Work Programme 2024-2026.

WG1 Chair and the Commission recalled that the CDA provides an unambiguous definition of BAT. It was stressed that the role of ENSREG vis-a-vis BAT and ATF is not the same, even if ATF could be considered as a subset of BAT. With regard to the Taxonomy CDA, the two subjects should be treated separately.

Regarding BAT, Mr Augustin (AT) considered that the definition of the BAT in the Taxonomy CDA is not compatible with NSD, IAEA and WENRA requirements. As suggested by the Chair, the Commission will liaise with WG1 to clarify what will be most useful as ENSREG's input to the Commission in relation to the obligation that it has on BAT under the Taxonomy CDA.

Regarding ATF, the Commission clarified that it has no duty to define ATF. The definition of ATF is within the remit of NRAs. If national regulators consider it useful, a common understanding/definition of ATF could be developed within ENSREG. AT considered that not every fuel licenced by NRA should be considered in line with Taxonomy, as its objective is to incentivise better and more sustainable fuels. WENRA recalled its internal discussions on ATF which moved from "Accident Tolerant Fuel" to "Advanced Technology Fuel".

All speakers agreed on the complexity of the topic and the need to continue reflection on the assessment of Best Available Technologies expected by the Commission and possible joint work on ATF.

The Chair thanked Ms Iga Poczta-Tofil for her work and the WG1 as a whole.

The Commission thanked WG1 for the work done and stressed that the issue of IRRS missions is also very important. Repetitive IRRS missions in MS should be well calibrated and applied

only if there is an effective reduction of workload for NRA. At the same time, it should be ensured that they are still well implemented.

FI supported the proposal on CFSI, stating that sharing of information is a good topic, but could be complemented by another topic on how regulators regulate requirements for CFSI and what expertise NRA should have for this.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The report of the chair of WG1.**

ENSREG took the decision to:

- **Follow-up work on the assessment of BAT in WG1 expected by the Commission. The Commission will liaise with WG1 to clarify the task on BAT. WG1 will report back on the topic during the next ENSREG plenary;**
- **Follow up developments at national level on ATF to see if common definition of ATF could be agreed among NRAs.**

6.2 WG2 regular report

WG2 Report ENSREG Plenary 28 November 2024 final

WG2 held a hybrid meeting on 1st October 2024 in Luxembourg. The next meeting will take place on 20 February 2025 in Brussels. Member States not represented in WG2 were strongly invited to nominate their representatives.

Mr Marc Demarche, the chair of WG2, presented the main activities of WG2 since the 54th ENSREG plenary and in particular:

- WG2 chair informed about ongoing interactions with the IAEA to optimize IRRS and ARTEMIS missions.
- The final report on the first cycle of peer reviews under Art. 14(3) of the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive 2011/70 Euratom (RWD) is planned for Autumn 2025 (WG2 and plenary).
- A related questionnaire was sent to ENSREG members seeking feedback by the end of the year. Preparation is ongoing for a 2-day workshop in Brussels (late Spring 2025) on lessons learned and assessment of implementation of the RWD. The aim would be to identify if and how to revise guidelines for Member States under Art. 14.1 and to launch further actions for dealing with common challenges.
- Another workshop is planned for 7 October 2025 to address identified challenges and share experience and solutions on management of radioactive waste arising from non-energy uses. Asked by FI about the reasons of particular focus on medical waste, WG2 chair highlighted the interest of a platform for discussion on this type of waste and also pointed the link with the Commission report to the Council and the European Parliament.
- WG2 chair updated ENSREG on the group's support to the preparation of a study (Pilot Project) on a joint EU action in waste management. The Commission is looking at new

initiatives - other than joint repositories explored in the past - such as a collaborative approach agreed between Members on containers.

- A draft technical proposition paper on classification of radioactive waste will be presented during the next WG2 meeting.

