

MEETING REPORT

FINAL CAM/REP/2009 TM-37719

Prepared by: Scientific Secretary 2009-09-16

FIFTH MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IDENTIFIED UNDER THE CONVENTION ON EARLY NOTIFICATION OF A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT AND THE CONVENTION ON ASSISTANCE IN THE CASE OF A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT OR RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY

REPORT OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Summary

The Fifth Meeting of Competent Authorities was convened by the IAEA Secretariat at IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria from 7 to 10 July 2009. The Meeting was divided into two plenary sessions, three work sessions and one special session. H.E. Mr. M.E. Skoknic, Ambassador and Resident Representative of Chile chaired the introductory plenary session and Mr. W. Stern (IEC) chaired the final session. Ms. E. Buglova (IEC) and Mr. Stern also facilitated the work sessions.

A total of 108 participants from 67 Member States and 4 international organizations attended the Meeting.

At the request of the Fourth Meeting of Competent Authorities, the Secretariat had prepared a proposal for a new mandate and methods of work of the CA Meeting. Following extensive review and discussions, the Meeting approved the new mandate and methods of work as contained in Appendix IV. The Meeting also agreed that the new mandate and methods of work come into effect immediately and that the National Competent Authority Coordinating Group (NCACG) continues their work. The Meeting elected Mr. Geza Macsuga (Hungary) as Chairperson of the NCACG and endorsed selected regional representatives for the next two years.

The Meeting reviewed conclusions and outcomes from the Fourth Meeting, and took note and welcomed the reports on the Secretariat, NCACG and WG-EPR activities. New tools and mechanisms in the area of emergency preparedness and response and lessons identified in past events and exercises were presented and discussed. The Meeting also took note of the proposals prepared by the Secretariat and acknowledge the new initiatives.

Mr. Stern awarded competent authorities that registered their national assistance capabilities in RANET with placards recognizing their contributions in strengthening global mechanisms for the provision of international assistance in a radiation emergency.

In total, ten Meeting conclusions were endorsed.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Fifth Meeting of representatives of competent authorities identified under the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (Assistance Convention) took place in Vienna from 7 to 10 July 2009 at the invitation of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

2. One hundred and one representatives of competent authorities from 67 Member States attended the Fifth Meeting. Of these, 96 were representatives of competent authorities from 62 Member States that are Party to either the Early Notification Convention or the Assistance Convention or both. The remaining five representatives were from competent authorities of Member States not Party to either Convention (Botswana, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Palau, Venezuela and Zambia).

3. Six representatives from the intergovernmental organizations Parties to the two Conventions also attended the Meeting, namely two from the European Commission (EC), two from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and two from the World Health Organization (WHO). A representative from the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA/OECD) participated in the Meeting as an observer.

- 4. The list of participants is attached as Appendix II.
- 5. The following documents were prepared and made available for the Meeting¹.

Meeting Documents	
CAM/DOC/2009/01	Report on CA Meeting's Conclusions 2007 – Draft
CAM/DOC/2009/02	Report on NCACG's and Regional Activities
CAM/DOC/2009/03	Report on Relevant IEC's Activities
CAM/DOC/2009/04	Action Plan – Progress Report 2009
CAM/DOC/2009/05	WG-EPR Progress Report 2009
CAM/DOC/2009/06	ConvEx-3 (2008) Exercise Report
CAM/DOC/2009/07	ConvEx Exercise Programme – Proposal
CAM/DOC/2009/08	Plan of the IEC's Activities 2009-2011
CAM/DOC/2009/09	Plan of the NCACG's Activities 2009-2011
CAM/DOC/2009/10	CA Meetings Mandate and Methods of Work-Proposal
CAM/DOC/2009/11	EPR Lessons Learned Programme – Proposal
CAM/DOC/2009/12	USIE – IEC Progress Report
CAM/DOC/2009/13	RANET – IEC Progress Report
CAM/DOC/2009/14	See WG-EPR Progress Report
CAM/DOC/2009/15	Action Plan – The Way Forward – Draft
CAM/DOC/2009/16	International Assistance in Emergency – Financial
	Support Regime – Proposal

¹ Documents are available on the Action Plan homepage <u>http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/emergency/caap/login.asp</u> or through the ENAC protected web site <u>http://www-emergency.iaea.org/documents.asp</u>

Plenary Session

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

6. Mr. Tomihiro Taniguchi, Deputy Director General of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security addressed the Meeting² and expressed the Agency's appreciation for the co-operation shown by Member States in providing experts and resources for past emergency responses, for providing extra-budgetary contributions for improving the response infrastructure and for implementation of the international Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies.

