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Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 through resolution A/RES/70/1, outlines the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The goals are outlined as a set of 17 intergovernmental Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets, which are promoted by the United Nations.

The SDG 17 focuses on partnerships, which will enable the realization of all SDGs. Aiming to “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”, the SDG 17 acknowledges that improving access to technology and knowledge is an important way to share ideas and foster innovation. It stresses the need to “enhance North-South and South-South cooperation by supporting national plans to achieve all the targets”. With the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including countries as well as the private sector, the civil society and people, the intention is notably to mobilize

financial and technological resources and support capacity building as well as coherence and coordination at policy level.

Promoting global partnerships is the primary mission and goal of the GNSSN. The substantial work conducted within the GNSSN networks promotes SDG 17 in three areas:

Capacity building: GNSSN provides its partners with many developmental opportunities from facilitating and workshops, to information sharing and knowledge networking.

Technology: GNSSN provides its partners with an efficient, collaborative, state-of-the-art technology platform that manages and shares up-to-date nuclear safety and security information and lessons learned for the benefit of all participating Member States.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships: Multi-stakeholder partnerships: The GNSSN platform is specifically designed to facilitate strategic partnerships and linkages among all stakeholders (government, regulators, operators and other nuclear safety and security related organizations).



A New ARTEMIS Platform within the GNSSN

ARTEMIS is the IAEA's integrated peer review service for radioactive waste and spent fuel management, decommissioning and remediation programmes, based on IAEA safety standards and technical guidance, as well as on international good practices.

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ARTEMIS is offered to all IAEA Member States and should be of particular interest to organizations responsible for, or involved in, radioactive waste and spent fuel management, the decommissioning of nuclear facilities and the remediation of sites contaminated with radioactive materials — i.e. to facility operators and other implementing organizations, regulatory bodies, government agencies, national policy decision-makers, and others.

With the European Commission's support, an ARTEMIS platform was developed recently within the GNSSN website to facilitate the preparation and implementation of ARTEMIS reviews. This activity was inspired by the successful implementation of the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) platform and other web-based workspaces of the IAEA. It will serve as an essential online tool for secure and efficient sharing and exchanging of relevant data, documentation and feedback during the entire review process. This includes the ARTEMIS review mission itself and facilitating joint work on the final mission report.

The smooth exchange and sharing of relevant materials among all the stakeholders will greatly contribute to timely, effective, successful and beneficial reviews under the ARTEMIS review service.

The requesting counterpart submits documentation it has prepared in connection with the topic(s) of the review, for further analysis by the team of reviewers. This activity usually takes a few months and

may involve many professionals — the reviewers, the Member State counterpart and the IAEA Secretariat. It requires an ability to share and bring together all the documentation and exchange feedback, with the various individuals often working remotely from one another. Therefore, it is important to have a solid, secure tool for cooperation, joint work and exchange of material, which can be greatly supported by a dedicated online workspace.

The new ARTEMIS platform provides a restricted area for reviews, where each review has its dedicated, unique and independent workspace, accessible to the partners from the Member State counterpart organizations, the review team and the IAEA staff, designated and agreed upon for the given review.

The beneficiaries of the ARTEMIS platform will include the Member State counterparts requesting ARTEMIS reviews. These include the reviews as required by, for example, the European Union's Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom.





International School on Nuclear Security

Nuclear threats are an ongoing concern for countries, which have to ensure that nuclear materials are not stolen, or used maliciously, as well as to prevent sabotage at nuclear facilities, among other threats.

The IAEA and its Member States are working to strengthen the international nuclear security framework to secure nuclear and other radioactive material in use, storage and transport, as well as the associated facilities. Highly qualified individuals are needed to ensure the effectiveness of that framework.

The International School on Nuclear Security, which takes place every year in Trieste, Italy, plays an important role in supporting Member States' nuclear security programmes. Jointly organized by the IAEA and the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Partnership for Nuclear Security, the two-week school combines IAEA technical expertise with the ICTP's

international network of researchers in developing countries. The school's aim is to provide participants with the knowledge they need to meet obligations under the international nuclear security legal framework, to identify and remedy threats against nuclear security by using radiation detection strategies, and to respond to incidents involving nuclear and other radioactive material. The Italian Government announced the school's establishment at the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit held in Washington, United States of America, as part of its national commitment to strengthen global nuclear security. Since then, the school has reached several hundreds of young nuclear security professionals from more than 90 countries.