The Commission stressed the importance of analysing 10 years' experience of ARTEMIS missions and of involving all MS at some point. The results should be spread further, maybe by ENSREG. The Commission thanked for WG2 involvement in the pilot project and explained that its start was delayed by the efforts to integrate in the ToR points covering other ideas than creating a joint repository in order to avoid repetition of something that was done in the past. The current approach to the pilot projects is staged: first, a compendium of past initiatives and their results will be prepared, and second, a consultation platform for other possible joint initiatives or actions in Europe in the field of waste management, not limited to joint repositories.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The report of the chair of WG2;**
- **The invitation for not represented members of ENSREG to participate in WG2 activities.**

6.3 WG3 regular report

ENSREG_WG3_Plenary 28 November 2024_JOM final

Mr João Oliveira Martins, the WG3 chair, presented the main activities of WG3 since the 54th ENSREG plenary. WG3 held a hybrid meeting on 9 and 10 October 2024 in Lisbon.

The WG3 chair reported that WG3 has been collaborating on the MS Teams group created by the Commission.

Mr Martins invited MS to:

- send dedicated communication to the stakeholders' list that the EC has updated;
- to use social media (X) and tag **Energy4Europe** – DG ENER X account - and use hashtag **#Nuclearsafety** to broaden visibility. This will allow the reposting in Energy4Europe account.

He suggested that TPR Country specific Reports/ TPR-II - could be published on ENSREG website where country dedicated reports are stored.

He informed that the flyer presenting ENSREG has been updated and stressed that publishing it through Members communication channels could raise attention towards ENSREG and its activities. It will also be published on the ENSREG website.

On the TPR Focus group, Mr Martins informed that terms of reference in view of including lessons learned from the TPR II public consultation would be proposed by WG3 to the plenary, tentatively in spring 2025.

On LTO and decommissioning, Mr Martins mentioned ASN's experience with stakeholders and public involvement. WG3 will continue the discussion and looks forward to preparing documentation on the experience of the Members States.

Mr Martins updated ENSREG on the ongoing project of migration of the ENSREG website to the Europa domain (Europa.eu). The structure of the website was migrated and now the content needs to be updated and uploaded on the new website.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The report of the chair of WG3.**

7. Second Topical Peer Review (TPR-II)

- Progress Report by the chair of the TPR-II Board

HLG-r(2024-55)_745_TPR II Board Report 55th Meeting – November 28th 2024

Ms Sylvie Cadet-Mercier, the chair of the TPR-II Board, reported about the desktop review meeting with experts in June, site visits to research reactors from May to August, meetings of the Board (July to August) to prepare thematic workshops (9-12 September) and country workshops (30 September-3 October). Final version of the country review report and the summary report will be endorsed by ENSREG by silence procedure. The draft report will be circulated by mid-December and is expected to be finalised in January-February 2025. There will be two further deliverables: a lessons learned document and a stakeholder meeting to present results after the report is finalised.

The Commission (M. Huebel) commended the work of the TPR II Board and the dedication of the team. He noted a rather broad scope of the exercise and its highly technical feature, while underlying big interest from 3rd countries and the importance of stakeholders' involvement. For future reviews, it is important to analyse the lessons learned once the process is finalised. The next steps will be to acknowledge the outcomes of this peer review and to organise the follow up process through national action plans in WG1, as well as to consider the lessons learned after the process is completed. WG1 is putting in place a structure to organise this process. The Board, regulators and others involved will provide input into it. The UK observer proposed also to look into the value brought up by the process. As regards the stakeholder engagement, the stakeholders will have the opportunity to learn discuss and enquire about the outcomes of the process in a stakeholder meeting. WG3 could see in future TPRs how to improve the involvement of the stakeholder community.

ENSREG expressed its gratitude to all participants of the TPR-II process and took note of:

- **The report of the Chair of the TPR Board.**

- The timetable for the finalisation of the reports under the leadership of the current Chair in early 2025 that will be subject to a silence procedure for approval of the report.
- Continuation of WG1 efforts to ensure the monitoring of the actions arising from the review (EU-level challenges and national action plans).
- Lessons learned that were mentioned, with the objective to further optimise future TPR processes, including to better determine the scope of the exercise and the involvement of the appropriate expertise depending on the topic.
- WG3 looking at ways to involve a wider stakeholder community in future TPRs.