7. Mr. Warren Stern, Head, Incident and Emergency Centre of the IAEA welcomed the participants and introduced H.E. Mr. M.E. Skoknic, Ambassador and Resident Representative of Chile, as the Chairman of the Fifth Meeting.

8. The Meeting adopted the provisional agenda with changes as contained in Appendix I.

2. CA MEETING'S MANDATE AND NCACG

9. Mr. Stern introduced the proposal for the Meeting's mandate and methods of work prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Fourth Meeting of Competent Authorities and as in fact mentioned in General Conference resolution GC(52)/RES/9.A.10. Then the Meeting Chairman opened the floor for discussion.

10. The discussions that continued throughout the week ended with the endorsement of the consolidated mandate on Thursday late afternoon and a conclusion on Friday that the agreed and new mandate comes into effect immediately.

11. There were four major items of discussion: (1) who should be invited to the CA Meeting (whether all States, Member States, relevant international intergovernmental organizations, or only Parties to the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions), (2) who should have the power to adopt proposals, recommendations and decisions at CA meetings (Parties, non-Parties), (3) when the mandate and methods of work should come into effect (immediately, sometime in the future e.g. for the next meeting), and (4) whether or not the NCACG should continue.

12. Finally the participants agreed that both Parties and non-Parties will be invited to participate in the CA Meetings and that the work, proposals and recommendations will be conducted by consensus of representatives of Parties present at the Meeting only.

The CA Meeting also agreed that the new mandate come into effect immediately and, that consistent with this mandate, the NCACG with the new office holders selected at the Meeting will ensure completion of the work programme established by the previous

² See Appendix V for his opening address.

NCACG and to immediately initiate transition to full implementation of the new mandate with completion by no later then the 6^{th} CA Meeting in 2011.

13. The Meeting also tasked the NCACG to prepare their own modified methods of work, consistent with the new CA Meeting mandate and methods of work in consultation with their respective regional CAs.

14. The new Mandate and Methods of Work of the CA Meeting's Work is contained in Appendix IV.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

15. Mr. Martincic presented the joint IEC/NCACG report on outcomes from the Fourth Meeting (CAM/DOC/2009/01), Mr. Finn Ugletveit, the Chairman of the NCACG, presented a progress report on NCACG and regional activities (CAM/DOC/2009/02) and Mr. Stern gave a report on relevant IEC activities (CAM/DOC/2009/03).

16. The Meeting noted all three reports and welcomed the progress made.

4. ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

17. Mr. Vince McClelland, US Department of Energy, Chairman of the Work Group on Long Term Sustainability of Emergency Preparedness and Response Programmes – WG-EPR presented a progress report and future activities³. In particular, he provided a status report on the WG-EPR activities to date and discussed the work group's approach for ensuring long term sustainability of the international emergency preparedness and response system. This approach included establishment of: (1) Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy Group that would provide advice to the IAEA's NS Deputy Director General on the overall emergency preparedness and response programmes and the IAEA's EPR activities; (2) CA Meeting mandate making the meeting open to all states; (3) implementation of recommendations developed; (4) sustainable infrastructure including resources; and (5) continuous feedback to ensure sustained enhancement of the system. He also explained the reasoning behind this proposed approach.

18. Mr. Raul Dos Santos, Brazil, Chair of the Sub-Group on Action Plan Follow-up (SG-F) gave a short presentation on the work of the sub-group, its recommendations and planned activities until the end of 2009.

19. Mr. Gerhard de Vries, European Commission Joint Research Centre (ISPRA), Chair of the Sub-Group on Action Plan Implementation (SG-I) gave a presentation on the work performed by the sub-group and on future steps⁴. A short demo demonstrating the use of the proposed standard for internationally harmonised communication system for nuclear and radiological emergencies called International Radiation Information eXchange (IRIX) was then given by Mr. James Essex, US Department of Energy.

³ The WG-EPR together with its two sub-groups formally ends its work 31 December 2009.

⁴ Presentation was given from ISPRA (Italy) via video conference.

