

Draft Minutes

Fourth General Assembly of the European Platform on nuclear and radiological
emergency preparedness response and recovery

<u>Location:</u>	Madrid, Spain
<u>Date:</u>	Tuesday 21 May 2013

Participants:

ANDERSSON Kasper – DTU (Denmark)
ARNOLD Kathrin – BfS (Germany)
BIGUENET Sandra – CEPN (France)
CANTONE Marie Claire – INIMI (Italy)
CAPUCHO DOS REIS Mario – IST/ITN (Portugal)
CHARRON Sylvie – IRSN (France)
DURANOVA Tatiana – VUJE (Slovak Republic)
EIKELMANN Inger Margarethe – NRPA (Norway)
GALLEGO Eduardo – UPM (Spain)
GERING Florian - BfS (Germany)
GRIMM Christian – UVM-BWL (Germany)
HARDEMAN Frank – SCK CEN (Belgium)
HERIARD-DUBREUIL Gilles – Mutadis (France)
HUGON Michel – EC DG Research (European Commission)
HULKA Jiri – SURO (Czech Republic)
ISNARD Olivier – IRSN (France)
KUTKOV Vladimir – IAEA (Austria)
LAZO Ted –NEA (OECD)
LECOMTE Jean-François – IRSN (France)
MADRUGA Maria José Baçao – IST/ITN (Portugal)
MONTERO Milagros – CIEMAT (Spain)
MUSTONEN Raimo – STUK (Finland)
OLIVEIRA MARTINS João – APA (Portugal)
OUGHTON Deborah – UMB (Norway)
PEHRSSON Jan – PDC /ARGOS (Denmark)
RASKOB Wolfgang – KIT (Germany)
SCHNEIDER Thierry – CEPN (France)
SELNAES Øyvind Gjølme –NRPA (Norway)
VAN DILLEN Teun – RIVM (Netherlands)

The NERIS General Assembly met for the fourth time at the Polytechnical University of Madrid, Spain, 21 May 2013.

The presentations made during the meeting are available on the NERIS Website:

<http://www.eu-neris.net/index.php/home/newsletters/64-fourth-neris-general-assembly-21st-may-2013-madrid-spain.html>

Raimo Mustonen opens the General Assembly at 14:00 pm, as Chairman of NERIS.

1. Review of the NERIS Platform activities

Raimo Mustonen asks the NERIS Secretariat to present the situation concerning the memberships and the budget.

1.1. Members of the NERIS Platform

To date, 49 organisations are members of the NERIS Platform. Since the Third General Assembly, 6 new organisations have joined the Platform:

- Federal Office of Public Health - FOPH (Switzerland)
- University of Warwick (United Kingdom)
- Greek Atomic Energy Commission – GAEC (Greece)
- Watercycle Research Institute – KWR (Netherlands)
- University of Milan – UNIMI (Italy)
- Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland – RPII (Ireland)

1.2. Supporting organisations of the NERIS Platform

According to the decision made during the last General Assembly, all members of the NERIS Platform are invited to become supporting organisation. Following the letter sent on January 2013, 18 members became NERIS supporting organisations:

- BfS - Federal Office for Radiation Protection (Germany)
- CEPN - Nuclear Evaluation Protection Centre (France)
- DTU - Technical University of Denmark (Denmark)
- GAEC - Greek Atomic Energy Commission (Greece)
- IRSN – French Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (France)
- KIT - Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Germany)
- KWR - Watercycle Research Institute (Netherlands)
- MUTADIS (France)
- NRPA - Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority (Norway)
- FOPH - Federal Office of Public Health, Radiological Protection (Switzerland)
- PDC - Prolog Development Center (Denmark)
- SCK.CEN - Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (Belgium)
- STUK - Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (Finland)
- SURO - National Radiation Protection Institute (Czech Republic)
- UNIMI - University of Milan (Italy)
- UMB – Norwegian University of Life Sciences (Norway)
- UPM - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (Spain)
- VUJE - Nuclear Power Plants Research Institute (Slovakia)

Other organisations are under the process to sign the form to become supporting organisations in the following weeks.