8. Proposal for interaction with European SMR Industrial Alliance

HLG-r(2024-55)_742 TF SMR in ENSREG and interaction with SMR IA

HLG-r(2024-55)_743 ToR_SMRtaskforce_Final_draft

Mr Marco Brugmans, presented the latest developments following the launch in February of the European SMR Industrial Alliance (SMR IA). He updated ENSREG on SMR IA project Working Groups and early regulatory engagement on several designs (9 different designs have been currently accepted in the IA as core projects).

Mr Marco Brugmans proposed goals and tasks/deliverables as well as draft terms of reference for an ENSREG Taskforce (TF) on SMRs to ensure nuclear safety early in the development and pre-licensing stage of SMRs in the EU. He encouraged regulators to nominate representatives to the new taskforce.

The taskforce would be chaired by Mr. Brugmans, the ENSREG member participating as an observer in the Governing Board of the SMR IA. At regular intervals the (Vice) Chair of the SMR IA Technical Working Group N°6 in charge of nuclear safety and safeguards as well as the subgroups leaders would have meetings with a delegation of ENSREG TF members to identify common topics of interest and see how they can interact. The Commission would provide secretariat for the TF and its prospective grant scheme could in the future support regulators in these activities.

Mr Brugmans highlighted in particular that the task force would be established until 2026 with a possible extension. It would be non-binding for ENSREG and ENSREG members as licensing of SMRs remains a sovereign responsibility of individual national regulators.

FI, BE and CZ supported the proposal.

The FR member, Mr Abadie, supported ENSREG members' cooperation on SMRs and the objective to ensure the highest nuclear safety standards; the taskforce would help to better understand the process and give more visibility to it. At the same time, he expressed caution in particular as regards the number of different SMR technologies, their related safety and waste management challenges and requirements. Regulators are just at the beginning of the learning process with no return of experience even in the pre-licensing interactions. The type

of questions raised by the Alliance may have an impact on regulators' workload within the TF. Going forward, Mr Abadie proposed to identify the most urgent and less urgent actions.

WENRA chair proposed to liaise with Mr Brugmans in order to cooperate, complement and coordinate their activities on SMRs.

ENSREG took the decision to :

- Establish an ENSREG Task force on SMRs;
- Encourage ENSREG members to voluntarily join the TF and regularly report to the plenary.

9. Nuclear Safety in Ukraine

- Update from SNRIU

HLG-r(2024-55)_744_20241128_Presentation_SNRIU_ENSREG

Mr Oleh Korikov, the chair of the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU) provided an update on the continuously worrying situation at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant (ZNPP). He referred to IAEA visits to electrical substations, gave an update on nuclear safety and security threats connected with the ZNPP occupation, and the plan to restore State Nuclear Safety Regulator's oversight of the ZNPP. Mr Korikov reported on the IAEA Mission to the ZNPP and other operated NPPs.

He informed about the situation in Ukraine and the status of civil facilities and noted that RU influences the flow of communication and is limiting the IAEA's access to some areas of the ZNPP, this way controlling the knowledge about the situation at the plant.

Mr Korikov informed about the SNRIU request to the IAEA to support the rejection of the report of the Russian Federation, which covers also the ZNPP, to the upcoming 8th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.

The WENRA chair stressed the need to define a common position and coordinated approach towards the inappropriate Russian decision to report on the ZNPP. Regulators will play a role, but national diplomats and ministries should be also approached on the issue.

The Commission (Mr Panek) recalled that in Vienna, the Country group with RU is chaired by Euratom and that some important Euratom Member States are in the Country group chaired by Russia. Therefore, a coordinated position is important to ensure that the integrity of the Convention is not compromised by the RU report. The Commission should have a common line with the Members States agreed in the Council of the EU, but we also need a common ENSREG position and active regulators participation in the country group discussions. ENSREG members were encouraged to contact the national ministries to coordinate the process internally.

ENSREG took note of:

- The presentation of the chair of the SNRIU on the nuclear safety situation in Ukraine in the current context of war;
- The need to coordinate positions on Russia's report, ahead of the Joint Convention review meeting.