20. In the discussion that followed, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Norway and WHO expressed different concerns and opinions. Mr. McClelland explained that the WG-EPR is in the process of addressing all 42 recommendations made by the Action Plan Work Groups on International Communications (WG-A) and International Assistance (WG-B). In response to WHO's comment, Mr McClelland clarified that the recommendations produced by the Action Plan's WG B-4 on medical preparedness and response will be followed up through RANETs technical meetings rather than a special WG under the Action Plan,. In the final report that is being prepared by the WG-EPR, proposals on the steps forward for each of these 42 recommendations will be made.

21. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the work performed, endorsed the progress report and acknowledged given initiatives, in particular the concept of the Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy Group and showed its interest in getting more information on this concept.

Working Sessions

5. EPR TOOLS AND MECHANISMS

22. Mr. Mats Eklund, NS-IEC, presented the IEC work on the development of a new web-based unified communication system for incidents and emergencies initiated through the recommendations of the Action Plan Work Group on International Communications and based on relevant GC resolutions adopted in 2006 and 2007. He outlined the next steps and presented a demo of a system demonstrating features and abilities of the system. The system is now available for testing by the competent authorities and national INES officers.

23. Mr. Martincic briefed the Meeting on the latest status of the Response Assistance Network (RANET) that aims at facilitating the assistance in case of a radiation incident or emergency in a timely and effective manner and on a regional basis (if feasible). Currently 15 Member States have registered their assistance capabilities in the network.

24. Mr. Kenzo Fujimoto, NS-IEC, presented a progress report and status of the IAEA's *Project on Protection of NPPs against Tsunamis and Post Earthquake Consideration in the Eternal Zone (TiPEEZ)*.

25. Mr. Philippe Lemoine, NS-SSCS, presented objectives, participating countries, structure and programme of the Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN).

26. Mr. Fernando Gonzalez-Martin, WHO, gave a brief overview of the International Health Regulations (IHR). He explained their purpose and scope, including the relationship between IAEA and WHO should a notification under the IHR involve a radiological event. He further described the criteria set out in the decision instrument of the IHR to guide countries as to the type of public health event that must be notified to WHO. Finally, he illustrated the role of the IHR Emergency Committee in the context of the ongoing pandemic (H1N1) 2009.

6. LESSONS LEARNED IN PAST EVENTS AND EXERCISES

27. Mr. Marjan Tkavc, Slovenian Nuclear Safety Administration, presented the event at Krsko Nuclear Power Plant, Slovenia, in 2008, when a small leak occurred that was wrongly characterized as LOCA (loss of coolant accident) and triggered high media interest. He analysed possible reasons for over-response and lessons learned.

28. Ms. Sylvia Sanhueza Mir, Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission, briefly described an incident with a radiography source that happened in Chile in 2005 and analysed the national response and international assistance stressing the lessons learned.

29. Mr. Geza Macsuga, Hungarian Atomic Energy Authority, presented the event that happened at Paks Nuclear Power Plant, Hungary, in 2003. In the cleaning process for fuel assemblies, a few were severely damaged and some radioactive gases escaped into the environment.

30. Mr. Martincic, NS-IEC, Lead Exercise Evaluator, presented an evaluation of the international response during the ConvEx-3 (2008) exercise that was based on a national exercise at Laguna Verde Nuclear Power Plant, Mexico. Lessons identified were presented and discussed. In addition, Mr. Guenther Winkler, NS-IEC, Chief Exercise Evaluator, briefed the Meeting on the IAEA's response, lessons learned and on corrective actions being implemented or planned.

31. Mr. Florian Baciu, NS-IEC, Response System Coordinator, presented trends and perspectives of ConvEx-1 and 2 exercises over the 2004-2008 time period and lessons identified for future improvements of exercise effectiveness.

32. In the discussion the Meeting agreed that this type of exchange of information and experience is valuable and this agenda item should become a standing agenda item for all future meetings.

Plenary Session

7. PROPOSALS TO THE MEETING

33. Mr. Martincic briefly summed up the existing regime of ConvEx exercises and its present exercise scenario limitations. He then presented the Secretariat's proposal for broadening ConvEx-3 exercise scenarios to radiological emergencies and malicious acts in NPPs or involving radioactive material. He also proposed a timeframe for future ConvEx-3 exercises and the Secretariat's expectations of regions that would host those exercises. The Meeting acknowledge the general concept of broadened scenarios but did not agree with the increased frequency of the exercises. It agreed that a long term plan for ConvEx-3 exercises is needed and should be coordinated within the Inter-Agency

Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNE)⁵ and endorsed by the Member States.

