

ENSREG Work Programme 2016-2019

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Work Programme for the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) 2016-2019

Introduction

ENSREG's central mission is to strive for the continuous improvements in nuclear safety and radioactive waste and spent fuel management and their regulation, and to promote openness and transparency in those areas.

At the 28th meeting a reflection group was formed to consider ENSREG practices. The reflection group recommended that the structure of the work programme should be revised and at the 30th meeting were requested to produce a new ENSREG work programme for the period 2016-19. This new work programme was produced by the reflection group and the working group chairs and was presented to the 31st ENSREG meeting.

The 2016-2019 ENSREG work programme is shaped by recent European legislative changes, in particular Council Directive 2014/87/EURATOM (the amended Nuclear Safety Directive) and Council Directive 2011/70/EURATOM (the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive). A key proportion of ENSREG's work in this period therefore concerns supporting the safety objectives of these Directives and assisting implementation by Member States.

This work programme also includes a number of specific areas of work where ENSREG will be providing advice to the European Commission at their request. These include advice on the long term operation of nuclear plants, decommissioning and emergency planning and response. During 2016-19, ENSREG will continue to facilitate the follow up of the implementation of the National Action Plans following the European Stress Tests.

Whilst this work programme aims to set out the key areas of work in the period 2016-19, there is likely to be a need to make amendments to this programme, including new work to be added to it. This will be managed through the regular plenary meetings of ENSREG.

ENSREG Activities 2016-19

ENSREG's main activities in 2016-19 are concerned with:

1. **Supporting the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive:** Whilst it is Member States' responsibility to appropriately transpose and implement European Legislation, ENSREG will play a role in assisting Member States through a number of areas of work, such as technical guidance to assist with reporting requirements (in particular those under Article 9 of the Nuclear Safety Directive and Article 14 of the Waste Directive). A critical task for ENSREG in this period will be, working with WENRA, to provide a mechanism to implement the first 'topical peer review' as required by the Amended Nuclear Safety Directive. The topical peer review will consider ageing management of nuclear power plants.
2. **Providing advice to the European Commission and coordination of Member State regulatory bodies on matters related to the safety of nuclear installations and the management of radioactive waste:** ENSREG has been requested by the EC to provide advice on matters related to emergency preparedness and response and the transport of radioactive material in the context of improving the safety standards and facilitating

harmonisation within the EU. The EC has also requested ENSREG to work, regarding the long term operation of nuclear power plants, on a statement concerning the use of "best available" versus "best applicable" technologies and to propose a way forward to ensure an effective, constructive public consultation in the decision making process regarding long term operation. ENSREG will also, by utilising the effective working relationship between Working Group 1 and WENRA, follow-up the implementation of WENRA Safety Reference Levels in the EU.

More generally ENSREG will consider during this period what activities could be put in place to initiate or reinforce collaboration between Regulatory Bodies to support harmonisation at EU level of licensing processes for LTO, new build and decommissioning and to increase standardisation in the nuclear industry and encourage convergence at EU level of codes and standards.

- 3. Facilitate active participation in peer review within the European Union and oversight of the completion of the stress test 'National Action Plans'.** ENSREG played a pivotal role in the 2011 European Stress Tests and has since held two workshops to review progress on the National Action Plans created by member states. ENSREG will continue to provide oversight in this area by putting in place an agreed reporting schedule. ENSREG will also contribute to the peer review of National Action Plans from three states outside of the EU. During this period ENSREG will continue to facilitate EU participation in peer reviews via the IAEA's 'Integrated Regulatory Reviews Service' (IRRS) and 'ARTEMIS' peer review services, thereby supporting the continuous improvement of nuclear safety and management of radioactive waste in Europe.
- 4. Seeking enhanced openness and transparency** throughout ENSREG's activities, including provision of revised guidelines to Member States on reporting and transparency as part of the ENSREG wide work on reporting under Directives, developing a communication plan for ENSREG implementing a new approach to the ENSREG website and holding an ENSREG conference in 2017 and 2019.

Further detail and expected delivery dates for the above tasks are set out in the next section.