10. Challenges to nuclear safety stemming from armed conflict

IAEA DDG Lydie Evrard presented the IAEA comprehensive assistance programme to Ukraine, issues and challenges faced by the IAEA at ZNPP (field missions and other related support activities). She noted in particular that many EU experts participate in IAEA missions to UA. She clarified that an adoption of a TECDOC on nuclear safety and security in armed conflicts would require full consensus in the IAEA. Therefore, the Agency is considering another format and is working on an interim document covering what it learned from the field missions (including nuclear safety and security, and accidents that might be triggered by security events). This is an ongoing and long process. The Agency remains at disposal of ENSREG to avoid duplication of work and discuss interfaces. The interim document could be a first input.

The Commission (Ms Djordjevic) reported from the Euratom side event “Challenges to Nuclear Safety Stemming from Armed Conflicts” during the IAEA General Conference, concluding that national nuclear safety regulators should also be fully involved in the process of further reflection on the issue.

Mr Klemen Polak, Security Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, reported on the event on ‘Reviewing the nuclear security framework in case of an armed conflict’ (Ljubljana, 14-15 November 2024). The event’s aim was to analyse which instruments exist to prevent such situations, which of them should be upgraded or amended. Slovenia experienced a similar situation at the Krsko Nuclear plant in the 1990s during the Yugoslav Military conflict and still recalls how little support from the international community was expressed.

The event in Ljubljana highlighted that several provisions exist in the international humanitarian law to prevent attacks on civil nuclear power plants. Existing provisions were considered as sufficient, but they could be reinforced or better implemented.

Mr Klemen stressed that beyond these instruments, strong political pressure and diplomatic work is needed to prevent any acts of similar type.

Mr Klemen presented more concrete proposals from the event such as (a) developing a code of conduct based on existing IAEA pillars and provisions; it would not be legally binding but would send a strong signal to the international community that NPPs should not be attacked; (b) devising new legally binding instruments because of the situation in the international community; (c) including specific provisions in bilateral agreements.

Mr Klemen stressed that aggressors could also come from inside (in internal conflict situations) and that NPPs should be granted special protection status, like hospitals.

Several ways were identified to go forward, in particular adopting amendments to international instruments (CPPNM), updating IAEA guidelines, raising awareness about existing provisions and their proper implementation. In the short term, it would be possible to develop something not legally binding, and in longer term the aim could be to adopt an IAEA code of conduct or safety guidelines.

The Agency will liaise with FI to follow-up on operational feedback of fast transients.

In conclusion, **the ENSREG Chair** expressed gratitude to the speakers and the need to continue our cooperation, as foreseen in the ENSREG Work programme 2024-2026, task 3.2.4. He proposed to establish a reflection group and invited Members to join this reflection group to continue working on the subject of nuclear safety in the context of armed conflicts from national nuclear safety regulatory authorities. Mr Knochenhauer (SE) offered to lead the reflection group.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The information from the IAEA DDG Evrard, the Commission, and Mr Klemen on the IAEA presentation on issues and challenges faced at nuclear facilities during armed conflicts (IAEA field missions and other related support activities), the Euratom side event during the IAEA General conference, and the Ljubljana event .**

ENSREG took decision to:

- **Establish a reflection group chaired by Mr Knochenhauer, SE regulator, to explore possible ways forward on nuclear safety in the context of armed conflicts.**

11. Roundtable on the ‘Implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive: transparency, public participation, and the role of civil society in independent nuclear regulation’

20241004_Agenda_Aarhus Convention and Nuclear Roundtable_January 2025_final_agreed

WG 3 chair, Mr João Martins, reported on the preparation of the Roundtable and presented the draft agenda of the event.

The Commission (Mr Panek) informed about its contacts with the organisers (NTW) and that it will support the event by hosting it in its premises. Regulators’ participation is important to have balanced discussions, and all regulators, not only as speakers, were invited to participate. The NTW has committed to organise constructive discussions on the effective and ineffective aspects of the implementation of the directive.

NTW took actions to involve also representatives from the industry.