34. Ms. Elena Buglova, NS-IEC, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, presented the shortcomings and weaknesses in the current dissemination of lessons identified in response to radiation events and explained the Secretariat's proposal for new mechanisms for improving the sharing of experience. The Meeting recognized the weaknesses of the current system and agreed with the overall proposed strategy for improving the situation but it also noted that proposed mechanisms for timely dissemination and sharing of lessons, sharing of national experience to the wide audience, and timely input to the national and international guidance should be worked out taking into account already existing mechanisms⁶.

35. Ms. Delphine Xicluna, Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN, France), presented the lessons learned from the assistance provided by France over the past 36 months to countries in Western Africa, North Africa and Central America. She recalled previous GC resolutions encouraging and supporting the Secretariat to identify existing resources for emergency assistance within the Board of Governors approved programme and budget and to find new mechanisms to allocate funds which could be used if needed for assistance in emergency assistance in the last few years and summarized financial mechanisms used in those cases. He also identified weak points in the system and proposed the way to overcome them in future. The Meeting acknowledged the problem and encouraged the Secretariat to continue to work on the concept and mechanisms of financial support for emergency assistance⁷.

8. NCACG MATTERS

36. Mr. Ugletveit reminded participants of the process for identifying the Chairman of the NCACG. Due to the fact that there was only one candidate proposed for the Chairman he suggested simplifying it. The Meeting agreed. He then introduced the candidate Mr. Geza Macsuga from Hungary and the Meeting endorsed him with acclamation.

37. Regional representatives and NCACG members reported the outcomes of the six regional meetings that were convened in parallel on Thursday, 9 July 2009. Mr. Jean-Patrice Auclair from Canada reported on behalf of the North America region. The region re-selected Mr. Jose Luis Delgado Guardado as a member and Mr. Alejandro Cortes Carmona as his alternate (both from Mexico). Mr. Pablo Jerez Vegueria from Cuba presented a short progress report for Latin America region. He reported that the region selected Ms. Loretó Villanueva from Chile as a member and himself as alternate. Mr. Stephen Solomon from Australia summarized activities in the Asia-Pacific region and reported that the region selected Mr. Naoto Ichii from Japan as a member and Mr.

⁵ Canada, Hungary, Japan, Norway, Palau, Ukraine, United Kingdom and FAO, NEA and WHO participated in the discussion.

⁶ India, Norway, Sweden and USA participated in the discussion.

⁷ Austria, France, Germany, India, Japan, Norway, Senegal and USA participated in the discussion.

Africa) briefed participants on activities in the Africa region. The region selected him as a member and Mr. Ali El Turki from Libya as his alternate. Mr. Geza Macsuga (Hungary) summarized activities in the Eastern Europe region and reported that the region had selected Mr. Marjan Tkavc (Slovenia) as a member and Mr. Antonios Maltezos from Greece as his alternate. Finally, Ms. Delphine Xicluna (France) briefed the Meeting on the activities in the Western Europe region and reported that the region had reselected her as a member and Ms. Ciara McMahon from Ireland as her alternate. In addition, Mr. Brian Ahier reported that at an ad-hoc meeting of the international organizations it was agreed that the IACRNE Secretary will be sending invitations for the IACRNE meetings also to the NCACG Chairman.

38. The Meeting endorsed all selected NCACG members and their alternates. The Meeting thanked the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Ugletveit and regional representatives Ms. Sidika Jeska Wambani (Kenya) and Mr. Stephen Solomon (Australia) for their commitment and contributions.

39. Elected Chairman of the NCACG, Mr. Geza Macsuga, thanked participants for the honour of being elected as Chairman and for their confidence and support. He is prepared to do his best during the next two years for the benefit of competent authorities.

9. CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING

40. All endorsed Meeting conclusions are recorded in Appendix III.

10. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

41. Mr. Taniguchi, Deputy Director General for Nuclear Safety and Security, presented his observations and closing remarks stating that the job of the Secretariat is to convert initiatives into a coherent programme of concrete, practical steps to strengthen response to emergency events. He stressed that continued support in this respect is essential. He thanked all participants for a very constructive and productive meeting⁸.

42. Stressing the importance of the Response Assistance Network – RANET and in recognition of registered national assistance capabilities, Mr. Stern awarded placards to the competent authorities of the following countries (present at the Meeting): Australia, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Pakistan, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey and USA. Those not present at the Meeting (Argentina, Finland, Mexico, Nigeria and Sri Lanka) will receive placards at some other occasion.