The school's curriculum covers, the international legal framework; the identification of, and remedies to, threats against nuclear security; instruments and methods for access control and alarm; illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive material; responses to incidents involving nuclear and other radioactive material; nuclear security

culture; and measures for systematic nuclear security human resource development. Practical exercises help incorporate the newly acquired knowledge into actual plans and procedures to protect against threats to nuclear security. A technical visit allows participants to see radiation monitoring equipment in action. Two full-day exercises demonstrating the value of nuclear forensics and equipment and techniques for radiation detection conclude the intensive training programme.

To help meet the very high demand for participation in this event, several regional schools on Nuclear Security have been conceptualized, and are being implemented throughout the world. Regional schools based on the same curriculum are taking place every two years. The first regional school took place in 2014 in Jakarta, Indonesia, for the Asia and the Pacific region. The first ever regional school in Arabic took place in Cairo, Egypt, in August 2016. More regional schools in the official United Nations languages are planned for other regions.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.ictp.it/visit-ictp.aspx>



Photos: D. Calma/IAEA





Technical and Scientific Support Organization Forum

18 participants from 12 Member States as well as from the European Commission attended the ninth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Technical and Scientific Support Organization Forum (TSO Forum) at the IAEA's Headquarters. Topical TSO presentations by IAEA staff was also delivered to the Committee.

MARCH 2016 | Significant progress has been made in the preparation of the IAEA Technical Document (TECDOC) provisionally entitled Technical and Scientific Support Organizations and Their Services Provided in Support of Regulatory Functions. This TECDOC focuses on Technical and Scientific Support Organizations (TSOs) and on the nature of the support they provide to the regulatory body. Its publication will be a major advancement in defining the role and activities of organizations or organizational units providing expertise and services to the regulatory body on nuclear and radiation safety and all related

scientific and technical issues. It is expected to serve as a reference for further activities of the TSO Forum.

A consensus on a short, user-friendly definition of a TSO for regulators was reached during the meeting.

In response to one of the main conclusions of the last TSO conference in Beijing 2014 and based on the recent progress, the TSO Forum members are currently evaluating the possibility of developing an action to support the development of technical and scientific capabilities in embarking countries, especially for TSOs supporting Regulatory Bodies and in synergy with existing support initiatives.

The characterization of the role of TSOs in research and development will allow the TSO Forum to describe the research and development related activities and capabilities of TSOs.

The Steering Committee will develop a specific reference site on research and development to support nuclear safety, which can be accessed via the TSO Forum website. The next Steering Committee meeting is due to take place October 27-28, 2016 in Vienna and will focus on further improvement of the TSO Forum, including its outreach and communication activities.