ENSREG Chair encouraged all regulators to participate and informed that ENSREG representation will be agreed with WG3 Chair.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The report on the preparation of the Roundtable and presentation of its draft agenda.**

12. New Commission’s support scheme to assist nuclear safety regulators (EC)

20241122 Presentation ENSREG Plenary – New Grant Scheme

The Commission (Ms Djordjevic) updated ENSREG about the preparation of the grant scheme for nuclear safety regulators.

She recalled that the project needs to have an EU added value (hence the requirement for applicants to set up a consortium of several regulators – at least two - possibly together with TSOs). EU funding cannot be used for statutory tasks that Regulators are legally obliged to fulfil. Eligible activities include pooling/sharing knowledge, optimizing assets by shared or coordinated use, studies of joint interest or wider use etc.

Meetings took place with ENSREG working groups and a final meeting with all interested regulators to provide the Commission a better perspective on possible topics for the grant scheme took place on 22 November. Four topics were identified as most promising: SMR licensing of LWR SMR technology, pre-licensing of specific SMRs projects selected by the SMR Industrial Alliance, capacity-building for newly emerging nuclear countries, and the introduction of an assessment process/methodology for alternative commercial items to replace certified spare parts for nuclear installations.

The Commission financing decision providing the legal basis for the grant scheme is expected in December 2024. An invitation to submit proposal will be issued in early 2025 with the deadline for applications in spring 2025, followed by an evaluation period. Signature of grant agreements expected within 2025.

The Commission stressed that costs are eligible from the date of the submission of the proposal subject to the acceptance of the proposal.

In response to FR question on the possibility to hire staff working for projects implemented under the grant scheme, the Commission confirmed this possibility under certain conditions which will be specified in the grant agreements.

ENSREG took note of:

- **The information from the Commission on a new grant scheme to assist nuclear safety regulators.**

13. ENSREG/WENRA liaison mechanism

HLG-r(2024-55)_746_WENRA Chair - Update to ENSREG - November 2024 HLG-r(2024-55)_747_WENRA - Draft mapping of topics and initiatives across international groups - November 2024

WENRA Chair confirmed the desire to enhance ENSREG/WENRA relationship while preserving WENRA's independence as a collective group and avoiding overlap/duplication of work to optimise resources. In this perspective, he presented a draft mapping of topics and initiatives across international groups highlighting potential ENSREG alignment with WENRA activities (including on TPR, public engagement on decision making for LTO, support to SNRIU, reflection on nuclear safety in armed conflicts, and Industrial Alliance on SMRs).

Mr Foy also reported on WENRA Autumn Plenary and WENRA Bureau visit to Ukraine.

WENRA chair invited ENSREG to comment on the mapping submitted, as it is not complete. There are opportunities for further cooperation and better targeted efforts and resources in both groups.

FI supported the aim of improving the ENSREG/WENRA cooperation while preserving specific roles of both groups. NL suggested ENSREG WGs to reflect on the mapping document to identify the potential for collaboration.

ENSREG took note of:

- **WENRA proposal to review the draft mapping of topics and initiatives across international groups and continue to reflect on better interaction possibilities.**

ENSREG decided:

- **To ask WGs to analyse the mapping document and possible collaboration activities;**
- **Defer further discussion to the next plenary to allow time for a proper analysis of the document.**

14. A.O.B.

- **ENSREG Chair** alerted Members to the opportunity to participate to the 11th International Euratom research and training conferences on fission safety of the reactor systems (FISA) and radioactive waste management (EURADWASTE) 2025 in Poland (Warsaw) in May.

ENSREG decided to:

- **Approve the participation of the ENSREG Chair in the conference in Warsaw on behalf of ENSREG.**

15. Next meeting

ENSREG's next regular plenary meeting is to be held physically in Brussels; a date in the week of 31 March 2025 is being explored as the most suitable possibility.

In subsequent consultations between the ENSREG chair and the Commission, the date of 1st April 2025 was agreed for the next ENSREG plenary meeting and a save-the-date message was sent out by the Secretariat.

