

NERIS Newsletter

Editorial

In June 2010 the European Platform on Preparedness for Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Response and Recovery (NERIS) was established to assure the positive momentum in nuclear and radiological emergency co-operation in Europe after the EURANOS project in the sixth Euratom Framework Programme and to develop technical and methodological methods at all operational levels. The objectives of the Platform were defined as; to improve the effectiveness of current European, national and local approaches for preparedness concerning nuclear or radiological emergency response and recovery, to promote more coherent approaches in different countries, to identify gaps and needs for further developments, to address new and emerging challenges in this field, and to maintain and improve know-how and technical expertise in Europe. NERIS is a forum for dialogue between European, national, regional and local authorities; technical support organisations (TSOs); operators; professional organisations; research institutes; universities; non-governmental organisations (NGOs); consultants, and national and local stakeholders. This is the first Newsletter of the Platform. Between two and three newsletters will be released per year. To get more information about NERIS, please visit the NERIS Web-site, <http://www.eu-neris.net/>.

Raimo Mustonen
President of the NERIS Platform

NERIS General Assembly

36 persons participated to the first NERIS General Assembly that took place on the 15th of June 2010 in Helsinki, Finland at the occasion of the IRPA Regional Congress. During this meeting, the Management Board and the Secretariat of the NERIS Platform have been elected and the objectives of the NERIS Working Groups have been defined. The next NERIS General Assembly will be organised at the occasion of the Second CODIRPA International Seminar to be held in Paris, France at the beginning of May 2011.

Working Group on the practical implementation of the ICRP recommendations

The first meeting of this Working Group will take place on the 22nd of November in CEPN, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France. The Working Group aims to understand the implications of the ICRP new recommendations and how they can be adopted into national legislation. The group will also develop guidance on how to adapt existing Decision Support Systems to the new approach.

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COREX Workshop: on 5th and 6th October 2010 in Gomel, Belarus. A tour of the contaminated areas and the Chernobyl exclusion zone (Bragin district) with partners of the CORE program will be held on 7th and 8th October 2010 as an option for the participants.

RODOS Users Group meeting and JRodos Training Course: in Karlsruhe, Germany between the 27th and 29th of October 2010

Working Group on processes and tools for preparedness at community level

The first meeting of this Working Group will take place on the 23rd of November in CEPN, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France. The objectives of the Working Group are to exchange experience on local-national cooperation and stakeholder engagement in developing emergency and recovery strategies. It also aims to develop user-friendly processes and tools to assist communities in preparing for local cooperation, testing them in national or international exercises and to organize seminars on lessons learnt.

Mol Training Course

The 23rd edition of the Training Course on "Preparedness and Response for Nuclear or Radiological Emergencies" organised by SCK·CEN, the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre in Mol took place on 4 - 8 October, 2010 in Mol, Belgium.

The main objective of this course is to provide fundamental knowledge and practical advice for all actors involved in emergency planning and response, e.g. technical and radiological advisors, staff responsible for the overall emergency organisation and policy, such as civil protection officers and environmental protection officers. In 2010, two special issues were added to the basic lectures: the stakeholder involvement in preparedness activities and the new radiological risks issue. The lectures given by experts with international recognition offer a comprehensive overview of nuclear and radiological emergency management in Europe.

OECD/NEA Workshop

This workshop, which is aimed at governmental, technical support and relevant professional organisations involved in emergency and post-emergency management, will be held 12-14 October 2010 in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, hosted by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The workshop will provide a forum for participating organisations from many countries to exchange information and experience on approaches and issues in stakeholder involvement in post nuclear emergency management; and to identify areas where enhancements in stakeholder involvement in post nuclear emergency management could be achieved nationally and internationally and recommend approaches to address these areas.

The Food Handbook Companion: A 'Serious Game' to Get-Acquainted and Customize On-The-Fly

The Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (SCK·CEN) and "Horia Hulubei" National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest (IFIN-HH) are partners in a bilateral scientific collaboration addressing, among other, the management of food production systems exposed to radioactive contamination. The aim is setting up a stakeholder process in Romania, that may eventually lead to the customization of the *European Handbook for the Management of Contaminated Food Production Systems*. During discussions on the development and practical use of the Food Handbook an idea emerged - of an interactive web tool that would act as the "Handbook's companion". It is deemed that such a tool could help in the customization of the handbook and, at the same time, facilitate the use of the handbook for learning and training purposes while also improving its reception by the stakeholders at large.

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