For more information, visit: <https://gnssn.iaea.org/Pages/TSOF.aspx>

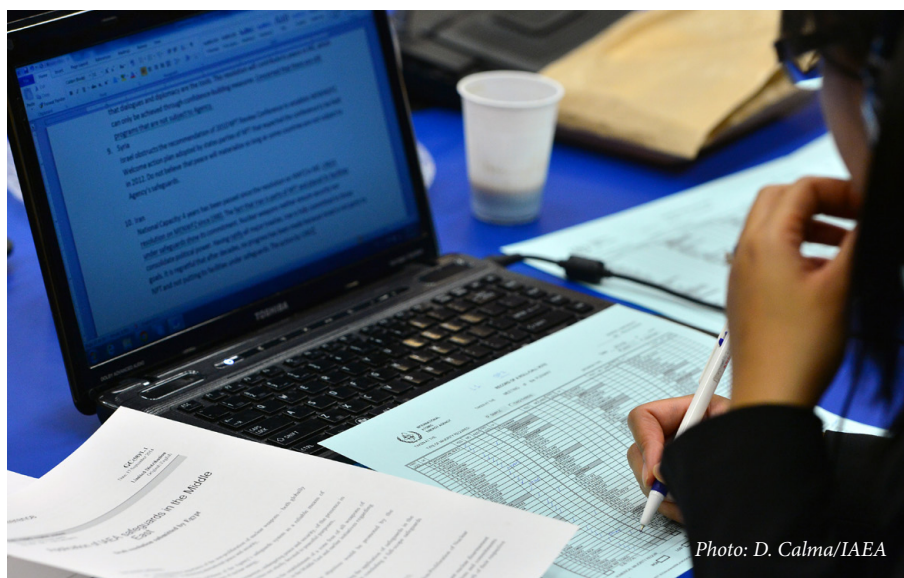


Photo: D. Calma/IAEA



Regulatory Cooperation Forum – 8th Steering Committee Meeting

The eighth meeting of the Regulatory Cooperation Forum's (RCF's) Steering Committee was held jointly with the European Commission in Brussels. It was the sixth RCF – European Commission collaboration meeting.

JUNE 2016 | The Steering Committee meeting focused on providing an overview of the current status of regulatory infrastructure development, and on the coordination of support activities in the active recipient countries of the RCF.

The Collaboration Meeting focused on specific needs of recipient countries and their regulatory deployment of nuclear power programmes, including exchanging information and sharing experience. Various improvement strategies for planning and coordinating RCF support activities were also discussed based on an assessment of the current status of the RCF Action Plans

implemented by the RCF's active recipient countries.

At the 2009 International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems held in Cape Town, South Africa, the regulatory bodies of the IAEA Member States agreed to establish a regulator-to-regulator forum to promote collaboration and cooperation, and to improve the coordination among Member States with well-established nuclear power programmes ('providers') and those considering the introduction or expansion of such programmes ('recipients').

In June 2010, the RCF was formally established to meet this objective.

It contributes to achieving and sustaining a high level of nuclear safety, consistent with the IAEA safety standards and other relevant IAEA guidance; and optimizes resources among RCF members to avoid unnecessary support duplication through improved coordination.

The current RCF Chairman is Mr Jean-Luc Lachaume, Deputy Director

General, Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN), France, and the current Vice Chairman is Mr Bismark Mzibanzi Tyobeka, Chief Executive Officer, National Nuclear Regulator (NNR), South Africa.

The RCF consists of 27 members, including:

- 12 providers: Canada, China, Finland, France, Japan, Republic of Korea, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Commission and IAEA.
- 12 recipients: active — Belarus, Jordan, Poland and Viet Nam; inactive — Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan and United Arab Emirates.
- 3 observers: Germany, Kenya and the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD/NEA).

For more information, visit:

<https://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/regulatory-infrastructure/rcf.asp>



Preparation of a European and Central Asian Safety Network (EuCAS)

The EuCAS Network facilitates the exchange of information and experience related to safety issues of regional interest among regulatory bodies and technical support organizations in Europe and Central Asia.

MARCH 2016 | Following two consultancy meetings in 2015, a technical meeting for strengthening networking and cooperation on nuclear safety at regional level in Europe and Central Asia took place in Vienna, Austria, from 2-4 March 2016 and was organized and attended by 23 representatives of regulatory bodies and technical support organizations (TSOs) from 19 Member States in the region.

The participants finalized the terms of reference for the new European and Central Asian Safety Network (EuCAS Network).

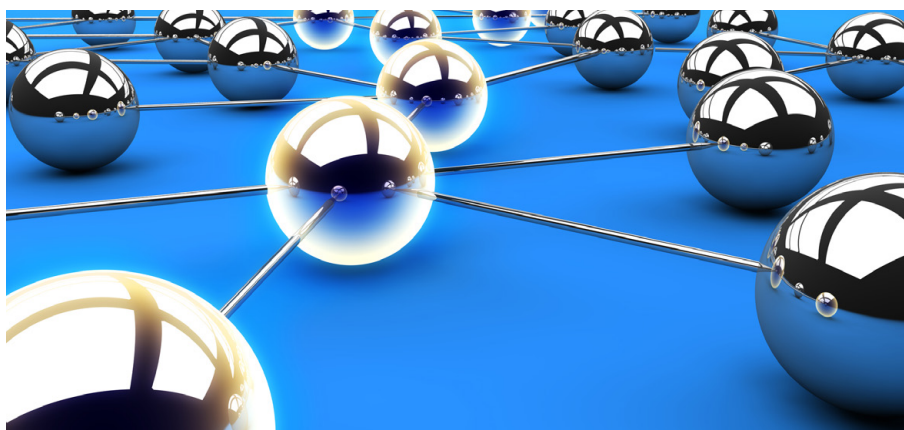
The European Commission, Western European Nuclear Regulators Association and the Heads of the European Radiological Protection Competent Authorities have been involved in the preparatory stages. Since 2015, the IAEA has been working to support Member States in developing the EuCAS Network with the objective of facilitating the exchange among regulatory bodies and TSOs of information and

experience related to safety issues of regional interest.

