



**STEERING GROUP MEETING
June 8 ~ 9 – web-conference meeting**

**Meeting Minutes
(CRR/EAN/SG/48)**

Final version as 18/06/2021

Participants:

ANDRESZ Sylvain	CEPN	France
ALLISY Penelope	EFOMP (<i>observer</i>)	United Kingdom
OKYAR Burcin	IAEA (<i>invited</i>)	-
CROÜAIL Pascal	CEPN	France, EAN Vice-chairman
ECONOMIDES Sotirios	EEAE	Greece
FIJULJANIN Selma	SRPA	Slovenia
KABRT Franz	AGES	Austria
LIVOLSI Paul	CEA/INSTN	France
MALGORZATA Sneve	NRPA	Norway
MORGAN Julie	PHE	United Kingdom, EAN Secretary
MULAS-PEREZ Arturo	CSN	Spain
NUCCETELLI Cristina	ISS	Italy
ROESLER	Stefan	CERN
STRITT Nicolas	SFOPH	Switzerland, EAN Treasurer
SYNNOTT Hugh	EPA	Ireland
VERMEERSCH Fernand	SCK•CEN	Belgium, EAN Chairman

Apologies for absence:

FOLKERT Draaisma	NRG	The Netherlands
KULKA Ulrike	BfS	Germany

Distribution:

- Members of the EAN Steering Group,
- IAEA and observers,
- EFOMP and EUTERP contact persons.

The [Document] discussed during the meeting are available in the private area of the EAN website.

< www.eu-alara.net >

Activities / EAN Documents and Publication / Steering Group meeting

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Agenda

The Agenda of the meeting [[Document 0](#)] was sent to the Members before the meeting.

Discussion on financial aspects and membership

The minutes of the Administrative Board meeting (CRR/EAN/AB/34) and the Powerpoint presentation prepared by Nicolas Stritt [[Document 1](#)] provides information about the 2020 validated budget and the 2021 provisional budget.

Two new Members have joined the AB meeting: Mrs. Malgorzata Sneve representing DSA (Norway) and Mr. Stefan Roesler from CERN.

Occupational Radiation Protection Network (ORPNET)

Mr. Burcin Okyar from Occupational Radiation Protection Unit at IAEA was invited to take part to the meeting and present the status of Orpnet¹, the web-based network managed by IAEA to promote the optimization of the radiation protection of workers. A slideshow was presented [[Document 2](#)]. Orpnet aims to be a focal point for e-learning, surveys, newsletters and other e-content. The network has also organized several workshops (ex. the NORM conferences) and webinars since 2020. The webinars organized in 2020 and 2021 achieved great success in participation with up to 1,000 participants. Three Technical Meetings on various topics are planned in Fall 2021.

The status of the regional ALARA networks was presented and discussed. The Asian and Pacific Regional ALARA Network (ARAN) is facing difficulties in animation. A virtual re-coordination meeting between the steering committee of ARAN and IAEA is planned in 2021 or 2022. No activities are performed by the Regional East European and Central Asian Network (RECAN). The EAN Members agreed that there is opportunity to work with some RECAN East European members. Burcin Okyar has informed that IAEA is willing to provide technical support to such collaboration (ex. workshop, set up of technical meetings). The status of the RECAN Central Asian members will be discussed by IAEA.

¹ <https://www.iaea.org/services/networks/orpnet>

Mrs. Malgorzata Sneve informed the Members that she is also member of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN, of IAEA). This network has also turned its attention to East European and Central Asian countries where the current radiological challenges are linked with legacy sites, decommissioning and the need to strengthen the regulatory structure and educate RP professionals. Therefore, “radiation protection” is typically incorporated within a more global approach to risk management and environmental protection. She added that these countries also have limited resources.

She also insisted that numerous networks are already in place that consider – at least to some extent – radiation protection matters. As a result, she promoted that the EAN should work in parallel with existing networks, so as to avoid replication of work.