1.3. Financial situation of NERIS

The following table presents the expenses and resources related to the secretariat and the financial support of associated partners for 2012. It is to be noticed that the EC supported about 58.3 k€ of the expenses through the NERIS TP project and CEPN supported directly 14.7 k€.

NERIS - INCOME STATEMENT AT 31 DECEMBER 2012			
CHARGES	31/12/12	INCOMES	31/12/12
	€		€
secretariat			
Workload (PM)	51 764,00	Costs supported by CEPN	14 724,50
mission costs	6 174,00		
professionnal graphic designers for newsletter	960,00	Financial contribution from EC	44 173,50
		NERIS TP project - SECRETARIAT	
Total charges	58 898,00		58 898,00
financial support for involvement of associated partners	14 101,32	Financial contribution from EC	14 101,32
		NERIS TP project - associated partners	
cost depending on new activities	0,00	Additional support on new activities	0,00
TOTAL	72 999,32	TOTAL	72 999,32

1.4. Information on NERIS Website and Newsletters

The NERIS Website has been updated at the end of 2012 with a new logo and style guide in order to facilitating reading, access and promotion of the NERIS activities.

Since the Third General Assembly, 2 Newsletters have been published. The 5th Issue is available on the NERIS Website.

(<http://www.eu-neris.net/index.php/library/newsletters/document/issue-5-1.html>).

1.5. Working Groups

Raimo Mustonen asks the chairs of the Working Groups to present the recent activities.

• Working Group1

Wolfgang Raskob mentions that the outcomes of the First NERIS Platform Workshop on practical implementation of the new ICRP recommendations have been published in a supplemental issue (Vol 48, issue 5) of the Radioprotection revue. All articles are available on the NERIS Website: <http://www.eu-neris.net/index.php/home/newsletters/62-radioprotection-revue-vol-48-issue-5-first-neris-platform-workshop-outcomes.html>

• Working Group 2

Deborah Oughton explains that 29 persons attended the NERIS WG2 meeting on emergency preparedness and stakeholder participation organised at NRPA, Oslo (Norway) the 26th and 27th of November 2012.

Half of the participants were “external” to the NERIS TP project. The meeting was divided into three sessions on:

- European national stakeholder processes (including presentations of experience from activities in Belarus, Spain, Norway, France and Slovakia)

- Fukushima experience (including presentation on the FAIRDO Project, local stakeholder participation processes, ICRP dialogue initiative...)
- Database on stakeholder participation

The structure of the database was discussed and it was decided to finalise the template and populate the database with examples. It is planned to present the knowledge database at the NERIS Workshop in Oslo on January 2014.

- Working Group 3

Sylvie Charron informs that the Working Group on Contaminated Goods has been created during the Third General Assembly on May 2012. The objective of the Working Group is to contribute to the development of strategies, guidance and tools for the management of the contaminated products.

The first meeting was held in Paris on 25-26 October 2012 with 17 participants. The issues addressed during this meeting have led to the organisation of the NERIS Topical Workshop on the management of contaminated goods to be organised on 22 May with CIEMAT in Madrid. Around 60 participants are registered for this meeting.

1.6. R&D Committee

Raimo Mustonen asks the President of the R&D committee to present the activities of this committee. Frank Hardemann mentions that a meeting was organised in Brussels on 23-24 October 2012. The minutes of this meeting are available on the NERIS Website: <http://www.eu-neris.net/index.php/library/r-d-committee/document/2012-10-23-meeting-minutes.html> and a summary is published in the NERIS Newsletter Issue 5 (<http://www.eu-neris.net/index.php/26-library/newsletters/61-issue-5.html>). During this meeting, the participants discussed on gaps and on margins to improve the NERIS Strategic Research Agenda (SRA). For this purpose, different contributors have been identified (see minutes of the R&D committee meeting).