As stated by Gustavo Caruso, Director of the IAEA Office of Safety and Security Coordination, the Europe and Central Asia region has a rich history and experience in the field of nuclear safety. Many nuclear safety-related multilateral initiatives, groups, forums and international projects have been nurtured in a region which comprises some of the largest nuclear power programmes and possesses advanced safety organizations and expertise, which has had to deal with the Chernobyl accident as well as with major waste and legacy issues. In addition, the Member states in the European Union have almost 60 years of experience in implementing the Euratom Treaty. However, Mr Caruso also noted that important gaps exist and that these existing regional initiatives were heterogeneous and fragmented. “Some safety topics, countries and activities are left out,” he added, “and very few experts have a full picture of all of their major actions and developments”.

Based on a common reference to IAEA safety standards, the new EuCAS Network, administered by the IAEA Secretariat, will facilitate a dialogue involving countries that are currently not taking part in any safety network. Similar to the four safety networks currently administered by the IAEA in other regions, the objectives of the EuCAS Network will focus on capacity building activities, sharing information and experience, and cooperation and building common understanding. The new EuCAS Network for Europe and Central Asia with its broad thematic and geographical scope will address these objectives by sharing feedback and giving visibility to many ongoing sub-regional or specialized safety initiatives in the region.

A signature ceremony is being organized during the IAEA General Conference in September 2016 for the heads of the interested organizations to endorse and sign the terms of reference. The first meeting of the EuCAS Network’s Steering Committee will take place in Vienna, Austria, from 7-9 December 2016.



Safety and Licensing Requirements for Small Modular Reactors



Photo: D. Calma/IAEA

A new generation of advanced, prefabricated nuclear power reactors called small modular reactors (SMRs) could hit the market as early as 2020. In a series of workshops, that began earlier this year, the IAEA is working closely with regulators on approaches for safety and licensing ahead of their potential deployment worldwide.

One of the GNSSN's regional networks, the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) organized, in cooperation with the Arab Atomic Energy Agency (AAEA), a workshop on the requirements, guidelines and licensing procedures for SMRs, in January 2016, in Vienna, Austria.

“Small modular reactors are a very attractive proposition for the Arab world as more than half the countries in our region don't have the resources to build large, traditional nuclear power plants. SMRs are more feasible, manageable and require lower investment — it is a very

realistic option for Arab countries to consider,” said Abdelmajid Mahjoub, Director General of the AAEA and the Chairman of the workshop.

Co-sponsored by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the workshop brought together regulatory bodies, operator companies, and other governmental organizations, working or expected to work towards the establishment of national safety and technical infrastructures for SMRs.

Workshop participants received detailed information about the role of regulatory bodies and licensing requirements, including the approval of SMR designs, siting and operations. The IAEA facilitated discussions among regulators on the use of relevant IAEA safety standards and on changes that may be needed in national regulations.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

Around 50 SMR designs are under development for various purposes

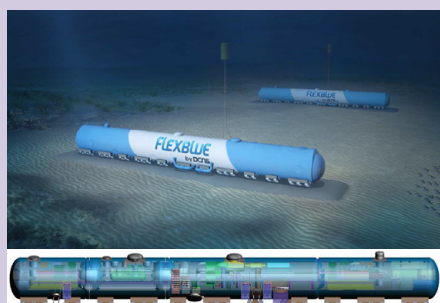
and applications, and four reactors are under construction.

“SMRs are among the most advanced reactor technologies for meeting future energy demands, and Member States need to be fully aware of the applicable safety standards and regulations to enable successful deployment of this new type of power reactor,” said Hadid Subki, a nuclear engineer at the IAEA Nuclear Power Technology Development Section.