Areas of work and key deliverables**1. Supporting the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive**

Topic 1(a): Report under Art. 9(1) of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2009/71/EURATOM:			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Revise guidance for next report to address the lessons learned from 1st report and to address the new issues arising from the revised Nuclear Safety Directive	2018	WG1 (task group) WG3	WG1 task group will be established for the review of the guidelines. To be presented to the Plenary for agreement in 2018. Reports under Art. 9(1) are required in July 2020. WG3 will contribute to the work of WG1 task group in relation to the review of the guidelines pertaining to public information/transparency

Topic 1(b): Topical Peer Reviews (TPR) according to Art. 8e point 3 of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2014/87/EURATOM: Definition of scope and methodology, conduct 1st TPR, lessons learned and follow-up			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Terms of Reference and Technical Specification (final)	Between May & November 2016	WG1 task group WG3	WENRA-RHWG to produce a Technical Specification, relevant for NPPs, ready for WENRA consideration at the beginning of the summer 2016 and approval at WENRA Autumn meeting. Terms Of Reference to be developed by WG1 by May 2016. Approval of final versions by ENSREG in November 2016. WG3 will work on the transparency aspects of the topical peer reviews based on the previous work and experience on EU stress tests.

2. Preparation, submittal and publication of the national reports	January 2017 to December 2017	Participating countries – National coordinators Secretariat	Participating countries will be invited to include other types of Nuclear Installations, other than Nuclear Power Plants in their assessment on a voluntary basis. Communication and consultation of the public at this stage will be handled by member states. Reports will be made publically available on the ENSREG Website end of December 2017
3. Desktop review and questions/answers	January 2018 to March 2018	Participating countries, TPR Officers Public Secretariat	A dedicated website will enable questions to be asked and these questions with their answers to be published in advance of the workshop.
4. TPR Workshop	May 2018	Participating countries TPR Officers Secretariat	The main outcome from the workshop would be the Summary report. 1st proposal for the TPR Workshop Summary Report would be issued and approved during the TPR Workshop.
5. TPR Workshop Summary report (final)	August 2018	TPR Officers WG1 Chair	Endorsement by ENSREG at next plenary or by written procedure if appropriate
6. ENSREG communication to the public of the TPR results	Autumn 2018	ENSREG Chair assisted by TPR Officers and WG1 Chair	Detailed proposal to be made by WG1/WG3
7. Definition of appropriate follow up measures of relevant findings from the peer review process	December 2018	TPR Officers WG1 Chair	For consideration at ENSREG plenary.

Topic 1(c): Implementation of Art. 8a of the Nuclear Safety Directive 2014/87/EURATOM:			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1 Consider how best to support a harmonised implementation of the nuclear safety objectives for nuclear installations contained in the Nuclear Safety Directive Art. 8a.	Q1 2017	Plenary and task group as appropriate.	<p>WENRA SRLs objectives and associated report on the design of new NPP should serve as a basis for ENSREG preparation of "Technical Guidelines" or appropriate reports to support a harmonised implementation of the nuclear safety objectives for nuclear installations contained in the Nuclear Safety Directive Art. 8a.</p> <p>ENSREG will undertake this work in reference to the published and ongoing work of WENRA and where appropriate make requests to WENRA to consider specific issues.</p> <p>WENRA was invited by ENSREG during November 2015 plenary meeting to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Extend its work on the SRLs to other Nuclear Installations than Nuclear Power Plants 2) Provide advice on "timely implementation of reasonably practicable safety improvement to existing NPPs"
2. Follow-up on the status of implementation of the WENRA Safety Reference Levels.	At WG1 meetings (from 2017).	WG1, in coordination with WENRA/RHWG	<p>WG1 will follow-up the implementation status of the WENRA SRLs, for informative purposes, in coordination with WENRA/RHWG. No reporting or deliverables from WG1 are needed for this activity. SRLs can be implemented both at the regulatory framework and at the facilities. ENSREG's attention will be focus at the implementation in the national regulations.</p>

	October 2016	officers	
5. Summary report	Tentatively late November or early December 2016	WG2 task group Work shop officers	Endorsement by ENSREG at the earliest convenience.

