



Minutes of the 37th meeting of ENSREG
4 October 2018
Brussels

Participants

ENSREG Members from all EU Member States ((with the exception of Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Luxembourg and Malta) as well as the European Commission attended the meeting. Hungary, Italy, Poland and Romania were represented by alternate attendees that had been nominated by their respective ENSREG Member. Observers from the IAEA, WENRA and the EU Council were also present. From the Commission, a representative from DG JRC was present, in addition to representatives from the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER).

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The meeting was opened by the ENSREG Chairperson, Mr Pierre-Franck Chevet. He recalled the objectives of the meeting. He announced that four ENSREG Members had indicated their unavailability to attend the meeting and had nominated official representatives to replace them. The minutes of the ENSREG 36th meeting were adopted without remarks.

The agenda was adopted and is presented in Annex I.

2. Chairperson's introduction and report

[HLG_p\(2011-15\)_76 ENSREG Rules of Procedure](#)

[HLG_p\(2012-21\)_116 ENSREG Working Group Rules of Procedure](#)

The ENSREG Chairperson recalled that he will not be in a position to remain as ENSREG Chairperson after November, 12th 2018, when his mandate as President of ASN will end. He also added that the WG1 Chairman, Antonio Munuera, had indicated that he will retire from CSN in November and that the mandate of the WG3 Chairman, Christos Housiadas (who is also ENSREG Vice-Chairman) will expire at the end of this year.

On behalf of ENSREG the Chairperson warmly thanked the WG1 and WG3 Chairmen for the work carried out.

The floor was open to seek candidates for WG1 and WG3 Chair positions. The ENSREG Chairperson pointed out that several other ENSREG Members are planning to retire in the coming months and that it was potentially not the easiest time to appoint new Chairpersons.

To ensure continuity of the work, it was proposed that Mark Foy, who is currently Vice-Chairperson, could take over the positions of ENSREG Chairperson and WG1 Chairman until the next ENSREG meeting. Mark Foy accepted this proposal.

Patrick Majerus from Luxembourg was proposed for the position of ENSREG Vice-Chairperson and WG3 Chairman.

The European Commission's representatives and all the ENSREG Members thanked Pierre-Franck Chevet for his excellent work as ENSREG Chairperson.

ENSREG took the decision to:

Confirm Mark Foy as the interim ENSREG Chairperson and WG1 Chairman until the next ENSREG meeting in March 2019.

Elect Patrick Majerus as ENSREG vice Chairperson and WG3 Chairman.

3. Topical Peer Review 2017

[HLG_r\(2018-37\)_422 1st Topical Peer Review Report](#)

[HLG_r\(2018-37\)_423 1st TPR country findings](#)

[HLG_r\(2018-37\)_424 1st Topical Peer Review- results presentation](#)

The ENSREG Chairperson introduced the key topic of this plenary meeting, namely the 1st Topical Peer Review (TPR) on ageing management. He gave the floor to the TPR Board Chairman, who started by presenting the process for the TPR, highlighting the most recent steps, the feedback received from participating countries and the main outcomes of the peer review, which are the TPR report and the country findings.

He indicated that since the last ENSREG plenary meeting, a period of consultation with participating countries had been held from 4 to 14 September, following which the TPR report had been finalised (21 September). Country findings have been submitted twice to participating countries (the first time in June and again between 10 and 17 September). The TPR report and country findings were sent to ENSREG Members on 24 September 2018 in preparation for this plenary meeting.

In his detailed presentation the TPR Board Chairman emphasized the following points:

- Steps taken
- Feedback from Countries
- Questions related to Long Term Operation
- Transparency in the process
- Definitions for Findings' Categories
- Findings and National Action Plans
- Main results from the TPR
- Country-specific findings
- Recommendations to ENSREG
- Next steps

The TPR Board Chairman emphasized that the exercise had allowed participants to share their experience and identify "Good Practices", as well as "Areas for Improvement" and "Challenges", at an EU and/or at country-specific level for each topic. He stressed that, despite the quality work and improvements made during the exercise, further work is needed to draw conclusions from the whole exercise and improve the process for the next TPR.

