

HERCA

Heads of European Radiation Control Authorities Association

**Presentation of HERCA
HERCA Secretariat**

2010 ERPAN meeting, ASN premises, 7 June 2010

Background

- Recognition of the need for increased co-operation between Radiation Protection Authorities within Europe
- Need for a common understanding, mutual approach and whenever possible harmonization
- Importance of the independent professional standing of Radiation Control Authorities,

Participation

Countries

- 32 European countries in the contact list
- 29 countries have participated at least in one HERCA meeting (25 EU members)
 - 12 countries have participated at all plenary meetings: Belgium, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Kingdom

Delegates

- Plenary session
 - Heads at managerial or technical level
 - Chairpersons of the working Groups
- Working Groups
 - Heads at technical level
 - Senior experts

Objectives

The Association, HERCA, has the following objectives :

- to build and maintain a network of Chief radiation safety regulators in Europe ;
- to promote exchange of experience and learning from each other's best practices ;
- to develop a common approach to radiation safety and regulation in particular within the European Union ;
- to discuss and where appropriate, express its consensus opinion on significant regulatory issues.

(As in its ToR)

Need for a common understanding, mutual approach and whenever possible harmonization

Fields of competence

The fields of competence of HERCA cover :

- radiation protection during the design, the construction the operation and the decommissioning of nuclear installations,
- the transport, the storage and the use of radioactive materials for industrial, medical and veterinary purposes

*HERCA addresses the protection of **people** and the **environment** against the effect of ionising radiation.*

(As in its ToR)

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Relationship with the European Union and stakeholders

European Union:

- The association will keep the European Union Institutions informed of its activities.
- The association is prepared to consider requests from these institutions for advice on radiation safety and regulatory matters.

Stakeholders

- The association will ensure appropriate opportunities for stakeholders to comment on its work.

(As in its ToR)

The EC is systematically invited to HERCA meetings

Milestones (I)

Set up of HERCA : 2007 – Preliminary works in 2006 (ASN questionnaire)

- 1st meeting (H1) Paris, 29 May 2007
- 2nd meeting (H2) Paris, 19 May 2008
- 3rd meeting (H3) Paris, 12 December 2008
- 4th meeting (H4) Paris 1 December 2009
- 5th meeting (H5) Oslo, 30 June-1 July 2010
- 6th meeting (H6) Paris, 1 December 2010

Milestones (II)

December 2006

- ASN sent a questionnaire to European radiation control authorities in Europe asking for priorities on a list of challenges in radiation protection in Europe

HERCA 1 (May 2007)

- Establishment of 5 Working Groups (WG), based on the global score by 15 Authorities to the questionnaire:
 - *WG1 Outside workers & dose passports;*
 - *WG2 Justification of radioactive sources;*
 - *WG3 New medical techniques & patient release;*
 - *WG4 Emergency preparedness & action levels;*
 - *WG5 Stakeholder involvement & medical practices;*

HERCA 2 (May 2008)

- Preliminary reports and future plans presented by WGs
- Participation of the EC (A. Janssens)
- Mr. Harbitz (NRPA, Norway) elected Chairman of the HERCA

HERCA 3 (December 2008)

- WG reports presented and discussed
- HERCA Terms of reference adopted
- Participation of the EC (A. Janssens)
- Establishment of WG 6 "On the surveillance of collective doses from medical exposures"
- HERCA input to the IAEA BSS

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Milestones (III)

HERCA 4 (December 2009)

- Reorganisation of the WG to merge WGs on medical activities
 - *WG1: Outside Workers & Dose Passport*
 - *WG2: Justification and Optimisation of Radioactive Sources (non medical activities)*
 - *New Medical WG on Justification and Optimisation in medical practices (WG3 + WG5 + WG2 medical)*
 - *WG4: Emergency Preparedness & Action Levels*
 - *WG6: Surveillance of collective doses from medical exposures*
- Participation of the EC (A. Janssens)
- Presentation and discussion with the EC on the draft BSS Euratom (Version October 2009)
- Setting up of a Task Force on the future and sustainability of HERCA

HERCA 5 (30 June – 1 July 2010) Agenda

- Update on the progress of the working groups
 - Proposal of a draft European passport and patient release in I-131 therapy
- Participation of the EC (A. Janssens)
- Update of the progress of the EU BSS Euratom
- HERCA Task Force on HERCA's sustainability.- Presentation of proposals and discussion

HERCA 6 ...

Perspectives

- Stakeholder involvement in medical activities (Approved document)
- Proposal of a draft European passport
- Proposal for harmonised criteria on patient release in I-131 therapy
- Overview on the use of body scanners for security purposes: the RP authorities point of view
- Justification of the use of smoke detectors
- CT manufactures engagement
- Emergency preparedness
- ...
- *And the outcomes from the Task Force*

Chairmanship

2007 – 2008

Mr. Lacoste, ASN, France

2008 –

Mr. Ole Harbitz, NRPA, Norway