43. Mr. Stern thanked the participants for their contributions to the Meeting and expressed his view that the Meeting was a success, despite the difficulty in achieving consensus on the mandate and method of work of the Meeting.

44. Mr. Stern closed the Meeting on Friday, 10 July 2009 at 12:00.

⁸ See Appendix V for his closing remarks.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

On Thursday, 9 July 2009, all six regional CA meetings were held. Representatives of the competent authorities in each region met to discuss and select regional NCACG members and their alternates. Regional issues, activities and proposals to the Meeting were also discussed.

1st REGULAR RANET MEETING

In accordance with the conclusion of the *ad hoc* RANET Meeting held in Vienna on October 1, 2008 the 1st Regular RANET Meeting was scheduled during the CA Meeting. However, due to time-consuming discussions regarding the CA Meeting mandate and methods of work, the RANET meeting was cancelled. The earliest possible date for the meeting will be during the General Conference 2009, however, the decision on when to hold a meeting has not yet been made.

APPENDIX I: MEETING AGENDA

Plenary Session

- 1 Opening of the Meeting
- 2 CA Meeting's Mandate and NCACG
- 3 Progress Reports
- 4 Action Plan Implementation

Work Sessions

- 5 EPR Tools and Mechanisms
- 6 Lessons Learned in Past Events and Exercises
- 7 Proposals to the Meeting

Plenary Session

- 8 NCACG Matters
- 9 Conclusions of the Meeting
- 10 Closing of the Meeting

Special Sessions

Tuesday, 7 July 2009

Plenary	Plenary Session		
14:00	1	Opening of the Meeting	
		 Welcome Address/Opening Remarks Mr. T. Taniguchi, DDG-NS, Mr. W. Stern, Head IEC, H.E. Mr. M. E. Skoknic, Meeting Chairperson Introduction of Meeting Chairperson Mr. W. Stern Objectives of the Meeting Mr. R. Martincic, Scientific Secretary Orientation/Meeting Logistics Mr. R. Martincic Adoption of Agenda 	
14:30	2	 CA Meeting's Mandate and NCACG Introductory remarks <i>Mr. W. Stern</i> Discussion and feedback 	
15:30		Coffee Break	
16:00	3	 Progress Reports Report on CA Meeting's Conclusions 2007 – paper CAM/DOC/2009/01 Mr. R. Martincic Report on NCACG' and Regional Activities – paper CAM/DOC/2009/02 Mr. F. Ugletveit, NCACG Chairperson, NCACG's members Report on Relevant IEC's Activities – paper CAM/DOC/2009/03 Mr. W. Stern, Head IEC Discussion and feedback 	
17:45		Daily Closing	
18:00		Reception, VIC Restaurant	

Wednesday, 8 July 2009

Plenary	v Sessi	on	
09:00	2	 CA Meeting's Mandate – continuation Discussion and feedback 	
	Discussion and feedback		
10:30		Coffee Break	
11:00	2	CA Meeting's Mandate – continuation	
		Discussion and feedback	
13:00		Lunch	
Workin	ig Ses	sion Mr. W. Stern	
14:00	4	Action Plan Implementation	
		 Action Plan – Progress Report Mr. V. McClelland, Chair of WG-EPR WG-EPR Sub-Group I Progress Report Mr. G. de Vries WG-EPR Sub-Group F Progress Report Mr. Raul Dos Santos 	
15:30		Coffee Break	
16:00	4	Action Plan Implementation – the Way Forward	
		Discussion and feedback	
17:00	5	EPR Tools and Mechanisms	
		 Unified System for Incidents and Emergencies – paper CAM/DOC/2009/12 and demo <i>Mr. M. Eklund, IEC</i> Response Assistance Network Progress Report 2009 – paper CAM/DOC/2009/13 <i>Mr. R. Martincic</i> Tsunami EBP <i>Mr. K. Fujimoto, IEC</i> Asian Nuclear Safety Network <i>Mr. P. Lemoine, NS-SSCS</i> International Health Regulations <i>Mr. Fernando Gonzalez-Martin, WHO</i> Discussion and feedback 	
18:00		Daily Closing	