ANNEX I



European High-Level Group on Nuclear Safety and Waste Management

Agenda

55th meeting of ENSREG

28th November 2024 (09:00 – 17:30 Brussels time)

Room Sicco Mansholt, Charlemagne building

Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels, Belgium

Part I – Closed session

- 1. Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda (09:00 – 09:10)**
- 2. Administrative matters (9:10 – 9:20)**
 - Collaboration on Teams (EC)
 - Participation of observers in the work of ENSREG Working Groups
- 3. Preparation of the Commission Communication on the next Nuclear Illustrative Programme (PINC) (09:20 – 09:35)**
 - a. Consultation of ENSREG members on regulatory resources
- 4. Report from the ENSREG Board for Stress Tests in Third Countries (9:35 – 10:15)**
 - a. New Board members
 - b. Report by the chair of the Board
 - c. Presentation of the Türkiye peer review final report
 - d. Approval of the Türkiye peer review final report

Coffee Break (10:15 – 10:30)

Part II – Open session

- 5. Opening of the open session (10:30 – 10:35)**
- 6. Review of WG1, WG2 and WG3 activities since the 54th ENSREG plenary (20 March 2024) (10:35 – 11:35)**
 16. 6.1 WG1 chair report
 17. 6.2 WG2 chair report
 18. 6.3 WG3 chair report
- 7. Second Topical Peer Review (TPR-II) (11:35 – 12:10)**
 - a. Progress report by the chair of the TPR-II Board and next steps
- 8. Proposal for interaction with European Industrial Alliance on SMR (12:10 – 12:30)**
 - a. Presentation by Mr Brugmans

Lunch Break (12:30 – 14:00)

- 9. Nuclear Safety in Ukraine (14:00 – 14:30)**
 - a. Update by the Head of SNRIU
- 10. Challenges to nuclear safety stemming from armed conflicts (14:30 – 15:10)**
 - a. Report from the Euratom side event “Addressing International Challenges to Nuclear Safety Stemming from Armed Conflicts” during the IAEA General Conference (EC)
 - b. Report by K. Polak from the event on ‘Reviewing the nuclear security framework in case of an armed conflict’ (Ljubljana, 14-15 November 2024)
 - c. Update by the IAEA DDG Evrard on the issues and challenges faced at nuclear facilities during armed conflicts (field missions and other related support activities)
 - Open discussion on the implementation of the ENSREG Work Programme 2024-2026 Task 3.2.4.
- 11. Roundtable on the ‘Implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive: transparency, public participation, and the role of civil society in independent nuclear regulation’ (15:10 – 15:30)**
 - a. Report by the chair of WG3
 - b. Discussion on ENSREG and MS regulators’ participation

Coffee Break (15:30 – 15:45)

12. New Commission's grant scheme to assist nuclear safety regulators (EC) (15:45 – 16:15)

- a. Information about the launch of scheme, topics identified and next steps (EC)

13. ENSREG/WENRA liaison mechanism (16:15 – 16:35)

- a. Proposal on liaison mechanism by the chair of WENRA

14. A.O.B (16:35 – 17:00)

- a. Information on preparations for the 8th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (EC)
- Invitation to ENSREG Chair to participate to the 11th International Euratom Research and Training Conference on fission safety of the reactor systems (FISA) and radioactive waste management (EURADWASTE) in Warsaw, Poland (12-16 May 2025)
- Clarification on EU Taxonomy CDA requirements with regard to ATF and BAT

15. Next meeting (17:00 – 17:15)

- a. 6 May 2025 (tbc)

16. End of the meeting (17:15)

Annex III

List of Members and Observers

(Status 28 November 2024)

Members:

