

Statement from Mr. Pierre-Franck Chevet,

Chairperson of ENSREG,

following the Group's 33rd meeting of the 10th November 2016

ENSREG re-appointed Mr. Christos Housiadas as ENSREG Vice Chairman and WG3 chairman and Mr. Antonio Munuera as WG1 chairman for 2 more years. In addition, based on its rules of procedure, ENSREG launched the process to replace the ENSREG Vice Chairman Mr. Petr Krs and the WG2 Chairman Mr Bengt Hedberg.

The Terms of References (ToR) for this first TPR have been submitted to a Public Consultation on the ENSREG website from the 1st August to the 30th September 2016. Comments received from the IAEA, ENISS, NGOs and others were included in the ToR and will be included in the "TPR stakeholder engagement plan" which has been developed by WG3 for this TPR. WENRA finalised the Technical Specifications (TS) for the first Topical Peer Review (TPR) on "ageing management" during its last meeting (25-27 October 2016) and submitted them to a Public Consultation on the WENRA website until the 30th November 2016. ENSREG acknowledges the high quality of the work performed by the WENRA RHWG on this topic. One point related to concrete and steel containment structures required detailed discussions during the meeting to define a written option taking into account concrete structures for containment and external hazards that should be approved. ENSREG expects to approve the final versions of the TPR TS, ToR and stakeholder engagement plan before the end of January 2017 and submit them to the Commission.

WG3 presented a paper on an ENSREG Communication strategy. ENSREG highlighted also the need to improve the content of its website and decided to launch an on-line survey for website users before the end of 2016 to support this process.

ENSREG welcomed the significant progress made by the WENRA ad-hoc group with elaborating a position paper on the question on "timely implementation of reasonably practicable safety improvements to existing nuclear power plants"¹. The draft position paper was presented to ENSREG Members during this meeting and a final version should be ready by spring 2017. ENSREG highlighted that, before the final approval of this document, consultation with the NPP operators through ENISS was mandatory as, in the end, they will be the ones who will have to implement this WENRA approach. ENSREG also decided to submit this position paper to Public Consultation after having discussed it with ENISS. This position paper will be taken into account (a) when forming the common Euratom/EU position during the 2017 IAEA Convention of Nuclear Safety and (b) by the Commission when establishing conformity of transposition of the amended Nuclear Safety Directive by the Member States.

ENSREG reviewed the outcome of the WG2 Workshop on "Member State's lessons learned from notification of National Programmes and from reporting under the EC Directive 2011/70/Euratom" which took place in the UK from 25 to 27 October 2016. The workshop was considered very positive and very useful to prepare the revision of the guide document to develop the national reports or national programmes. It was highlighted that a complete revision of the guide document should take also into account the outcome of the workshop

¹ Document supporting the implementation of Article 8a of the Council Directive 2014/87/EURATOM

on this topic that will be organised by the European Commission beginning of June 2017. ENSREG expects to discuss this guide document in its meeting of November 2017 and submit it to the Commission.

Following this presentation the main activities of the WG2 since the previous ENSREG meeting were presented by the WG2 chairman. The main points addressed were linked to the ARTEMIS peer review, which should take place in all EU countries before 2023, the collaboration with WG1 regarding IRRS and ARTEMIS Missions and the collaboration with the EC Decommissioning Funding Group.

The WG1 chairman focused his presentation on the planning of the IRRS Missions in Europe, the expected update in 2017 by Member States of their Stress Tests National Action Plan and the work associated to the INSC mid-term programme evaluation review.

ENSREG reviewed the results of the workshop on the HERCA-WENRA approach (HWA), which took place in Slovenia (Bled) 13-15 June 2016. This Workshop involved 80 participants from HERCA members, WENRA members, National civil protection competent authorities, International organisations (IAEA, NEA), ENSREG members and Commission services (DG ENER, ECHO) and resulted in fruitful exchanges and better understanding of the HWA, its recommendation and possible ways of implementation. It was also recalled that the Commission is supporting two Workshops/seminars on EP&R in the following weeks ("Aarhus Convention and Nuclear Roundtable 29-30 Nov 2016 in Luxembourg" and seminar "Addressing the Requirements on Public Information in EP&R under the BSS Directive (Articles 70 and 71)" - 1st December 2016 in Luxembourg).

ENSREG conference Steering Committee chairman reported on the continued the preparation of the ENSREG Conference (28-29 June 2017, Brussels). Candidatures were requested for the board of the conference. ENSREG approved the main topics of the conference, which should cover Waste Management, Long term operation of NPP's, Standardisation/harmonisation/licensing and how to deal with irregularities and CFSI (Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspected Items) in the supply chain.

ENSREG discussed progress in the Stress Tests process in neighbouring countries. A peer review took place in Armenia from the 20th to the 24th June 20162. ENSREG was also informed about continuous contacts between the EC and the Belarussian authorities to ensure the implementation of a stress test process as soon as possible and confirmed its commitment to nominate EU experts to participate to these processes.

ASN presented a last update regarding the anomalies discovered at the AREVA Le Creusot forging factory and more recently at Japan Casting & Forging Corp (JCFC) and its recent actions in the field.

The next ENSREG Plenary is planned to take place on the 27th June 2016 in Brussels, just before the 2017 ENSREG Nuclear Safety Conference.

² http://www.ensreg.eu/armenia-stress-test