The ENSREG Chairperson recognized the significant effort and contribution of all members of the TPR Board, the country experts and the national regulators and operators in undertaking this first TPR. He highlighted that the TPR was an extremely demanding exercise and the first of its kind in the framework of the amended Nuclear Safety Directive. He thanked the Board Chairman, all Board members, as well as all experts who took part in the first exercise. Their proactive, full involvement was key to the success of such a review. He stressed that the peer review is an important achievement related to the amended Nuclear Safety Directive.

After the intervention of the ENSREG Chairperson the majority of the ENSREG Members took the floor to thank the TPR Board and experts for the good job done, to express their support for the TPR report and to highlight the significant challenge that it presented for all the participants (countries, experts, Board members, etc.) to perform the peer review, which resulted in a good product.

Several ENSREG Members (e.g. Germany, Hungary, The Netherlands, Slovenia) emphasized that there are a lot of lessons to learn from this first TPR process. They stressed that several aspects, in particular the short amount of time to examine and comment on the report and country findings, the definitions of findings and the limited transparency regarding the attribution of findings to countries, etc. The majority of these ENSREG Members stated that they did not agree with some of their country findings as worded in the draft document. The ENSREG Chairperson mentioned that the Report and related country specific findings deliver the analysis of the international team of experts, and that national action plans are the right framework for Member States to provide additional information or justification against each finding, as appropriate.

The European Commission's representative thanked the Board for finalising the report and country findings. He stated that the TPR is a requirement of the amended Nuclear Safety Directive and that it was extremely important for the credibility of this process to have allowed sufficient time for developing a quality report and country findings. He pointed out that the exercise is not yet complete and that national action plans and the ENSREG action plan are still to be developed following the peer review exercise.

Following these statements, a detailed discussion took place between the ENSREG members on how to address the issues raised and - at the same time - publish the TPR report and the country findings at the earliest opportunity. ENSREG members asked the TPR Board to provide detailed information about its decision making process to those countries that disagree with their specific country findings, particularly where the TPR Board had not accepted some of the countries' comments to country specific findings.

To ensure the correct understanding and interpretation of the country findings a short text was developed and agreed during the meeting that provided clarification on the limitations of the findings. This text was added to the introduction of the country specific findings report and addressed the previous concerns expressed by several ENSREG members on the acceptability of the wording of country findings.

It was also confirmed that a public event should be organised before the end of 2018 to present the results of the TPR peer review and that the reports should be published well in advance to allow time for the public to read them.

It was also highlighted that there is a need for ENSREG to publicise the exercise and send a letter to IAEA with its results to check whether the lessons learned could be also taken into account in the Safety Standards, as well as to the WENRA President to check the RL's against the results of the Review.

The Austrian ENSREG Member indicated that the aim is to issue Council conclusions on this exercise under the Austrian presidency.

ENSREG took the decision to:

Endorse both the TPR report and country findings

Keep both the TPR report and country findings documents under embargo until 28 October 2018 and publish both documents on the ENSREG Website only after this date.

Ask the TPR Board to provide detailed explanations where countries' comments to country specific findings were not accepted by the TPR Board. This should be done by 23 October by re-using part of the Excel table which has already circulated between the Board and the National Contact points of the participating countries

Organise a public event on 22 November in Brussels to present the results of the TPR.

Prepare a press release and letters from the ENSREG Chairman to the IAEA and to WENRA to publicise the outcomes of the TPR peer review

Allow until September 2019 for ENSREG and participating countries to prepare action plans following the publication of the TPR report and country findings

[outside of the meeting] ask the WG1 to prepare the frameworks to be used by the Countries for the preparation of the national action plans.

4. ENSREG Conference 2019

The ENSREG Chairperson reminded ENSREG Members that it is time to begin preparing the next ENSREG Conference (target date: 6-7 June 2019). He asked for contributions and emphasized the importance of discussing potential topics as soon as possible.

He stressed that a steering Committee and a President should be appointed during this meeting to ensure that the conference is well prepared. He highlighted that the next ENSREG conference should align with the revised ENSREG Work Programme 2018-2020 while also trying to identify new challenges.

A discussion took place among ENSREG members and a candidate emerged as President of the ENSREG 2019 conference: Mr Stefano Laporta, Chairman of WG2 and Coordinator of the ISIN Advisory Board.

