



European ALARA Network

STEERING GROUP MEETING

June 20, 2013 – CEPN (France)

**Meeting Minutes
(CRR/EAN/SG/35)**

Final version

Written by: Sylvain Andresz, CEPN, France

June 2013

Participants:

ANDRESZ Sylvain	CEPN	France
CROÛAIL Pascal	CEPN	France, EAN vice-chairman
FENNELL Stephen	RPII	Ireland
GUZMAN Olvido	ASN	France
HEFNER Alfred	Seibersdorf Laboratories	Austria
KROPACEK Jan	SUJB	Czech Republic
NOVAKOVIC Mladen	EKOTEH	Croatia
NUCCETELLI Cristina	ISS	Italy
SAXEBØL Gunnar	NRPA	Norway
SCHMITT-HANNIG Annemarie	BfS	Germany
SHAW Peter	PHE	UK, EAN secretary
STRITT Nicolas	SFOPH	Switzerland, EAN treasurer
VERMEERSCH Fernand	SCK•CEN	Belgium, EAN chairman
ŽONTAR Dejan	SRPA	Slovenia
LEFAURE Christian		<i>Observer</i> (for IAEA)
ALLISY-ROBERTS Penelope	EFOMP	<i>Observer</i>

Apologies for absence:

ECONOMIDES Sotirios	GAEC	Greece
EKSTRÖM Birgitta	SSM	Sweden
LEHTINEN Maaret	STUK	Finland
MULAS-PEREZ Arturo	CSN	Spain
MUNDIGL Stefan	CE	<i>Observer</i>
TIMMERMANS Cor	NRG	The Netherlands
PURSCHKE Mathias	EFNDT	<i>Observer</i>
PRONK-LARIVE Dorien	EFRS	<i>Observer</i>

In the absence of:

BREDDAM Kresten	NIRP	Denmark
CARVALHO Fernando	ITN	Portugal
EINARSSON Gudlaugur	GR	Iceland
MA Jizen represented by C. LEFAURE	IAEA	<i>Observer</i>

Diffusion:

Members of the EAN Steering Group, IAEA and observers, RECAN, ARAN, ALARA NORM Network, EFNDT, EFOMP, and EFRS contact persons.

The documents distributed during the meeting are available in the private area of the EAN website (see list in Annex A). Please use the following information to log-on:

login: lastname **password:** ean-lastname

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1. DISCUSSION ON FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Information on the final accounts for 2012 and the 1st provisional accounts for 2013 can be found in the minutes of the Administrative Board meeting (CRR/EAN/AB/18). The 14 Administrative Board members have paid their fees for 2012. The accounts show a positive result of 2082,78 €.

It has been decided to try to increase the number of Administrative Board Members. The following “targets” have been identified:

- RECAN Members; a letter of invitation to EAN AB should be written and send to RECAN Members – **action: M. Novakovic.**
- SG Members who currently don’t pay annual fees; a letter of invitation should be address to them – **action: A. Schmitt-Hannig.**
- National Radioprotection Associations; letter of invitation should be address to these associations – **action: F. Vermeersch.** It has been pointed out that including these as sponsors for the ‘ALARA Book’ could be used as as incentive for these associations.
- EAN also looks for the support of sponsor companies, notably for the edition of the ‘ALARA Book’. A list of companies should be prepared – **action: All members.** Letters of invitation in French, Dutch and English should be written – **action: F. Vermeersch.**

The deadline for the drafting of these letters is **October 2013.**

It has been pointed out that the in-kind contribution of members should be noted in the Administrative Board meeting minutes.

Renew of the Bureau: The composition of the Bureau remains unchanged:

Chair: F. Vermeersch, SCK•CEN (re-elected)

Vice-chair: P. Croûail, CEPN (re-elected)

Secretary: P. Shaw, PHE (re-elected)

Treasurer: N. Stritt, OFSP (re-elected)

2. ROUND TABLE ON THE MAIN EVENTS DEALING WITH ALARA IN EACH COUNTRY

The main information, which was presented during the meeting, is included in a separate document (ALARA/NEWS/EAN/20JUNE13).