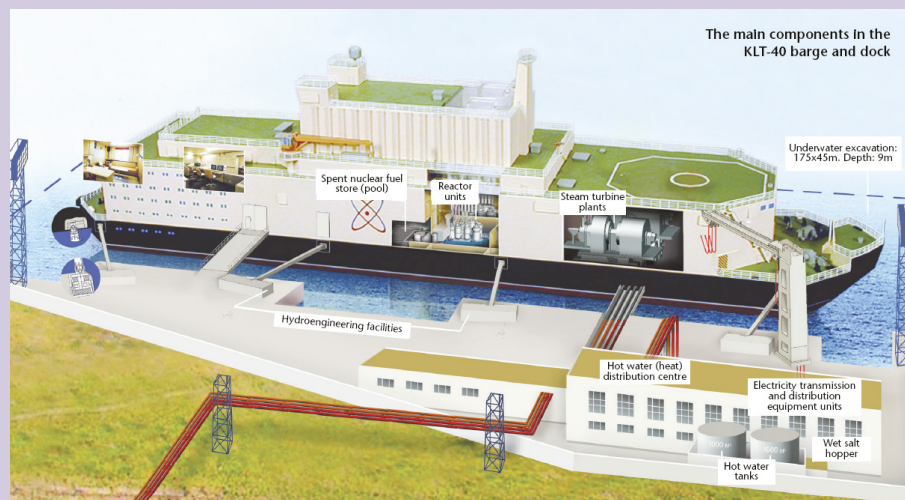
The next IAEA workshop on the safety and licensing requirements for SMRs was intended for member countries of the Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA) and took place in June 2016.

For more information on the SMR Regulators' Forum, please visit:

<https://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/safety-infrastructure/smr.asp>



*Flexblue plant layout
(Courtesy of DCNS, with permission)*



General view of a floating NPP with the two KLT-40 reactors



The FNRBA is improving its support for nuclear and radiation safety in Africa

The Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA) held a coordination meeting at the IAEA's Headquarters to evaluate the needs and challenges of African regulatory bodies and to propose related activities.

AUGUST 2016 | The Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA) held a coordination meeting at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, in August 2016 to evaluate the needs and challenges of African regulatory bodies and to propose related activities.

This meeting — the first of its kind for the FNRBA — gathered all stakeholder groups: members of the FNRBA Steering Committee, leaders of the 10 thematic working groups (TWGs), local experts from 17 African Member States, 9 Technical Officers from the IAEA, and 3 delegates from the United States of America and the Republic of Korea as donor countries.

In total, about 40 experts from Botswana, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal,

South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe attended the meeting.

Together they assessed the current status of the FNRBA and proposed innovative ideas to improve the governance of the Forum through the issuance of procedures and other internal rules to be incorporated into the Forum's current charter.

Furthermore, they proposed activities and services that will support nuclear and radiation safety in Africa. Necessary actions were addressed to raise the awareness of policymakers in Africa. In total, about 50 activities have been identified: half of them are related to the development of skills and knowledge, 10% are dedicated to the development of regulatory support documentation such as model regulations and guides, and the rest are related to experience sharing and development of a regional database.

Within the framework of this coordination meeting, parallel meetings per TWG were organized to support ongoing technical cooperation projects under the African Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA).

The key outputs of the meeting are the FNRBA action plan for 2016–2017 with 22 actions, and a survey table of “challenges vs activities” to support nuclear and radiation safety in Africa. Moreover, the new website developed in 2016 will improve information sharing and the promotion of relevant publications and documents accessible to the public. In particular, five survey reports on nuclear infrastructures and on emergency preparedness and response will be published soon.

One representative of each group (Steering Committee, TWG leaders, TO, Donors) was requested to give his/her feedback. kind of meeting was fruitful and necessary to evaluate the progress of FNRBA and to get the support of donors. A questionnaire was distributed among the participants to collect suggestions to improve and to prepare a future coordination meeting.

The main outcomes of the meeting will be presented at the FNRBA Plenary Meeting, taking place during the 60th regular session of the IAEA General Conference in Vienna.