Regarding the Steering Committee, several ENSREG members (Spain, Austria, the United Kingdom, and Finland) confirmed that they will each provide a representative for membership of the Steering Committee. No candidate was proposed for the position of Chairman of the Steering Committee.

In view of the urgency of the matter, the European Commission's representative indicated its willingness to provide extra support to the Steering Committee in the organisation of the next conference.

Several proposals were made as to subjects to be addressed during the next conference:

- Topical Peer Review
- Decommissioning (question of immediate dismantling or not, clearance levels for waste)
- Supply chain (licensing of new components versus use of components with "older" technologies already licensed)
- Knowledge management
- Risk-informed strategies in regulation
- Digitalisation (Artificial Intelligence)
- Regulation of Innovation

ENSREG took the decision to

Confirm the date of 06-07 June 2019 for the next ENSREG conference

Confirm Stefano Laporta as President of this conference

Invite ENSREG members to confirm the names of the Steering Committee members they would like to nominate before the end of October 2018

Invite ENSREG members to propose a Chairman of the Steering Committee before the end of October 2018

5. Stress Tests outside of the EU

ENSREG discussed several items related to Stress Test peer reviews or follow-up missions outside the EU.

Belarus:

The European Commission's representative recalled that the Belarus nuclear regulator had accepted ENSREG's request to prepare an Action Plan on how to address the peer review recommendations in line with past practices in all EU stress tests. He stressed that the European Commission has regularly asked the Belarusian authorities to develop a National Action Plan as soon as reasonably practicable, but by the end of 2018 at the latest, to ensure the timely implementation of all safety improvement measures in accordance with their safety significance.

The European Commission has requested that the Action Plan and its implementation undergo a peer review by ENSREG in the future.

Turkey:

The European Commission representative informed ENSREG members about recent exchanges between TAEK and DG ENER regarding the stress test on Akkuyu NPP. The European Commission's representative advised that, due to the creation in early July of a new nuclear regulator (NDK) in Turkey, respective responsibilities between NDK and TAEK are being redistributed and that this could delay the preparation of the national Stress test report.

Considering that the NPP is at an early stage of construction, and based on the experience gained from the stress test peer review in Belarus, the European Commission representative suggested that the peer review methodology could be adjusted. Probably a two-phase process would be needed: in a first phase, an ENSREG team would undertake a partial review of the Topic 1 and Topic 2 issues. This first phase could be conducted in 2019.

In a second phase, to be conducted when the NPP is close to entering into operation, the remaining issues would be reviewed (mainly Topic 3 but also the remaining aspects of Topics 1 and 2).

It was agreed by ENSREG members that the details of the modified approach and the timeframe should be discussed at a technical level with TAEK (or with the new regulator that has just been created in Turkey) and an expert nominated by ENSREG members, who would be confirmed at the next plenary meeting.

Armenia:

The European Commission's representative informed ENSREG members that, two years after the peer review in Armenia, it is time, as was done for the other countries which previously went through the EU Peer Review process, to perform an independent peer review of the status of implementation of the Armenian NAcP. To this end, the European Commission confirmed its willingness to organise a follow-up of the Stress Tests peer review in 2019.

The European Commission representative informed ENSREG Members that the Armenian Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ANRA) and Armenian NPP have agreed to host a Stress Test National Action Plan follow-up peer review at the end of 2019.

ENSREG took the decision to

Invite ENSREG Members to propose team members, team leaders, board members, etc. for the different Stress Test peer review (Turkey) and follow-up activities (Belarus and Armenia) that should take place in 2019.

Nominations from ENSREG members should be received as soon as possible and not later than the next ENSREG meeting in March 2019

6. AOB

The French ENSREG member indicated that France was willing to lead a WG1 subgroup to work on CSFI according to the ENSREG Work programme 2018-2019.