Tatiana Duranova from VUJE and Gilles Hériard-Dubreuil from Mutadis express their interest to contribute to this activity. The contributions will be collected by the NERIS Secretariat before the end of August and a R&D Committee meeting will be held in September. For further dissemination, it is proposed a NERIS presentation during the Melodi Workshop in Brussels, on 8-10 October 2013, and a discussion on the SRA during the final Workshop in Oslo on January 2014. Furthermore, a paper could be submitted to the European IRPA Regional Congress to be held in June 2014 in Geneva.

2. Review of the NERIS-TP Project

Then Raimo Mustonen asks Wolfgang Raskob to present the activities related to the NERIS TP project. Wolfgang Raskob reminds that the NERIS-TP project «Towards a self sustaining European Technology Platform (NERIS-TP) on Preparedness for Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Response and Recovery» is a 3 year research project under the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme, EURATOM for Nuclear Research and Training Activities. It was launched in February 2011 and involves 19 organisations from 13 countries.

Concerning the NERIS TP dissemination Workshop, Inger Eikermann explains that it will be organised on 22nd to 24th January 2014 in Hotel Bristol in Oslo, Norway (www.thonhotels.no/bristol). The Workshop will focus on strengthening the post-accident emergency preparedness at national, regional and local level using new tools and methods.

For the NERIS-TP Training Course, Tatiana Duranova explains that a training course on Preparedness for nuclear and radiological emergency response and recovery: usage of the new products for supporting the management team will take place from 21st to 25th of October 2013 at VUJE, Trnava, Slovak Republic.

This Training Course will be organized by VUJE in cooperation with:

- KIT – Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany
- NCSR – National Center for Scientific Research “DEMOKRITOS”, Greece
- UCEWP – Ukrainian Center of Environmental and Water Projects, Ukraine
- IFIN - “Horia Holubei” National Institute of R&D for Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Romania
- UMB – Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway
- SCK/CEN – Belgian Nuclear Research Centre, Belgium

The course aims to wide spread the usage of the new tools developed and integrated to the Decision Support Systems, such as RODOS and ARGOS. The course deals specifically with the new products integrated within the JRODOS Decision Support System (DSS).

3. Review of the PREPARE Project

Raimo Mustonen asks Wolfgang Raskob to present the PREPARE Project. Wolfgang Raskob explains that the project involves 45 partners from more than 20 European countries. This project is part of the European Commission’s 7th Framework Programme, EURATOM for Nuclear Research and Training Activities and started the 1st of February 2013 for a period of three years. It aims to close gaps that have been identified in nuclear and radiological preparedness following the first evaluation of the Fukushima disaster. Among others, the project will address the review of existing operational procedures for dealing with long lasting releases, cross border problems in monitoring and food safety and further develop missing functionalities in decision support systems ranging from improved source term estimation and dispersion modelling to the inclusion of hydrological pathways for European water bodies. In addition, as the management of the Fukushima event in Europe was far from optimal, a so called Analytical Platform will be developed exploring the scientific and operational means to improve information collection, information exchange and the evaluation of such types of disasters.

4. Election of the new Management Board

Raimo Mustonen introduces the rules for the election of the new management board. He reminds that the Management Board is elected for a 3 years period and as such it is necessary to proceed to the election of the new management board. At the date of the General Assembly, there are 18 supporting organisations which are allowed to participate to the vote. Among them, KWR is not able to attend the General Assembly and Thierry Schneider has received 2 proxies on behalf of FOPH and GAEC. Raimo Mustonen reminds that there are two colleges with 4 members for each college and the chair of the R&D Committee and a representative of the NERIS Secretariat.

Following the elections, the members of the new Management Board for the period from May 2013 to May 2016 are:

College 1:

- Joël Bardelay (IRSN)
- Tatiana Duranova (VUJE)
- Florian Gering (BfS)
- Christophe Murith (FOPH)

College 2:

- Eduardo Gallego (UPM)
- Gilles Hériard Dubreuil (Mutadis)
- Deborah Oughton (UMB) - Secretary
- Wolfgang Raskob (KIT)

Chair of the R&D Committee:

- Frank Hardeman (SCK-CEN)

Representative of the NERIS Secretariat:

- Thierry Schneider (CEPN)

Raimo Mustonen welcomes the new board and mentions that the bureau will be nominated by the Board after the General Assembly.