Thursday, 9 July 2009

Working Session			
09:00	Lessons Learned in Past Events and Exercises Ms. E. Buglova		
	• Krsko Event in 2008 (Slovenia) Mr. M. Tkave, SNSA		
 Nueva Aldea Event in 2005 (Chile) Ms. Sylvia Sanhueza Mir, CCHEN 			
• Paks Event in 2003 (Hungary) Mr. G. Macsuga, HAEA			
• Lessons from Exercises Mr. F. Baciu, IEC			
 ConvEx-3 (2008) Exercise Report – paper CAM/DOC/2009/06 Mr. R. Martincic, IEC, Lead Exercise Evaluator 			
• ConvEx-3 (2008) – Evaluation of IAEA's Response Mr. G. Winkler, IEC, Chief Exercise Evaluator			
Discussion and feedback		Discussion and feedback	
10:30 Coffee Break		Coffee Break	
Special Sessions Moderators: NCACG members			
11:00 Regional CA Meetings (in parallel)			
NCACG membership			
CA-other governmental bodies communications			
Regional issues/activities		Regional issues/activities	
Proposals to the Meeting		Proposals to the Meeting	
12:30		Lunch	
Plenary	Sessi	on <i>Chair: H.E. Mr. M. E. Skoknic, Chilean Ambassador</i>	
14:00	2	CA Meeting's Mandate – continuation	
		Consolidation and endorsement	
		consolidation and endorsement	

1st Regular RANET Meeting

• Sharing experience; open issues in international assistance, review of RANET documents, proposals to the meeting *Meeting Chair: Mr. R. Martincic*

Plenary	Sessi	ion Chair: Mr. W. Stern, Head IEC
09:00	8	NCACG Matters
		Presentation, discussion and feedback
09:30	7	Proposals to the Meeting
		• Revised ConvEx Exercise Regime and Programme – paper CAM/DOC/2009/07 <i>Mr. R. Martincic</i>
		• Improved 'Lessons Learned' Regime – paper CAM/DOC/2009/11 Ms. E. Buglova, IEC
		• Financial Support for International Assistance – paper CAM/DOC/2009/16 <i>Mr. F. Baciu</i>
		Discussion and feedback
<i>10:30</i>		Coffee Break
11:00	9	Conclusions of the Meeting
		Discussion and endorsement
12:00	10	Closing of the Meeting
		Mr. T. Taniguchi, DDG-NS
12:30		End of the Meeting

Friday, 10 July 2009



Member States participating at the 5th CA Meeting

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APPENDIX III: MEETING'S CONCLUSIONS

Meeting Mandate and Methods of Work Conclusion

The Meeting agreed that (1) Parties and non-Parties will be invited to participate at the CA Meetings, and (2) the work, proposals and recommendations will be conducted by consensus of representatives of Parties present at the Meeting. With these and some other changes, the Meeting endorsed the mandate and its methods of work.

Conclusion

The Meeting agreed that the new mandate comes into effect immediately.

On NCACG Matters Conclusion

Consistent with the endorsed mandate, the Meeting agreed that the NCACG with the new office holders selected at the Meeting will ensure completion of the work programme established by the previous NCACG and to immediately initiate transition to full implementation of the new mandate with completion by no later then the 6th CA Meeting in 2011.

Conclusion

The Meeting tasked the NCACG to prepare their own modified methods of work, consistent with the new CA Meeting mandate and methods of work in consultation with their respective regional CAs.

Conclusion

The Meeting endorsed Mr. Geza Macsuga (Hungary) as new Chairman of the NCACG. The Meeting also endorsed the following NCACG members and their alternates.

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CAM-2009/1

CAM-2009/2

CAM-2009/3

CAM-2009/4

CAM-2009/5

WG-EPR Progress Report Conclusion

Noting the WG-EPR Progress Report (CAM/DOC/2009/5), the Meeting appreciated the progress made by the work group, endorsed the progress report and acknowledged given initiatives, in particular the concept of the Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy Group and showed its interest in getting more information on this concept.

Proposals to the Meeting Conclusion

The Meeting agreed with the general concept of proposed ConvEx-3 exercise regime but cautioned the Secretariat about planning to increase the frequency of exercises. It also suggested preparing a multiyear exercise plan that should be coordinated with the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies.

Conclusion

Regarding the proposed strategy for improving the sharing of experience and lessons identified in past radiation events, the meeting recognized the weaknesses of the existing system and agreed with the objectives and intention to improve the timely sharing of experience and lessons identified. The Meeting suggested the Secretariat to continue to improve methods of exchange of information and experience taking into account existing mechanisms.

Conclusion

The Meeting also recognized the value of discussing lessons learned in past events and exercises at the Meeting itself and recommended the Secretariat include this Agenda item in all future Meeting's agendas.

