

TERMS OF REFERENCE

OF THE

EUROPEAN NUCLEAR SECURITY REGULATORS' ASSOCIATION

(ENSRA)

1. We, the ENSRA members, a group of European regulators and their associated technical support organizations with regulatory or advisory responsibilities in the field of nuclear security¹,
 - aware of the need for effective security of nuclear material and nuclear facilities,
 - recalling that the responsibility for the establishment, implementation and maintenance of a nuclear security regime within a State rests entirely with that State,
 - considering that the objectives and essential elements² of a State's nuclear security regime are the basis for nuclear security,
 - recognizing the importance of co-operation and exchange of information between nuclear security regulators,
 - acknowledging the increased attention to security matters in nuclear energy,
 - noting the necessary confidentiality attached to information on nuclear security,have agreed upon these terms of reference.

2. In order to contribute to achieve and maintain effective nuclear security in Europe on a continuous basis ENSRA has the following objectives:
 - to implement and maintain a European network of competent authorities and technical support organizations in the field of nuclear security,
 - to form a suitable forum for the exchange on nuclear security regulatory matters, good practices and experiences, capable of addressing confidential issues,

¹ nuclear security: The prevention and detection of and response to theft, sabotage, unauthorized access, illegal transfer or other malicious acts involving nuclear material or their associated facilities and activities-

² As described in „Objective and Essential Elements of a State's Nuclear Security Regime“, NSS 20

- to achieve a common understanding of nuclear security issues and promote as far as practicable a common approach of nuclear security practices within Europe, allowing variation among States to reflect different national circumstances,
 - to establish a mutual professional capability to examine how nuclear material and nuclear facilities security issues are developed and how related measures are implemented,
 - to improve public awareness on nuclear security issues through appropriate communications and outreach,
 - to improve the understanding of nuclear security issues through effective communication and interaction (in full compliance with rules to protect sensitive information) with the Council of the European Union, the IAEA and other relevant organizations and
 - to promote the organisation of workshops, seminars, training and exchange of information in the field of nuclear security.
3. Membership can be achieved by invitation of the current members only and is restricted to governmental authorities and when and where applicable their associated technical support organizations, with regulatory or advisory responsibilities for civil nuclear security arrangements in European States with domestic civil nuclear programmes (nuclear power plant or other fuel cycle facilities) or research reactors (> 1 MW).

Potential new members, i. e. governmental authorities of States and if applicable their technical support organizations which fulfil the above requirements may observe the meetings.

Where the competent authority of a State is a member of ENSRA the membership of the association could be opened to their technical support organizations if appropriate.

Observers are governmental authorities that may attend the meetings on a case by case basis on specific topics.

Subject to agreement by all its members, each member may be accompanied, if necessary, by other national Competent Authorities to discuss specific issues.

Views expressed by individual representatives of ENSRA reflect the policy of their respective regulatory authorities.

Additionally ENSRA seeks the involvement and support of the top management of the organizations having the membership. Adequate procedures will be developed to implement this aim in the ENSRA activities.

4. Within ENSRA, information is exchanged in confidence due to its sensitivity. This information³ will be protected by members in accordance as a minimum with the EU rules for the protection of classified information.

ENSRA members may make available the exchanged information to their governmental authorities considering appropriate rules for exchange of sensitive information as mentioned above.

It is a condition of membership or attendance at ENSRA meetings that the information exchanged within ENSRA is not publicly disclosed or made available to non-governmental organisations or to governmental bodies of States not represented in ENSRA, without prior consultation with the State organisation originally providing the information.

5. ENSRA is chaired by one member who is supported by the preceding and the designated future chair (Troika). The chairmanship alternates annually beginning on 1st of January. The troika members appointment shall be made by the top management of the member organizations involved.

An ENSRA secretariat is provided successively by different members for two or three years. The secretariat supports the work of the Troika in organizational matters.

Decisions in the name of ENSRA are taken by ENSRA Members always on a consensual basis.

³ Information classified at the equivalent of UE – RESTRICTED or higher.

6. In order to debate and formulate common positions or views about nuclear security issues dedicated working groups can be created.

Subject to agreement by all its members, ENSRA may,

- work jointly with the IAEA, e.g. to initiate drafts of nuclear security documents, perform training or provide experts,
 - interact with the Council of the European Union about specific issues or findings coming out of ENSRA meetings or activities on a case by case basis,
 - meet with other Competent Authorities or international organizations to discuss specific issues if necessary,
 - consider requests from these Institutions and States for advice on nuclear security and related regulatory matters.
-