Austria:	Mag. T. Augustin, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology Ms C. Raith, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology
Belgium:	Mr P. Absil, Federal Agency for Nuclear Control Mr M. Demarche, ONDRAF-NIRAS
Bulgaria:	Mr T. Bachiyiski, Nuclear Regulatory Agency of the Republic of Bulgaria Mr B. Stanimirov, Nuclear Regulatory Agency of the Republic of Bulgaria
Commission:	Mr M. Garribba, Deputy Director-General, DG ENER Mr J. Panek, Director for Nuclear Energy, Safety and ITER, DG ENER
Croatia:	Ms Z. Tečić, Ministry of the Interior
Cyprus:	Mr D. Sakkas, Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance Mr M. Tzortzis, Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance
Czechia:	Ms D. Drabova, State Office for Nuclear Safety Mr. M. Merxbauer, State Office for Nuclear Safety
Denmark:	Mr J. Thomsen, Danish Emergency Management Agency
Estonia:	Ms K. Muru, Estonian Environmental Board Mr M. Lepasson, Estonian Environmental Board
Finland:	Mr P. Tiippana, Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority
France:	Mr P.-M. Abadie, Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) Mr G. Bouyt, Ministry for the Ecological Transition
Germany:	Mr T. Elsner, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Mr G. Niehaus, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
Greece:	Dr. Ch. Housiadass, Greek Atomic Energy Commission (EEAE) Ms E. Carinou, Greek Atomic Energy Commission (EEAE)
Hungary:	Ms A. B. Kádár, Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority (HAEA) Mr L. Juhász, Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority (HAEA)
Ireland:	Dr. M. Lehane, Environmental Protection Agency
Italy:	Mr F. Camapnella, National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN) Ms S. Amicucci, National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN)
Latvia:	Ms D. Šatrovska, Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development

Development	Ms Guna Šmerliņa, Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional
Lithuania:	Mr M. Demčenko, State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (VATESI) Mr S. Šlepavičius, State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (VATESI)
Luxembourg:	Ms J.Hilschmann, Ministry of Health
Malta:	Mr P. Brejza, Commission for the Protection from Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation Mr J. Cremona, Commission for the Protection from Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation
The Netherlands:	Mr M. Brugmans, Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Ms A. van Bolhuis, Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection
Poland:	Ms I. Pocztarek-Tofil, National Atomic Energy Agency Mr A. Głowacki, National Atomic Energy Agency
Portugal:	Mr J. Oliveira Martins, Portuguese Environment Agency Mr P. Rosário, Portuguese Environment Agency
Romania:	Mr. C. Ciurea Ercau, National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control Mr. M. Gaina, Nuclear & Radioactive Waste Agency
Slovakia:	Eng. M. Žiaková, Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic Mr M. Turner, Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic
Slovenia:	Mr I. Sirc, Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration Mr J. Škodlar, Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration
Spain:	Mr J.-C. Lentijo, Spanish Nuclear Safety Council Ms T. Vázquez, Spanish Nuclear Safety Council
Sweden:	Mr M. Knochenhauer, Swedish Radiation Safety Authority Mr P. Brodd, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise

Observers:

Council of the EU:	Mr J. Van Elst, Energy Policies Unit, General Secretariat
HERCA:	Mr J.-L. Lachaume, HERCA chair
IAEA:	Ms A. Bradford, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
Norway:	Mr H. Mattsson, Norwegian Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority
OECD NEA:	Ms R. Tadesse, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency
Switzerland:	Mr M. Kenzelmann, Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI)
Türkiye:	Ms. O.Özdere Güloğ, Nuclear Regulatory Authority of Republic of Türkiye (NDK)
Ukraine:	Mr O. Korikov, State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU)
United Kingdom:	Mr M. Foy, Office for Nuclear Regulation of United Kingdom (ONR)
WENRA:	Mr M. Foy, WENRA chair

Annex II UPDATEENSREG 55th meeting presence list**Members and experts**

Country	Organisation	Surname	Name
AUSTRIA	Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology	AUGUSTIN	Thomas
AUSTRIA	Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology	RAITH	Christina
BELGIUM	Federal Agency for Nuclear Control	ABSIL	Pascale
BELGIUM	ONDRAF-NIRAS	DEMARCHE	Marc
BELGIUM	Federal Agency for Nuclear Control	VAN CALOEN	Cédric
BELGIUM	ONDRAF-NIRAS	DE PRETER	Peter
BELGIUM	ONDRAF-NIRAS	DE BRUYCKERE	Valerie
CYPRUS	Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance	TZORTZIS	Michalakis
CYPRUS	Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the EU	ORPHANIDES	Michalis
CZECHIA	State Office for Nuclear Safety	MERXBAUER	Michal
CZECHIA	State Office for Nuclear Safety	CHARA	Jan
DENMARK	Danish Emergency Management Agency	THOMSEN	Jimmy
FINLAND	Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK)	TIIPPANA	Petteri