2. Advice to the European Commission and coordination of member state regulatory bodies

Topic 2(a): Advice to the Commission and coordination of regulatory bodies on issues concerning: long term operation, nuclear safety and decommissioning.			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Analyse and issue an ENSREG position concerning the use of "best available" versus "best applicable" technologies in the frame of NPP LTO	2018	High level task group and Plenary	Expectation is that this will be informed by the outcomes of the topical peer review conducted in 2017/18. Consideration will be given on whether it would be possible/appropriate to deliver in advance of topical peer review.
2. Analyse and propose way forward to ensure effective constructive public engagement in the decision making process regarding LTO	2018	WG3	Expectation is that this will be informed by the outcomes of the topical peer review conducted in 2017/18.
3. Identify and/or set up links with and initiate collaboration with the Decommission Funding Group (DFG) on financial issues related to decommissioning, spent fuel and waste management	Initiated in Q1 2016 then ongoing	WG2	Delivery approach and additional deliverables to be agreed by plenary following proposals from WG2 at spring plenary meeting. Careful consideration will be given to i) ongoing activities in this area (e.g. Decommissioning Funding Group), ii) competence of regulators represented in ENSREG in this area, and iii) independence of the regulator

Topic 2(b): Emergency Planning and Response			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Monitor and report about HERCA-WENRA work on the field of EP&R and consider members dialogue with civil protection authorities at national level.	Ongoing fall 2016	Plenary/memb er states	At the 29th meeting HERCA-WENRA presented their recently published work on emergency preparedness and response (EP&R). At this meeting ENSREG encouraged individual regulators to initiate an exchange of views with civil protection authorities at the national level, and to report back to ENSREG in the middle of 2016 with a synthesis of national findings. A questionnaire was developed by HERCA-WENRA to collect information for these Country Fiches on EP&R. ENSREG should support this initiative and ensure that the questionnaire would be filled by the Member States and shared between MS.
2. Consider as a second priority to collaborate with the Euratom Article 31 group, with a view to extend contacts with civil protection services and report about this collaboration to ENSREG plenary	2017	Plenary in consultation with Article 31 Group	Work will need to be undertaken with reference to implementation of Council Directive 2013/59 (the Basic Safety Standard) and the ENER/D1/2012-474 report (ENCO's study).

Topic 2(c): Transport of radioactive material			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Provide advice to the European Commission during the preparation and the implementation of the planned EC study into the safe transport of radioactive material in the EU.	Start Q1 2016 and end by Q4 2017	Plenary and expert task group	EC will be commissioning a study on radioactive materials transport in 2017. ENSREG members, in particular those who regulate radioactive materials transport both within and outside the nuclear industry will provide advice to the EC on the study.

Topic 2(d): Mid-term review of the implementation of the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) programme			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Review the mid-term INSC programme report and provide comments/advices to support the best possible implementation of the INSC programme.	2017	WG4	A mid-term review of implementation of the INSC programme will be organised in 2017. WG4 to review the report and provide comments/advices to support the best possible implementation of the INSC programme.

3. Openness and transparency and communication of ENSREG activities

Topic 3(a): ENSREG Regulatory Conference on Nuclear Safety:			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Review conference organisation based on lessons learned from previous conference in 2015, increase participation from the industry and other stakeholders, include additional topics reflecting main areas of interest for the public and NGOs	For proposals to late 2016 ENSREG Plenary	2015 Conference task group and 2017 conference task group	
2. Deliver ENSREG Conference in 2017 and 2019	Spring/Summer 2017 & 2019	2017/19 Conference task group	Lead member state supported by volunteers from other member states. Venue & administrative support from the Commission

Topic 3(b): ENSREG website and communication			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Improve with the support of the European Commission the content and management of the ENSREG Website to ensure transparency and better access of the public to relevant information	Ongoing	Website management team	A specific group the “website management team” has been formed to manage the website.
2. Survey among website visitors	1st semester of 2016	Website management team	WG3 Chair will cooperate with the website management team

3. Update of “ENSREG Protocol for Maintenance of the ENSREG website”	1st semester of 2016	Website management team	WG3 Chair will cooperate with the website management team
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Topic 3(c): ENSREG report and revision of its work plan:			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. ENSREG report	2017, 2019	Plenary/EC high level task group	Every two years. Contributions from the working groups and the Secretariat.
2. Revision of individual working group work programmes	Ongoing	Working Group Chairs	Revised as needed, by way of example WG1 Chair would propose the revision of the WG1 Work Plan when necessary or at least yearly
3. Revision of ENSREG Work Program 2017-2019	Q1 2017	Task group/ Working Group Chairs	ENSREG WP to be revised beginning of 2017 to be in sync with the timing of the ENSREG conference and the ENSREG report to the European Parliament and the Council
4. Preparation of the 2020-23 Work Programme	2019	ENSREG Chair, working with working groups chairs and EC	If appropriate a review of the new work programme format, utilised in this work programme, will also be undertaken.