Conclusion

The Meeting acknowledged the unresolved issue of financing international emergency assistance and encouraged the Secretariat to identify existing resources for emergency assistance and finding new mechanisms for allocating funds which could be used for assistance in emergency situations.

CAM-2007/9

CAM-2007/10

CAM-2009/6

CAM-2009/7

CAM-2007/8

APPENDIX IV: CA MEETING'S MANDATE AND METHODS OF WORK

- 1 The objective of the meetings of representatives of competent authorities (hereinafter referred to as "CA Meeting") identified under Article 7 of the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and under Article 4 of the Convention on Assistance in the case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (hereinafter referred to jointly as "the Conventions") is to enhance the systems for preparedness and response to nuclear and radiological emergencies through efficient and effective international cooperation.
- 2 To this end, CA Meetings shall, within the framework of the Conventions, (a) facilitate and promote the exchange of information, knowledge and experience between competent authorities, (b) propose and agree upon ways to enhance emergency preparedness and response programmes (e.g. notification, information sharing and the provision of training and assistance) and (c) make recommendations to the Secretariat, States and international intergovernmental organizations and follow-up on them, as appropriate.
- 3 The CA Meetings shall be held in regular sessions every two years at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria for duration of no longer than one week.
- 4 The CA Meetings shall be open to parties and non-parties to the Conventions, as specified below.
- 5 Each State or international intergovernmental organization that is a party to either or both of the Conventions participating in the CA Meeting shall nominate a representative or representatives to the CA Meeting who may be accompanied by others as may be required.
- 6 Each State or international intergovernmental organization which has competence in matters covered by the Conventions and that is not party to any of the Conventions shall be invited to participate in the CA Meeting.
- 7 The CA Meeting shall select a Chairperson for each meeting.
- 8 The Chairperson shall prepare a meeting report reflecting the proceedings and recommendations made during the meeting.
- 9 The IAEA's Secretariat shall serve as the Secretariat of the CA Meetings; the Secretariat will convene, support the preparation and service the meetings.
- 10 The official and working language of the CA Meetings shall be English only.
- 11 The work of the CA Meeting and the adoption of proposals, recommendations and decisions, shall be conducted by consensus of representatives of parties to the Conventions present at the Meeting.
- 12 The costs of the CA Meetings shall be met as follows:
 - a) the costs of preparing and convening the CA Meetings shall be covered through funds of the IAEA and

- b) each State and international intergovernmental organization shall pay its own costs of participation in the CA Meeting, unless other arrangements are made on an exceptional basis.
- 13 In order to facilitate the work of the competent authorities between regular sessions, the Meeting shall establish a Coordinating Group of National Competent Authorities. The Group shall consist of six members and a Chairperson to be selected by the CA Meeting on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution. The Group shall establish its own methods of work and shall carry out its duties consistent with the mandate of and under the overall directive of the CA Meeting. The Group shall report on its work at each regular session of the CA Meeting. The CA Meeting may establish working groups, as required.
- 14 The present mandate and methods of work may be amended at any regular session of the CA Meeting.

APPENDIX V: OPENING AND CLOSING ADDRESSES

OPENING ADDRESS

Mr. T. Taniguchi Deputy Director General for Nuclear Safety and Security, IAEA, Vienna

On behalf of the IAEA, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to Vienna for the Fifth Meeting of Representatives of Competent Authorities identified under the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions. I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation for the wide range of co-operation that you and your countries have given to the Agency, by providing experts and resources for past responses, and by providing extrabudgetary contributions, both in the form of funds and through in-kind contributions for improving the response infrastructure and for implementation of the international Action Plan for Strengthening International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies.

The IAEA's overall safety vision is of a strong, sustainable and visible global safety regime with five main components:

- 1. intergovernmental agreements, like the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions and the Convention on Nuclear Safety as well as Codes of Conduct on Research Reactors and the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;
- 2. globally accepted safety standards;
- 3. peer reviews and advisory services to provide for the application of these standards;
- 4. national and regional safety infrastructures; and
- 5. regional and global networks of safety knowledge and experience to connect these four components together.

The Early Notification and Assistance Conventions have successfully served as legally binding framework for an international system of emergency preparedness and response. But they do not stand alone, and other components of Global Nuclear Safety and Security Regime are also in place. However, Conventions and standards only have an effect on safety and security if they are effectively applied.

