

DRAFT MINUTES “First international and regional ALARA Networks coordination meeting. “ Glasgow 16th May 2012

Seven international « ALARA » networks were represented at the meeting held in Glasgow on the 16th of May 2012(see annex 1 list of participants)

ISOE, International System on Occupational Exposures

EAN, European ALARA Network

RECAN,

ARAN, Asian ALARA Network

REPROLAM, Red de Optimización de Protección Radiológica Ocupacional en Latino América

EMAN: European Medical ALARA Network

ISEMIR :International System on occupational Exposure in Medicine, Industry and Research

After an introduction by IAEA putting into perspective that meeting with the International Action Plan for Occupational Radiation Protection (IAPORP) and its action 7 (see attachment 1), all of them presented themselves making use of a few slides (see attachments 2 to 8). Some main features are recalled here after.

Objectives: All networks have been set up (since the beginning of the 90's and often very recently) for facilitating occupational radiological protection and a better implementation of ALARA through exchanges of good practices, problems to be solved, Several networks are not only focused on the occupational exposures, they cope also with patients exposures (EMAN) public exposures (EAN NORM ?) patients and public exposures (EAN).

Covering one sector or all sectors of activities: ISOE is devoted to NPPs, EMAN to the medical sector, EAN NORM to NORM industries; all others networks cover all types of activities involving ionising radiations.

Geographical assets: Two of them are worldwide: ISOE and ISEMIR, and all the others are regional:

European: EAN, EMAN, EAN NORM

Asian: ARAN

Central European and western Asian: RECAN

Latin American: REPROLAM

Main products: They all mainly favour exchanges through surveys, workshops, newsletters, and websites, working groups... In addition the two worldwide Networks

run databases with data provided by concerned utilities and perform benchmarking analysis.

Discussion and conclusions

1 Usefulness of a coordination

All participants considered **such a meeting very useful**. It is important for each network to know “the state of the art” as far as other networks are concerned; this should facilitate exchange of experiences for running the networks themselves, avoiding overlap and facilitating mutualism. However there is **no need for a more structured coordination**. It would be worthwhile to take the opportunity of **international IRPA meetings every 4 years** to hold such a meeting. The **initiative** should come from the **IAEA**, may be in conjunction with **IRPA** (one may envisage a session devoted to networks in the future programmes). In between every second year one meeting making use of new technologies such as Skype or social networks such as Facebook should be organised. This raises eventually the question of some support (IAEA, IRPA?) for the participation of some networks to the IRPA meeting.

2 Financing of the networks

All networks, have started with a strong support of an international organisation (European Commission or IAEA and or NEA)

All of them are now, or have to become soon, **totally or nearly totally self sustainable**.

In most cases financing has been found after a phase where the network has developed some products that have been considered efficient and useful by the end users and the members.

In most cases the attendance to the workshops is covered by participants fees; the coordination activities are covered by national institutions fees, often regulatory bodies, but also research centres (EAN) and even utilities (ISOE). It is suggested that for many networks NORM industries should become members and may support financially the networks.

To reach that situation several networks have had no other way than to **create a legal entity**: not for profit association under one national law: this is the case for EAN (French association) RECAN (in the process for a Lithuanian Association), and will be the case of ARAN (Japanese or Australian or Korean Association) and EMAN (Austrian association)

However there remains the need for some external support for the participation of some developing countries participants to activities involving journeys and fees. This is a question to be solved

3 Making use of ORPNET

The ORPNET website is known by almost all participants, and is considered a good initiative of the IAEA for informing about the existing networks and their activities as well as making use of the Google like search engine to check what has been done in a domain.

However, the website appears very hidden and difficult for accessing for those who do not know it and do not look especially for it. An improvement is wished either on the website itself or on the advertisement about it.

No procedure exists for providing ORPNET with the important information from each network, that each network would like to be emphasized.

Proposed procedure: it is suggested that every trimester or semester (depending on the importance of the network's activities), each network would send to IAEA (PP Haridasan,; P.P.Haridasan@iaea.org) the last news to be posted on the ORPNET : this should mainly concern (*IAEA should send automatically a reminder every six months?*):

Date and subject and location of future workshops (as soon as known)

A very brief summary of conclusions and recommendations of the past workshop (as soon as available)

The list of participants to the workshop with email addresses

Other “very” important news if any (*your ideas about that??*)

The ORPNET website should not be over loaded by too much information as it presents links with each network website.

It is requested that a global list of participants to the workshops will be made available on a private part of ORPNET with flags dealing with the topic of the workshop

Interactions between networks

Several interactions have been proposed during the meeting (see in particular, ISOE, ISEMIR and EMAN presentations). Their implementation should be checked for the next meeting.

Annex 1 List of participants

ISOE :	Willie Harris; Exelon Nuclear, USA Chair elect: willie.harris@exeloncorp.com Burcin Okyar, NEA OECD co secretariat: haliburcin.okyar@oecd.org
EAN	Fernand Vermeersch, SCK CEN, Belgium chair : FVERMEER@SCKCEN.BE Pascal Crouail, CEPN, France vice chair: crouail@cepn.asso.fr Peter Shaw HPA, UK secretary: peter.shaw@hpa.org.uk Marie Michelet, CEPN France coordination: michelet@cepn.asso.fr
RECAN	PP Haridasan, IAEA , ORPNET manager: P.P.Haridasan@iaea.org
ARAN	Rodolfo Cruz Suarez, IAEA, : R.Cruz-Suarez@iaea.org
REPROLAM	Dejanira Da Costa Lauria
EMAN	Anja Almen, Sweden coordinator; anja.j.almen@vgregion.se
ISEMIR	Christian Lefaure, IAEA Consultant, chair: clefaureconsult@free.fr John Le heron, IAEA, scientific secretary: J.Le.Heron@iaea.org

Excused

ISOE	G Abela EDF, France Chair gonzague.abela@edf.fr
RECAN	Julius Ziliukas, RSC Lithuania Chair: j.ziliukas@rsc.lt
ARAN	Kazuo Sakai, NIRS, Japan Chair: kazsakai@nirs.go.jp
EAN NORM	Schulz, IAF , Germany chair: schulz@iaf-dresden.de
REPROLAM	Luis Ernesto Matta, IRD Brasil, chair : lematta@ird.gov.br