



**Statement from Ms. Marta Žiaková,
Chairperson of ENSREG,
following the Group's 39th meeting of the 14th November 2019**

ENSREG welcomed fourteen new Members to the Group and decided to admit the Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA) as an Observer.

ENSREG welcomed that all participating countries have now submitted National Action Plans (NACp), prepared in response to the relevant findings arising from first Topical Peer Review (TPR) on ageing management of nuclear power plant and research reactors. The NACp have been published on the ENSREG website. ENSREG endorsed the ENSREG 1st Topical Peer Review Action Plan, which addresses the four EU-level challenges identified in the ENSREG Topical Peer Review Report.

With a view to preparing and improving the efficiency of the next Topical Peer Review exercise in 2023/2024, Working Group (WG) 1 has prepared a questionnaire to be sent to all the countries which participated in the TPR exercise in order to compile feedback and to draw lessons for the next TPR. WG1 was tasked with undertaking preparatory work on the overall process including selection of the topic and terms of reference for the second TPR.

Following its March 2019 meeting, the Group reemphasised that in light of the delays in the implementation of the National Action Plans (NACp) in some countries, WG1 should provide at the beginning of 2020 a more comprehensive and accurate report on the status of the implementation of Stress Test safety upgrades in view of ENSREG's adoption of WG1's report during the next plenary. ENSREG WG1 should also take into account Stress Test NACp updates that are due by the end of 2019.

ENSREG took note that 26 MS have already requested or otherwise indicated their intention to carry out ARTEMIS missions and welcomed that there is currently a 75-strong Pool of Experts available for performing these missions. It was generally agreed that it would be beneficial to optimise the relationship between Artemis and IRRS peer review missions.

The Group approved the updated *Guidance on Openness and Transparency for European Nuclear Safety Regulators*, prepared by WG3.

ENSREG also reviewed the latest developments concerning the organisation of ongoing and planned ENSREG peer reviews regarding stress tests with third countries (Armenia, Belarus, Iran, Turkey). The Group endorsed a proposal to establish a single Board to oversee all ENSREG peer reviews in third countries. The Board should be appointed shortly, following the receipt of nominations.

The Group endorsed a proposal regarding the carrying out of the peer review of the national stress test report covering the Akkuyu nuclear power plant in Turkey. A two-phase approach was adopted, with preparatory activities beginning early in 2020, and the phase 1 peer review mission taking place in Quarter 4 2020.

The Team Leader of the mission to peer review the implementation of the Armenian NACp presented the state of play of preparations for the mission, which will take place from 25 to 29 November 2019.

The Group welcomed that Belarus had submitted its Stress Test NACp to ENSREG, and again invited Belarus to request ENSREG to conduct a peer review of the NACp. The Group asked the Chair to write to the Belarussian regulator in this regard and to provide the feedback from ENSREG experts on the NACp prepared by Belarus.

The Group had a first fruitful exchange on the approach to licensing of small modular reactors and will return to the topic during its next meeting.

ENSREG took stock of the discussions during the fifth ENSREG Conference held on the 6th and 7th June 2019 in Brussels. The next ENSREG Conference will be held mid-2021.

ENSREG decided to hold its next plenary meeting on 17 March 2020 in Brussels.