5. Views concerning the future NERIS activities

5.1. Strategic Research Agenda and Deployment Plan

Raimo Mustonen presents the content of the Deployment Plan and calls for remarks and proposals. He mentions that the document will be examined by the Management Board and the R&D Committee in the following months.

5.2. OPERRA Project

Raimo Mustonen mentions that the NERIS Platform has been invited by MELODI Platform to participate with the Radioecological Alliance to a project proposal OPERRA (Open Project for the European Radiation Research Area) submitted to the Euratom Call of 2013. The aim of the project is to build an umbrella coordination structure that has capacity in a legal and logistical sense to administer future calls for research and training in radiation protection on behalf of the European Commission. The kick off meeting will be held in June.

5.3. Financial aspects

Raimo Mustonen asks Thierry Schneider to present the estimated budget for 2013. Thierry Schneider explains that currently the total budget is estimated at 95 k€ including 50 k€ for supporting the involvement of associated partners. It is expected to collect 15 k€ of fees from NERIS supporting organisations for this year. The following table gives the main components of the budget.

Expenses		Resources	
<i>Secretariat</i>			
- Workload (3 PM)	44 k€	Financial contribution from EC (NERIS-TP project) - Secretariat	30 k€
- Professional Graphic Designers for Newsletters	1 k€	Estimated fees from NERIS supporting organisations	15 k€
Financial Support for involvement of Associated Partners	50 k€	Financial contribution from EC (NERIS-TP project) - Associated Partners	50 k€
Costs depending on new activities	To be defined	Additional support depending on new activities	To be defined
Total	95 k€	Total	95 k€

6. Any other business

Raimo Mustonen asks Thierry Schneider to give a review on the co-operation with other organisations.

6.1. Co-operation with other Platforms and Associations

Thierry Schneider mentions that HERCA and Alliance have been invited to participate to the final dissemination NERIS Workshop in Oslo on January 2014.

6.2. Co-operation with international organisations

The Management Board has established contacts with NEA-OECD and IAEA. These international organisations are invited to express their views during the workshops organised by the NERIS Platform. They will participate to the topical workshop on contaminated goods on May 22, 2013 and will be invited to participate to the second NERIS workshop in Oslo next year. Ted Lazo from NEA-OECD and Vladimir Kutkov from IAEA have been invited to the General Assembly and introduce briefly their activities related to the emergency and post-accident management.

Concerning ICRP, Thierry Schneider mentions that a letter of intent has been sent to ICRP at the beginning of 2013 to become a special liaison organisation. Further information will be available soon on this issue.

6.3. Co-operation with Japanese organisations

Thierry Schneider presents the proposal for the NERIS – IGES cooperation agreement. He reminds that collaboration has been initiated between the NERIS Working Group on Local Preparedness (through NERIS-TP WP3 partners) and the FAIRDO Project (Fukushima Action Research on Effective decontamination Operation) led by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) since March 2012. In order to improve the exchange of information, provide mutual expertise on emergency and recovery management and identify common methodological developments, a NERIS – IGES cooperation has been prepared. It is proposed to establish a list of activities each year for the cooperation. The agreement could be signed in the following weeks.

7. Date and venue for the next General Assembly

Raimo Mustonen proposes to organize the Fifth General Assembly at the occasion of the Fourth European IRPA Regional Congress to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 23rd to 27th of June 2014. This proposal is accepted and contact will be established by the NERIS Secretariat with the organisers of the Congress to precise the date and location.

On behalf of all NERIS members, Eduardo Gallego thanks Raimo Mustonen for his dedication and great leadership of the NERIS Platform during its first and mostly complicated period of life.

The General Assembly ends at 18:00 pm.