It is still possible to add news in the document. The information must be sent to Sylvain Andresz (sylvain.andresz@cepn.asso.fr).

Ms. P. Allisy-Roberts, the EFOMP observer, requests the opinion of the Members regarding the following sentence published in HealthImaging:

“Although [incorporating exposure history risks] is not consistent with the linear non-threshold model, most radiologists think that it is”¹.

The comments of EAN Members can be send to: Penelope.allisy-Roberts@physics.org
Each EAN Member could also write a statement and address it to HealthImaging – **action: All members.**

3. REVIEW OF THE EAN STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2010-2015

3.1. 15th EAN/5th EUTERP Workshop (Rovinj, May 2014)

The 15th EAN Workshop and 5th EUTERP Workshop will be entitled “Education and Training in Radiation Protection: Improving ALARA Culture”. It will be located in Rovinj, Croatia from 7th to 9th May 2014. The fees will be 400 € and participants should register via the new workshop website: <http://ean-euterp.ekoteh.hr>.

Christopher Clement as Scientific Secretary of the ICRP, and a representative of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education will be invited (fees will be covered by EKOTEH).

The Members have chosen the format of the leaflet of the Workshop. When printed, the distribution of the final leaflet should start, notably EUTERP, Michèle Coeck and Richard Paynter shall be involved in its diffusion – **action: S. Andresz.**

It has been noted that EUTERP announced the Workshop in its June’s Newsletter.

¹http://www.healthimaging.com/topics/practice-management/most-radiologists-misunderstand-prior-imaging-risks?goback=%2Egde_3686333_member_248455166

The Committee of Programme of the Workshop will met at December 4th 2013, at CEPN. EUTERP (Richard Paynter and Michèle Coeck) must be informed as soon as possible – **action: CEPN.**

3.2. 16th EAN Workshop

The 16th EAN Workshop will took place during Autumn 2015 and will be held in Switzerland (if SFOPH agrees). Three possible topics have been proposed: - Industrial radiography (NDT), - Screening in the medical field, - Custom control and management of uncontrolled radioactive sources and contaminated goods after incidents/accidents. Other ideas should be submitted in December, at the next SG meeting – **action: SFOPH (agreement on principle), all members (proposals for topics).**

3.3. Relation with ICRP

Following a letter sent in February to ICRP, European ALARA Network has been granted the status of an ICRP Special Liaison Organisation.

F. Vermeersch, as primary point of contact with ICRP, is invited to participate in ICRP 2013 Symposium in October 2013 in Abu Dhabi. EAN is notably invited to a session of the ICRP Main Commission where Special Liaison Organisations can propose collaborative initiatives to ICRP. EAN is also invited to the plenary meeting of the ICRP (gathering the Main Commission and Committees).

A specific contribution (1000€) has been allocated to cover part of F. Vermeersch's travel and accommodation expenses. F. Vermeersch would like that the EAN will be represented by one more person. P. Shaw will discuss the possibility for PHE to support his travel.

3.4. OPERRA

OPERRA (Open Project for European Radiation Research Area) is a coordination structure to administer future calls for research in the radiation protection field, on behalf of the European Commission. OPERRA kick-off meeting took place in Paris on 18th June 2013.

In particular, OPERRA Task 2.1 aims to identify key partners involved in the radiation protection research and education and training. A letter should be send to Mr. Frank Hardeman (Task 2.1 leader) to declare the interest of EAN in this task. In the same time, Mr Hardeman should also be invited to participate to the 15th EAN/5th EUTERP Workshop – **action: F. Vermeersch and C. Nuccetelli.**

3.5. Next Newsletter: Issue 33

The 33rd issue of the Newsletter should be published in September 2013. A call has been made to gather articles.

The following articles are proposed:

- An article dealing with the recent increase of irradiation incidents during non-destructive testing in France. Work is in progress for this article. An

other (or second) article can deal with incidents in the medical sector in France – **action: O. Guzman,**

- A text dealing with the irradiation of outside workers in the medical sector in Greece – **action: S. Economides,**
- An article related to one of the Slovenian incident described in the ALARA News (if possible) – **action: D. Žontar,**
- An article dealing with the physical protection of gamma blood cell irradiators – **action: G. Saxebøl,**
- An announcement of the 15th EAN/5th EUTERP Workshop with presentation of the leaflet and link to the registration website.