Our common challenge is to capture and disseminate the experience from the relatively few nuclear and radiation emergencies so that all of us can learn from it and build upon it in preparing for future emergencies that we or our successors might be faced with. To do this we need to share experience and to preserve, and continuously seek to improve, the knowledge base we have and to strengthen emergency response capability worldwide. It is time to create an effective network that can make knowledge and experience available in a readily usable form to all those who might need it. The meetings such as this can be an important element of such a network.

Over the past decade, three major and more than 40 smaller international nuclear emergency exercises have been prepared, conducted and evaluated. Much experience has been gained in the important fields of emergency preparedness and response. However, I believe it worthwhile to further enhance future exercises to be better focused smaller exercises and more frequent in order to be able to effectively cope with nuclear and radiation emergencies and to also face new challenges caused by malevolent acts.

I wish to express again the gratitude to Mexico for providing the chance to test the full operation of the international emergency information exchange mechanisms as well as giving the opportunity to States and relevant international organisations to test their own emergency plans and/or bilateral/multilateral agreements. I believe that efficient and effective cooperation with Mexico in preparing, conducting and evaluating the ConvEx-3 exercise in 2008 contributed to the improvement of emergency preparedness worldwide. However, successfully conducted exercise should be only a starting point for sharing the experience and lessons learned for the continuous improvement of global emergency preparedness.

Last but not least I would like to mention the international Action Plan for Strengthening the International Preparedness and Response System for Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies. The Action Plan has a broader scope than the Conventions alone. The importance of its achievements for further enhancement of national and international preparedness and response arrangements and capabilities is apparent. Just to mention the most obvious: establishment and further enhancement of Response Assistance Network created mechanism for effective international assistance and proposed establishment of a Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy Group, which I fully support, will facilitate the decision-making process in enhancing and maintaining sustainable international emergency preparedness and response system. You will discuss these and other results of the Action Plan and the way forward during this week.

It appears that there is a need to clarify the terms of reference of CA meetings, and to reflect on whether the forum is optimally composed, particularly in light of the "renaissance", witch I like to call the Vita Nova. There is also a need to consider how best to address the challenges of streamlining the various networks for incident and emergency information exchange.

I started by thanking you for your many generous contributions in support of the Agency's work, and I will finish with an appeal to you to continue to provide further support in particular in budget discussions and the ongoing discussion on the future of the Agency. We know that we need to strengthen both our own capability, in the form of our Incident and Emergency Centre, and the worldwide network of expertise, which makes up a much broader response capability. We also look to you to help encourage Member States that are not now Parties to the Emergency Conventions to join. Notwithstanding the support you may provide to the IEC, you are the primary actors in this 'game' and enhancement of your national capacities and preparedness is key.

Once again, welcome to Vienna. I wish you a very constructive and productive meeting.

CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. T. Taniguchi

Deputy Director General for Nuclear Safety and Security, IAEA, Vienna

It was my pleasure to participate at this meeting, the Fifth Meeting of Representatives of Competent Authorities identified under the Early Notification and Assistance Conventions. Now I would like to provide my closing remarks.

I know you have all worked hard this week to forge a consensus on a wide range of issues. Some were more policy oriented and some were technical in nature. The key is that we did agree on the meeting mandate and methods of work that establish a firm foundation for future meetings. We did not agree on all issues, but that is to be expected from a group as diverse as this.

At this meeting, you also discussed the need to establish sustainable emergency infrastructures. I understand the Competent Authorities welcomed the work and plans outlined by the WG-EPR. I am pleased with that endorsement in particular with your agreement to work on establishment of a senior policy group on emergency preparedness and response.

As I mentioned in my opening address our common challenge is to capture and disseminate the experience from past incidents and emergencies as well as exercises so that all of us learn from it and build upon it. That's why I am pleased that you discussed the ways to improve dissemination of lessons and experience. As the Chairman mentioned on the first day of the Meeting there is a strong support and awareness about the need to enhance the IEC. This is our common challenge and opportunity. This is particularly important in the light of the renaissance and vita nova I previously mentioned.

Now that the outline of our work in the future has been accepted, our job is to convert these initiatives into a coherent programme of concrete, practical steps to strengthen emergency preparedness and response worldwide. This should be fully reflected in the implementation of the proposed programme and budget for 2010 and 2011 as well as the preparation of the IAEA mid-term strategy. I look forward to your continued support in this.

And finally I would like again to express my appreciation for the wide range of co-operation that you and your countries have given to the Agency, by providing experts and resources, both in the form of funds and through in-kind contributions for improving worldwide emergency preparedness and response.

Once again, thank you for a very constructive and productive meeting.