Topic 3(d): Communication plan for the ENSREG and on-going communication/transparency activities			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Communication plan for ENSREG	By the end of 2016	WG3	Given that the ENSREG communication needs in the period 2016-2019 will become of increasing importance (e.g. new directives, peer reviews, stress test follow-ups), WG3 will draft an ENSREG communication plan. This will include the elements such as: identification of audiences, identification of communication goals, main messages to be communicated by ENSREG, tools to be used for addressing these messages to the identified audiences (e.g. website, social media, conference, public meetings, surveys, annual reports, audiovisual material, newsletter), required

			resources etc.
2. Prepare/Update the “Guidance” document regarding openness and transparency	Dependin g the condition s/Upon request	WG3	Update/further develop the “Guidance for National Regulatory Organizations on Principles for Openness and Transparency” on the basis of monitoring of developments and updating of the following documents, as assigned to specific WG3 members: “Current Community and International Law with relevance to Transparency”, “Review of the rulings of the ACCC (Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee) and the ECIC (Espoo Convention Implementation Committee)”, “Balance between transparency and security”, “Concept/information/survey the national implementation of the ‘Principles’ identified in the ‘Guidance’ document”.

4. Implementation of peer review, ‘Stress Tests’ and ‘National Action Plans’

Topic 4(a): National Action Plan 2015: Identify a follow-up process for outstanding issues to support full implementation and for future reporting requirements			
1. Reporting scheme on the NAcPs implementation status	On going	WG1	Status report from each participating country on the implementation of the NAcPs to be published periodically (every 2 years starting from 2017) until completion of their respective NAcPs. Participants will provide a short presentation to WG1 when they have completed their NAcPs..
2. WG1 to report to ENSREG plenary on implementation of the NAcPs	Every ENSREG plenary meeting as appropriate	WG1	

Topic 4(b): Stress Tests Peer Reviews in Armenia, Turkey, and Belarus – Identify pool of experts, adapt if necessary peer review process, perform peer review, issue peer review reports			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Armenia	2016 Q2	EC lead task group	National report received in summer 2015
2. Turkey	2017	EC lead task group	2017 date an estimate
3. Belarus	2018	EC lead task group	2018 date an estimate. It is desirable to perform the peer review before start-up of the first Belarussian NPP.

Topic 4(c): IAEA IRRS and ARTEMIS Peer Review Missions in the EU Member States: follow the schedule, maintain a pool of experts, ensure active participation, support process improvement, lessons learned and follow-up			
Deliverable	Date	Delivered by	Remarks
1. Consideration of IRRS and Artemis Pool of experts and IRRS indicative program	Every WG1 & 2 meeting	WG1 & 2 peer review coordinators	Working Group 1 and 2 working in partnership across IRRS and Artemis peer review programme for EU countries
2. IRRS indicative program update to ENSREG	Every ENSREG Plenary meeting	WG1/2 Chair	Status of the indicative program in the EU countries.
3. Coordination of the indicative programs and pool of experts for international missions under the NSD and Waste Directive	End 2015 and beginning of 2016	WG1 and WG2	Both the Nuclear Safety Directive and the Waste Directive require international missions. The program of missions and pool European experts should be coordinated. WG1 and WG2 for the coordination of the indicative program and pool of experts for international missions (i.e. IRRS and ARTEMIS)

Working Groups

ENSREG has four working groups which meet as required to support the work of ENSREG and these working groups will, as appropriate put in place their own more detailed work programmes to manage the deliverables attributed to them. Where working groups do not have a specific task to deliver for ENSREG they will, in consultation with the Chair and Plenary, either disband or move to a dormant state pending allocation of further work.

Working Group 1 (WGNS) - Improving Nuclear Safety arrangements;

Working Group 2 (WGRWMD) - Improving Radioactive Waste Management, Spent Fuel and Decommissioning arrangements;

Working Group 3 (WGTA) - Improving in Transparency arrangements.

Working Group 4 (WGIC) – Improving in International Cooperation