



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

INFORMATION SHEET

TECHNICAL MEETING

ON

**Development of Global Nuclear Safety and Security
Network (GNSSN) and International Regulatory Network
(RegNet)**

J5-TM-38966

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

06–10 December 2010

1. INTRODUCTION

The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Regime (GNSSR) is the global framework for achieving and maintaining worldwide a high level of safety and security at nuclear facilities and activities. National efforts are and should be augmented by the activities of a variety of international enterprises that facilitate safety and security: intergovernmental organizations, multinational networks among operators, multinational networks among regulators, the nuclear industry, multinational networks among scientists, international standards setting organizations and other stakeholders such as the public, news media and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are engaged in nuclear safety.

The IAEA standard GS-R-3 requires that information and knowledge is managed as a resource. The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) is one of the elements of GNSSR, related to the sharing of information and knowledge among the global expert community. The IAEA Member States strive to achieve, maintain and improve stable and effective regulatory regimes in order to guarantee a high level of safety and security for all facilities and practices under their national responsibility. The promotion of global sharing of safety and security information and of knowledge is most important for the effectiveness of nuclear regulatory systems.

Numerous international networks and forums among regulators exist, such as the Radiation Safety Regulatory Network (RaSaReN), the International Nuclear Regulators Association (INRA); Network of Regulators of Countries with Small Nuclear Programmers (NERS); Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA); the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group (G8-NSSG); Forum of the State Nuclear Safety Authorities of the Countries Operating WWER Type Reactors; CANDU Senior Regulators and European Nuclear Security Regulators Association (ENSRA). The existing networks provide valuable information and tools that have contributed significantly to enhanced cooperation in nuclear safety matters today, however their efficiency and effectiveness for international cooperation in assuring and improving safety and security could be enhanced.

The first IAEA International Conference on "Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems" in Moscow 2006 highlighted the establishment and broader use of information networks and databases to provide regulatory bodies a prompt access to the latest developments in their areas of interest. During the G8 presidency of Germany in 2007, the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group (NSSG) encouraged the use of web-based systems and networks for information exchange. On top of this, the International Conference on "Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems" in Cape Town in December 2009 concluded "Regulatory portals and thematic regulatory networks, such as the Regulatory Network (RegNet), are considered to be useful tools for international regulatory cooperation. Regulators should continue working together to harmonize requirements and approaches between countries. Regulators should consider establishing dedicated forums to exchange information on safety and radiation control matters. Global and regional networks should be established and maintained, where possible, to include regulators, operating organizations, vendors and other stakeholders." Networking has consequently been recognized by Member States as a very effective instrument for enhancing the sharing of knowledge and experience essential to the prevention of accidents and malicious acts, and to the implementation of appropriate safety and security measures. Networking has been also understood as an important tool for facilitating the transition from dependence to self-sufficiency and sustainability.

To this end, the IAEA and its Member States supported by the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group had launched an Internet based Portal, the RegNet (-Portal) that offers regulators a more effective direct access to authorized nuclear safety and security information. The RegNet – Portal builds on existing experience and good practice from regional and thematic networks such as the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN), the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) website and the Incident Reporting System (IRS). The structure for RegNet has been deduced from today's system of resources and instruments that are used in international regulatory cooperation to achieve high levels of safety and security worldwide, i.e. from the "Global Nuclear Safety and Security Regime". The concept of the RegNet Portal

is to establish and maintain common interfaces for direct access to respective information of Member Countries or International Organisations through (hyper-) links to their websites. RegNet can also serve as a platform for direct collaboration between interested partners.

RegNet has recently become operational. Future development will include systematic access to existing regional and thematic networks. Special attention will be given to information sharing on IRRS (Integrated Regulatory Review Service) missions, Generic Safety Issues (GSI) and country nuclear regulatory profiles (CNRP).

As the worldwide centre of cooperation in the nuclear and radiation field, the IAEA works with States, international organizations and other partners to promote the use of safe and secure nuclear applications for peaceful purposes. For this reason, the IAEA is ideally positioned to facilitate and support the establishment of information networks like GNSSN/RegNet aimed at enhancing regulatory bodies' activities and regulations regarding safety and security. The IAEA will continue to support the development of focused networks with the goal of improving cooperation, fostering an integrated safety and security approach and promoting continuous improvement and coordination for establishing platforms and networks as tools for exchanging information.

2. WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the TM will be English. No interpretation will be provided.

3. PURPOSE OF THE TECHNICAL MEETING

The objectives of GNSSN and RegNet, the multinational network among regulators, are: the promotion of international cooperation; the systematic exchange of regulatory practices; the collection and dissemination of regulatory information, actions, initiatives and lessons learned; and the analysis and reporting of relevant issues, challenges and trends. The broader use of information networks and databases provides regulatory bodies a prompt access to the latest developments in their areas of interest and contributes to higher levels of safety and security in nuclear installations throughout the world.

The main purpose of the TM is to present the current status for the development of GNSSN/RegNet; to demonstrate the inherent potential in the integration of multinational networks and to exchange and share information on good practices in the field of knowledge networking. All member states are invited to take advantage of GNSSN/RegNet and contribute to it. It is expected to reach an agreement on further development of GNSSN/RegNet based on the current pilot of GNSSN/RegNet and existing networks.

4. PARTICIPANTS

This TM is intended for experts from regulatory bodies, technical support organizations, and other interested parties with some experience in the areas of regulatory networks and knowledge management in safety and security.

5. TOPICS OF THE WORKSHOP

- Current status and perspectives of GNSSN/RegNet (background and history, available resources)
- Presentation of features and structure of GNSSN/RegNet with emphasis on the progress made (new content)

- Presentation of examples of contributor sites from IAEA, from countries and from international organisations.
- Presentation and discussion of draft Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Steering Committee (SC) of GNSSN/RegNet.
- Presentation and discussion of a strategy plan for further developments in GNSSN/RegNet
- Compilation of possible actions for the future work plan to be decided by SC.

6. VISAS

Designated participants who require a visa to enter Austria or any other Schengen State should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of that State as soon as possible. In the case of Austria, persons who require a visa have to apply for a Schengen visa at least 14 days before entry into Austria. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question. The Schengen States are as of June 2010, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

The necessary arrangements for accompanying hardware/software should also be made as soon as possible.

7. EXPENDITURE

The costs of the TM are borne by the IAEA; no registration fee is charged to participants.

Owing to budgetary constraints, the IAEA is not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of nominated participants in this meeting. Limited funds may, however, be available to help cover the cost of participants from Member States eligible to receive technical assistance under the technical cooperation programme. Such assistance may be offered, upon specific request, to one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, this participant will make an important contribution to the meeting. The application for financial support should be made at the time of nominating the participant.

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Nominations should be submitted on the attached Participation Form. Completed forms should be endorsed by and returned through the official channels. They must be received by the IAEA not later than **30 September 2010**.

Nominations received after that date or applications sent directly by individuals or by private institutions can not be considered. Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the selected candidates and at that time full details will be given on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters. For Member States receiving technical cooperation, applications for financial support should be made at the time of nominating the participant. This application should be submitted using the Technical Cooperation Nomination Form for Meeting, Workshop and National Consultant (available from <http://www-tc.iaea.org/tcweb/participation/inmeetings/default.asp>).

This meeting will be listed in the IAEA's database for meetings on Atomic Energy (<http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Meetings/Announcements.asp?ConfID=38966>) to give it wider publicity.

9. LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Technical Meeting will be held in VIC-PR (M Building), at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, and will start on Monday, 06 December 2010 at 9.30 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. on Friday, 10 December 2010. You are kindly requested to be at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the Vienna International Centre (VIC) at least half an hour before the meeting starts to allow adequate time for your photo badge to be issued. Please bring some form of a personal identification with you, such as a national passport, so you can identify yourself to the Security Officers at Checkpoint 1.

The Technical Meeting agenda and local details, together with information on local arrangements, will be sent to designated participants when the completed participation forms have been received.

10. IAEA SECRETARIAT

The IAEA Scientific Secretary for the meeting is:

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IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

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To be sent to the competent official authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Atomic Energy Authority) for transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna International Centre, Wagramer Strasse 5, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria (telefax no. +43 1 26007).

PARTICIPATION FORM

| | | |
|---|---|--------|
| FAMILY NAME: | GIVEN NAMES: | Mr /Ms |
| INSTITUTION: | FULL ADDRESS: | |
| | TELEPHONE No.: | |
| | TELEFAX No.: | |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | | |
| NATIONALITY: | DESIGNATING GOVERNMENT OR ORGANIZATION: | |
| MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM THE ADDRESS INDICATED ABOVE): | | |
| DO YOU INTEND TO MAKE A PRESENTATION? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| TITLE OF PRESENTATION: | | |