For more information, please visit: <https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/fnrba/pages/default.aspx>



ANSN countries started a five-year process of self-assessment

Seven embarking countries that are members of the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) — Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam — have recently started the ‘ANSN Self-Assessment Process’

The ‘ANSN Self-Assessment Process’ (hereafter, ‘the process’), was developed in 2015 to support member countries in conducting self-assessments on the development of their safety infrastructure for a nuclear power programme, in accordance with the specific guidance provided in Establishing the Safety

Infrastructure for a Nuclear Power Programme (IAEA Safety Series No. SSG-16). The process has a five-year time-frame from 2016 to 2020 involving the following six steps: self-assessment, preparation, answering, analysis, action plan, and implementation. The objective of the process is to systematically help ANSN member countries strengthen their regulatory infrastructure through identifying gaps between the actual status and the international recommended standards described in SSG-16. Each member country will finish its self-assessment by the end of March 2017 and then submit the results, including draft action plans, to the ANSN Steering Committee.

Starting in 2018, the nearly 40 regional and national level activities carried out in the Asian and Pacific



region every year will be designed and prioritized to support filling the gaps identified through the self-assessments. The ANSN member countries will implement their action plans for about two years with support provided through these activities. The whole process will be completed in 2020 and the final results will be reviewed and evaluated in order to identify the benefits of the process.

For more information, please visit: <https://ansn.iaea.org/Common/Topics/SelfAssessmentCoordinationGroup.aspx>





Photos: D. Calma/IAEA

Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators — significant increase in nuclear technology usage

Developments call for the prompt establishment of independent, competent and efficient regulatory bodies at the national level, as well as for a sustainable regional framework to facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge, experiences and lessons learned.

The use of nuclear technologies in Arab countries has increased significantly in several social and economic sectors (e.g. health, industry, agriculture and water management). Energy and electricity needs in many Arab countries have also increased markedly, and some of these countries have expressed their interest in embarking on a nuclear power programme.

The Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR) was established in January 2010. The concept of the global nuclear safety and security framework gives safety networks a central role — a role that ANNuR has striven to fulfil since its inception, by linking and promoting international legal instruments, and encouraging the use of the IAEA safety standards, security guidance and peer reviews.

The Arab Atomic Energy Agency (AAEA) is currently nurturing the ANNuR programme within the framework of the Arab Strategy

for Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy up to 2020, under the action plan of the strategic project “Strengthening the Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks for Nuclear and Radiation Activities in Arab Countries”, which has been developed by senior Arab experts and approved by AAEA executives.

The purpose of ANNuR is to foster, enhance, strengthen and harmonize the radiation protection, nuclear safety and security regulatory infrastructures of its member countries. The Network also relies on mechanisms to ensure its effectiveness, efficiency and recognition at the international level to better exchange regulatory experiences and practices among the radiation and nuclear regulatory bodies in Arab countries.

Presently, ANNuR has eight thematic working groups for the following themes:

- Strengthening infrastructure and capacity building for regulatory bodies;
- Legislative and regulatory frameworks;
- Emergency preparedness and response;
- Radioactive waste management and disposal of spent fuel;
- Safety, security and safeguards;
- Safety management of research reactors;
- Transport of nuclear and radioactive materials; and

— Information technology.

While regulation remains a national responsibility, ANNuR is intended to take into consideration internationally acknowledged technological advances and the globalization of the nuclear industry, as well as to play a key role in sharing and maintaining knowledge related to radiation protection, emergency preparedness, radioactive waste management, transport of radioactive sources, and nuclear safety and security.

Since the establishment of ANNuR almost seven years ago, the Network has witnessed a considerable quantitative and qualitative improvement in its activities and work plans. In this respect, many activities have been jointly implemented with ANNuR partners, such as the IAEA, the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety, the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation — EuropeAid, which have facilitated ANNuR’s mission and provided outstanding support and encouragement as they share the same goals regarding the safe utilization of nuclear technologies.

For more information, please visit:

<https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/ANNuR/Pages/default.aspx>



Photos: D. Calma/IAEA

The Safe Transport of Radioactive Material — A Regional Network Approach

Harmonizing the implementation of the IAEA's transport safety standards requires Member States to create and use regional networks to build capacity for the effective regulatory oversight of the safe transport of radioactive material.

Through regional projects the IAEA assists in fostering harmonization amongst Member States in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, the Mediterranean, and Latin America and the Caribbean to develop a common, coordinated view for the interpretation and implementation of the regulations for the transport of radioactive material.

OPERATION OF THE NETWORKS

The networks provide opportunities to establish personal contacts and promote competencies amongst the network members. Exchanges between network members are carried out via face-to-face meetings (once or twice a year), email, or online 'virtual' meetings to discuss specific issues of interest to the network.