The representative of the European Commission encouraged ENSREG Members to send representatives to the two IAEA-EC Workshops that will take place in Luxembourg before the end of the year. The first joint workshop will focus on the topic of **“Lessons Learned from IRRS Missions” and will take place in Luxembourg, 27-28 November 2018.**

The workshop aims to serve as a forum for the exchange of information, experience and lessons learned from the IRRS missions conducted since 2014, as well as recent developments and expectations for the IRRS programme for the near future, and for exploring further improvements in the longer term. The workshop will also address experiences and challenges in implementing improvements resulting from the initial IRRS mission recommendations or suggestions. This IRRS workshop will be complemented by a further **one-day workshop on 29 November on lessons learned from IRRS missions in the European Union.**

A second joint workshop is planned on the topic of **Emergency Preparedness and Response – Requirements and Practical Implementation, to be held in Luxembourg 4-6 December 2018.** The event aims to present the respective emergency preparedness and response requirements in IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 7, and in EU legislation, including Directives 2013/59/Euratom and 2014/87/Euratom.

ENSREG took the decision to:

Invite France to propose experts and a mandate for the WG1 subgroup.

7. Next meeting

ENSREG 38th plenary Meeting: 25 March 2019

Annex I
European High Level Group
on Nuclear Safety and Waste Management

37th meeting of ENSREG

Agenda

4th October 2018 (10:00 – 15:00)

2.B , Albert Borschette building

36, rue Froissart, 1049 Brussels, Belgium

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
2. Chairman's introduction and report
3. Topical Peer Reviews 2017- 2018
 - 3.1. Detailed report from the TPR Board [P. Tiippana]
 - 3.2. Next Steps (public event, follow-up) [P. Tiippana]
4. ENSREG Conference 2019
5. Stress-tests in outside the EU (Turkey peer review; Armenia follow-up)
6. A.O.B :
7. Next Meeting

Annex II

ENSREG 37th Meeting Presence list

Members and experts

Country	Surname	Name	Company
AUSTRIA	Molin	Andreas	Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism
BELGIUM	Hardeman	Frank	Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC)
	Demarche	Marc	National Body for Nuclear Waste and Enriched Fissile Material
BULGARIA	Stanimirov	Borislav	Bulgarian Nuclear Regulatory Agency
	Katzarska	Lidia	Bulgarian Nuclear Regulatory Agency
CROATIA	Medaković	Saša	State Office for Radiological and Nuclear Safety
FINLAND	Tiippana	Petteri	Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK)
FRANCE	Chevet	Pierre-Franck	Autorité de Sûreté Nucléaire (ASN)
	Louis	Aurélien	Ministère de la Transition Ecologique et solidaire
	Joureau	Frédéric	Autorité de Sûreté Nucléaire (ASN)
	Cadet-Mercier	Sylvie	Autorité de Sûreté Nucléaire (ASN)
	Joerger	Anais	Représentation permanente de la France auprès de l'Union européenne
GERMANY	Elsner	Thomas	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

	Maurer	Charlotte	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety
GREECE	Mitrakos	Dimitrios	Greek Atomic Energy Commission (EEAE)
HUNGARY	Rétfalvi	Eszter	Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority
ITALY	Matteocci	Lamberto	Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
LITHUANIA	Šlepavičius	Sigitas	State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (VATESI)
THE NETHERLANDS	Jansen	Rob	Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection
	Boom	Jurrian	
	Brugmans	Marco	
POLAND	Koc	Michal	National Atomic Energy Agency
PORTUGAL	Robalo	José	Regulatory Commission for the Safety of Nuclear Installations (COMRSIN)
ROMANIA	Saghiu	Ivonne	Nuclear Agency and for Radioactive Waste
	Banu	Roxana	Permanent Representation of Romania to the EU
	Musatescu	Doina	
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Turner	Mikuláš	Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic
SLOVENIA	Stritar	Andrej	Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration
SPAIN	Munuera	Antonio	Spanish Nuclear Safety Council (CNS)
	Marti Scharfhausen	Fernando	

	De los Reyes	Alfredo	
SWEDEN	Persson	Mats	Swedish Radiation Safety Authority
	Carlsson	Lennart	Swedish Radiation Safety Authority
UNITED KINGDOM	Foy	Mark	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)

Observers

NAME	SURNAME	COMPANY
Caselli	Paola	EU Council
Booth	Gary	IAEA, Nuclear Safety and Security Department
Wanner	Hans	Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI)

European Commission

NAME	SURNAME	
Thomas	Gerassimos	Deputy Director General – DG ENER
Garribba	Massimo	Director/D – DG ENER
Pascal	Ghislain	Policy officer/D1 – DG ENER
Martin Ramos	Manuel	Programme Officer – Research - JRC