4. EMAN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

EMAN (European Medical ALARA Network) is now entirely supported by ESR (European Society of Radiology), EFRS (European Federation of Radiographers Society) and EFOMP (European Federation of Organisations of Medical Physics). These three organisations have signed a Letter of Intent, forming the new EMAN Network Steering Committee. EMAN has published its second newsletter in June 2013.

5. INFORMATION ON EUROPEAN PROJECTS: TRASNUSAFE AND OTHER NETWORKS

The next course of TRASNUSAFE (‘Training Schemes on Nuclear Safety Culture for Managers’) is planned to be held in Manchester (‘Managerial Competences and Leadership for Safety Culture’: 28-29 November 2013). The next courses will take place in Brussels (21-23 January 2014: ‘Setting up a management system’) and Madrid (5-7 February 2014: ‘Economic relevance of safety culture in medical applications’).

All these three courses include a one-hour presentation on ALARA prepared by the EAN; the first one includes also a specific session on risk governance prepared by SCK•CEN.

More information is available and registration is possible on the dedicated website (<http://www.trasnusafe.eu/>).

P. Croüail has invited C. Lefaire to participate as an expert lecturer in these courses.

Other information:

- The RECAN network (Regional European and Central Asian ALARA Network - <http://recan.webplus.net>) is no longer supported by the IAEA. It is a legal entity (under the Lithuanian Law) but has no more financial support.
- RePROLAN (ALARA network in Latin America) is supported by IAEA for the next two years.
- The ARAN Network (Asia Regional ALARA Network - <http://www.arps.org.au>) will organize its first workshop in 2013.
- ISEMIR (Information System on Occupational Exposure in Medicine, Industry and Research - <http://isemir.org>) will develop a database and informatics tools on radioprotection data related to each ISEMR topics. No meeting are planned.

6. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ON EAN SUB-NETWORKS AND WORKING GROUPS: NEWS FROM ERPAN

S. Fennell provided the Members information on the last ERPAN sub-network meeting that took place the 21st of June, in Paris.

Results of ERPAN surveys have been presented during the meeting, notably; :

- Affected Lamps with radionuclides (Ireland),
- Maximum photon beam energies used in radiotherapy treatments (France),
- Lifetime for sealed sources (Luxemburg),
- Licensing requirements for RPA/Qualified Experts and service engineers (Ireland),

The French Institute for security at workplace (INRS) also submitted a questionnaire dealing with the radioprotection surveillance of workers in various sectors. The deadline to answer is September 2013.

The meeting also focused the implementation of the new EU BSS Directive, notably in Ireland.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

- OTHEA (www.othea.net) is running out of incident to be published. It has been requested that each Member shall provide at least one incident for the database – **action: All members.**
- The draft version of the ‘ALARA Book’ was presented by C. Schieber to the Members. Some chapters, annexes and examples are still missing but the book will be finalized by the end of the year, after correction of the text. The next WG meeting should take place the 2nd or the 5th of December. **action: EAN Working Group on ALARA culture, and P. Shaw.**

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

In 2013, the next Steering Group meetings will take place the 3rd of December at CEPN premises. The Committee of Programme of the 15th EAN Workshop will take place the 4th of December at CEPN.

ANNEX A. LIST OF DOCUMENTS DISCUSSED DURING THE STEERING GROUP MEETING

- Meeting agenda.
- ALARA News Document – June 2013.
- Provisional leaflet for the 15th EAN/5th EUTERP Workshop
- ICRP Letter to EAN that granted the status of Special Liaison Organisation
- ICRP invitation to EAN to participate ICRP 2013
- OPERRA Kick-off meeting Agenda (first page)
- EMAN 1st Newsletter
- ERPAN Meeting June 2013 Agenda
- Dosimetry practices for workers exposed to ionising radiation in medical (or veterinary) sector – example of questionnaire