Establishing and maintaining 'neighbourly relations' between networks promotes mutual understanding and benefits all parties concerned. The sharing of information, such as guidance on

import/export/transit, inspections of radioactive material, or emergency response procedures, also occurs across networks.

NETWORK OWNERSHIP

These networks are run by the participating members, who determine, independently of the IAEA, the issues to be discussed, the timetables for their work and the actions and/or measures to be taken. With funding from the United States of America and the European Union, the IAEA is providing the developing networks with support for their successful operation. The success of a network, however, will primarily depend upon the efforts and ambitions of the participating members.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE NETWORKS

The network members are primarily representatives of regulatory bodies responsible for the transport of radioactive material — an aspect which promotes open discussion among the network members. Membership is on a voluntary basis and is non-legally binding.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For all the regions, self-assessments have been completed and peer reviews of the network members' regulatory infrastructure for transport have been carried out. Results have led to the development of national and regional action plans for

transport. Guidance on inspections and on import/export and transit requirements has been developed and shared between networks. Further, contacts have been established among network members and across regions, in order to enhance and promote harmonization in the implementation of international transport regulations.

ACTIONS

Member State governments should commit to support participation of key personnel in transport network activities in order to promote sustainability.

Transport network members should work together to determine regional needs in transport safety and propose specific areas where the IAEA can assist in meeting these needs.

Transport network members should continue to work collaboratively to develop and revise guidance and other material to further build regulatory infrastructure in their respective countries.

The IAEA should seek ways to continue to support the sharing of ideas and information between the various regional networks for transport safety.

For further information, please visit:

<https://gnssn.iaea.org/Pages/TransportNetworks.aspx>

Mediterranean Region Transport Network website:

<https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/Med-Net/Pages/default.aspx>



The Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies in Focus

An association aiming to enhance safety in any civil use of ionizing radiations in its member countries and in the Ibero-American region as a whole by disseminating the outcomes of its activities in cooperation with the IAEA.

The Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies (FORO), established in 1997, now comprises regulatory bodies from ten countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Uruguay. Paraguay joined FORO in June 2016.

Jointly with the IAEA, FORO coordinates an important technical programme in the field of radiation protection and nuclear safety, by developing, with funds provided by its members, projects of regulatory interest which bring together the know-how of national experts and the international expertise of the IAEA.

Up to now, FORO has successfully completed 12 projects in almost all the areas related to the regulatory process. Those projects identified

radiation protection and nuclear safety-related areas for improvement and knowledge or experience needs that exist among regulatory bodies in the region.

The most important achievements from these projects are summarized below:

1. The 'stress test' activity: FORO experts peer reviewed the safety of the nuclear power plants in the region and shared the results with the other FORO members.
2. The radiotherapy risk evaluation tool (SEVRRA) was the first project to apply risk analysis to practices

involving radioactive sources. The results have been used in hundreds of hospitals to significantly reduce the risks of unplanned exposures. Due to the high international interest, the IAEA Technical Document on SEVRRA, originally issued in Spanish in 2012, was translated into English in 2015 to reach a broader audience and the English version was published in 2016. Furthermore, the integration of both, the development of the radiotherapy risk assessment tool, SEVRRA ('System to Evaluate the Risk in Radiotherapy') and the SAFRON ('Safety in Radiation Oncology') web-based system, are





underway, with the support of the IAEA.

3. The project on licensing and inspection programmes for cyclotrons is of utmost importance. According to a survey carried out by the IAEA in 2006, there were already 262 cyclotrons in operation worldwide at the time. FORO project aims at harmonizing regulatory practices for the licensing and inspection of these facilities.

4. The project on safety culture in organizations, facilities and activities that handle radioactive sources is the first attempt to apply the concepts of safety culture outside

of the nuclear installation area. The results of this project were presented at the international safety culture conference held at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, in February 2016. The International Radiation Protection Association and the International Commission on Radiological Protection have both expressed their interest in becoming involved in the project.

