



ENSREG statement on the progress in the implementation of post-Fukushima National Action Plans (NACPs)

In the aftermath of the nuclear accident that occurred at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant in Japan on 11 March 2011, all EU nuclear power plants were reviewed in 2012 with a view to a comprehensive and transparent risk and safety assessment (“stress tests”) in light of the accident lessons learned. While the assessments found that the safety standards of nuclear power plants in Europe were generally high, further improvements were recommended.

As a follow up to the stress tests, national action plans (NACPs) were prepared by all participating countries describing actions to improve nuclear safety as well as their schedule for implementation, the majority of these actions being expected to be implemented by 2015-18, latest date being 2020. These NACPs were reviewed during a National Action Plan Workshop organised by ENSREG in 2013. Nuclear safety is a national responsibility exercised where appropriate in an EU-framework. Decisions concerning safety actions and the supervision of nuclear installations remain solely with the operators and national authorities.

The NACPs were revised late 2014 and reviewed by a 2nd NACPs Workshop in the spring of 2015. The second workshop focused in particular in evaluating progress of the implementation process, including additional measures undertaken and changes included in the original schedule. Special attention was devoted to the technical basis for the changes proposed as well as the review of studies and analyses identified and completed since the 2013 Workshop.

Following the 2nd NACP workshop, ENSREG:

- Endorses the summary report of the workshop which is made public on the ENSREG website¹;
- Commends the importance of promoting the sharing of practices, experiences and challenges across European countries, with the aim of continuously improving safety;
- Recognizes the strong and continuous commitment of all participating nuclear operators and regulatory authorities towards the full implementation of all improvement actions identified in their respective NACPs and;
- that an important number of actions listed on the NACPs have been completed under the oversight of the national safety regulatory authorities.
- Notes that the status of implementation differs compared to the original deadlines presented in the 1st National Action Plan summary report² where major modifications were to be implemented by 2015-2018, and at the latest by 2020. While many nuclear operators have almost completed implementation, and others have clear schedules to complete actions by 2016 some have rescheduled specific actions later than 2020;
- Considers that the rate of safety upgrade implementation should be strengthened to target agreed implementation deadlines, taking into account other safety priorities and quality requirements
- Recommends that a status report from each participating country on the implementation of the NACPs will be updated and published periodically to ensure a transparent monitoring with the aim of publishing a report on the implementation in 2017.

¹ <http://www.ensreg.eu/node/3889>

² <http://www.ensreg.eu/node/1343>