Country	Organisation	Surname	Name
FRANCE	Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)	ABADIE	Pierre-Marie
FRANCE	Ministry for the Ecological Transition	BOUYT	Guillaume
FRANCE	Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)	CADET-MERCIER	Sylvie
FRANCE	Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)	CHANIAL	Luc
GERMANY	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection	KUHN	Sebastian
GERMANY	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection	TRAPP	Marcus
GREECE	Greek Atomic Energy Commission	CARINOU	Elephtheria
HUNGARY	Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority (HAEA)	BALCZO	Bela Andras
HUNGARY	Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority (HAEA)	KÁDÁR	Andrea Beatrix
IRELAND	Environmental Protection Agency	LEHANE	Mícheál
ITALY	National Inspectorate for nuclear safety and radiation protection (ISIN)	DIONISI	Mario
ITALY	National Inspectorate for nuclear safety and radiation protection (ISIN)	MATTEOCI	Lamberto
ITALY	National Inspectorate for nuclear safety and radiation protection (ISIN)	CAMPANELLA	Francesco
LITHUANIA	State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (Vatesi)	DEMČENKO	Michail

Country	Organisation	Surname	Name
LUXEMBOURG	Ministry of Health - Directorate of Health - Department of radiation protection	HILSCHMANN	Jessica
THE NETHERLANDS	Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ANVS)	BRUGMANS	Marco
POLAND	National Atomic Energy Agency	GLOWACKI	Andrzej
POLAND	National Atomic Energy Agency	POCZTAREK - TOFIL	Iga
PORTUGAL	Portuguese Environment Agency	OLIVEIRA MARTINS	João
PORTUGAL	Portuguese Environment Agency	ROSÁRIO	Pedro
ROMANIA	National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control	CIUREA-ERCAU	Cantemir
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic	ŽIAKOVA	Marta
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic	VACHOVA	Miriam
SLOVENIA	Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration	SIRC	Igor
SLOVENIA	Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration	ŠKODLAR	Jure
SLOVENIA	Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration	DOLINŠEK	Urška
SPAIN	Spanish Nuclear Safety Council	LENTIJO	Juan Carlos
SPAIN	Spanish Nuclear Safety Council	VÁZQUEZ	Teresa
SPAIN	Spanish Nuclear Safety Council	DE LOS REYES	Alfredo
SPAIN	Spanish Nuclear Safety Council	MARTÍN GRANADOS	Ignacio
SWEDEN	Swedish Radiation Safety Authority	KNOCHENHAUER	Michael
SWEDEN	Swedish Radiation Safety Authority	ERIKSSON	Cecilia

Observers

Organisation	Surname	Name
Council of the European Union	CLEMA	Corrado
Council of the European Union	FOUCHER	Maud
HERCA	LACHAUME	Jean-luc
IAEA	CADET-MERCIER	Sylvie
State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU)	KORIKOV	Oleh
State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU)	GOROSHANSKYI	Andrii
Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI)	KENZELMANN	Marc
Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI)	KOHLER	Loriane
United Kingdom	FOY	Mark
United Kingdom	DICKS	Paul
WENRA	FOY	Mark
Nuclear Regulatory Authority of Republic of Turkey	OZDERE GULOL	Oya

European Commission

Surname	Name	Directorate General
Garribba	Massimo	Deputy Director General – DG ENER
Panek	Jan	Director for Nuclear Energy, Safety and ITER – DG ENER
Djordjevic	Margareta	Head of Unit D1 – DG ENER
Hübel	Michael	Director ESA – European Supply Agency
Dini	Ramunė	Team Leader Unit D1 – DG ENER
Lopes Ramos	Ana Rita	Head of Unit D3 – DG ENER
Martin Ramos	Manuel	Deputy Head of Unit A7 - JRC