5. A project was implemented to strengthen systems, programmes and practices for training and capacity building in the field of nuclear reactor safety that are required by regulators in the Latin America region. Its

results were issued in 2016 as a joint FORO–IAEA publication in Spanish (IAEA-TECDOC-1794) entitled *Guía para la Elaboración de un Programa de Creación y Desarrollo de Competencias de Reguladores de Reactores Nucleares* (Guidelines for the Elaboration of a Competency Creation and Development Programme for Regulators of Nuclear Reactors).

The IAEA and FORO collaborate to implement key activities on building competencies and, at the same time, capturing and disseminating lessons learned and good practices from radiation protection and nuclear safety projects within the region, crucial to meeting the current challenges we face today. The added value provided by FORO's activities lies in the detection of national and regional issues and needs, their prioritization, the development of solutions and funding by its members, which ensures the sustainability of FORO's approach.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.foroiberam.org/en/welcome>



Foro Iberoamericano de Organismos Reguladores Radiológicos y Nucleares



GNSSCOM encourages Member States to connect and collaborate in routine situations aimed at improving communication effectiveness and building public trust.

JUNE 2016 | In Vienna, international communication experts concluded deliberations on the establishment of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Communicators Network (GNSSCOM).

GNSSCOM, part of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) family, will be launched by 2017.

Members of GNSSCOM would further collaborate and focus on enhancing transparency and effectiveness of communication, and improving dissemination of information through sharing knowledge, expertise, lessons learned and best practices. GNSSCOM will function as a focal point for communication practitioners by dealing with daily communication challenges, and collaborating with experts to improve factual

communications directed at interested parties, including the public. It will not replace existing IAEA platforms, such as the Incident and Emergency Centre (IEC) platform dealing with communication in a nuclear or radiological emergency.

Communication tools, publications and other materials and resources will be available on the GNSSCOM website to help communicators tackle the needs of Member States. Through regular GNSSCOM activities and via the GNSSCOM platform, communicators will be able to learn and to benchmark with international practices in order to strengthen their own approach for communication as well as, sharing their experiences for the benefits of other GNSSCOM Members.

The new IAEA safety guide on Communication and Consultation with Interested Parties by the Regulatory Body, to be published by 2017, will be a key supporting document for the network. This Safety Guide will provide practical guidance and recommendations for regulatory bodies concerning

effective communication and consultation with the public and other interested parties about the possible radiation risks associated with facilities and activities, and about processes and decisions of the regulatory body.

GNSSCOM will allow its members to connect and collaborate across geographical and institutional boundaries. It aims to strengthen and enhance nuclear safety and security communication for practitioners from national regulatory bodies, their technical support organizations, and from other relevant public organizations.

For further information, visit:
<https://gnssn.iaea.org/>



GNSSN HIGHLIGHTS

Main Events: October 2016 – March 2017

Tenth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Technical and Scientific Support Organization Forum

27-28 October 2016,

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

The objective is to review the implementation of the TSO Forum actions since the last Steering Committee meeting and to plan for future activities. It is also the occasion for the TSOs to exchange among themselves topical information and recent achievements in their fields.

24th Meeting of the ANSN Steering Committee

16-18 November 2016

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

The Steering Committee members will exchange information on capacity building of the Member States, review the progress of the 2016 activities, approve the 2017 work plan and discuss ANSN management arrangements as necessary.

First Meeting of the European and Central Asian Safety Network (EuCAS Network) Steering Committee

7-9 December 2016

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

The Steering Committee members will be the occasion of the formal approval of the European and Central Asian Safety Network (EuCAS) terms of reference, of the election of the Chairperson. It will focus on the definition of the scope of a limited number of working groups and of the EuCAS work plan for the year 2017.

Ninth Meeting of the GNSSN Steering Committee

19-20 December 2016

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

The Steering Committee members will exchange information on the GNSSN, focusing in particular on new initiatives (e.g. GNSSCOM, EUCAS Network), regional networks activity plans and on the global nuclear safety education and training resource (GTER).

FNRBA Steering Committee Meeting

March 2017

Cape Town, South Africa

The Steering Committee will review the progress achieved after a Consultancy Meeting in August 2016, dedicated to assessing the needs to support nuclear and radiation safety and security in Africa.

8th ANNUR Annual Meeting

March 2017

Hammamet, Tunisia

The objective is to exchange information about regulatory safety and security infrastructure in the Arab countries and to report on the status of the nuclear power projects in the region.



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**Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network
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