Actions: **Burcin Okyar** will first ask the national liaison officers of RECAN East European members about the potential involvement of the RECAN organizations in ALARA activities.

Then an introductory meeting with the RECAN members willing to work further with EAN will be set up by IAEA, acting as the interface.

Working group on the Impacts of the Recommendations and Conclusions of EAN Workshops

Franz Kabrt has elaborated a first draft on the evaluation of the impacts of the EAN workshops [Document 3]. The first stage of this process involved searches for citations using the internet and databases of publications, which yielded limited results. It is therefore proposed to evaluate the impacts of the workshops through the assessment of the implementation of their outcomes and not based on citations. The Evaluation Sheet [Document 4] is therefore the most relevant tool and it has been proposed to send it to the speakers of former EAN workshops. The second step (if necessary) could engage the participants of former EAN workshop.

Actions. **Sylvain Andresz** will provide to **Franz Kabrt** the EAN mailing list and Franz Kabrt will sort out the name of the speakers and will send a selection of them the Evaluation Sheet.

Julie Morgan has already identified multiple former speakers from the UK (around 10~12 persons) and has obtained completed evaluation sheets from approximately 7 persons which have already been forwarded to Franz for inclusion in his analysis. **Penelope Allisy-Robert** would like to engage a similar activity.

Working group on ALARA for Radon At Work (A-RAW)

The 2nd meeting of the working group took place on the afternoon of 8th June. The members of the working group agreed on the terms of reference and have moved forward in the drafting of a questionnaire to collect data from case-studies.

Action. The questionnaire will be finalized by the working group (in summer) and then send by Sylvain Andresz to Malgorzata Sneve, Petra Hansson and Sotirios Economides who can provide additional feedbacks from their countries (where elevated radon concentration are bound to be measured).

All members of the working group were tasked with producing 1-2 radon case studies based on examples in their own country, by the next meeting in September 2021.

Next workshop: Topic and planning

The topic of the next workshop is focused on ALARA in interventional radiology and the use of novel radio-pharmaceuticals. **Arturo Perez-Mulas** is nominated for coordinating the early actions. The following items have been considered:

- Collaboration with national and European medical organizations and associations will be necessary to build the programme: EFOMP (key contact: Penelope Allissy-Robert). EURAMED, Harmonic and MEDIRAD² (the last two being Euratom Horizon2020 researches).
- Topic wise: consider including the views from the practitioners and manufacturers, the use of artificial intelligence in medical radiology and the topic of ethic.

It is planned to organize the congress for face to face attendance but with the possibility to switch to a virtual setting as plan-B. In the latter case, only the working groups will be held live (not the presentations): the working groups can be managed in virtual setting although this require some planning in advance.

EAN relation with ICRP

ICRP organized a meeting on 2nd June with all Special Liaison Organizations (SLO) to discuss their role in the review and revision of the radiological protection system. The EAN Bureau set up a brainstorming meeting in May and issued a letter [Document 5] describing the possible role of EAN in such process. This letter was sent to ICRP before the meeting supported by a video recorded by Fernand Vermeersch.

Broadly, the EAN can help in the assessment of the practical implementation of the optimisation principle, and the concept of reasonableness and acceptability in various exposure situations and also help in the tuning of the next Recommendations, based on the data and experience from the field. The EAN proposed to activate its tools: working groups, workshops, surveys, the newsletters on specific topics proposed by, or in coordination with, ICRP.

During the SLO meeting, ICRP representatives presented a summary of the feedbacks from SLO [Document 6] and a list of topics bound to review and revision [Document 7]. Currently these reflections are not supported by many concrete elements. ICRP plans to publish an article to feedback from this meeting and describe the way forward.

Action: Fernand Vermeersch will keep the EAN aware about the development of the work by ICRP.

Other partnerships and collaboration

Fernand Vermeersch and Sotirios Economides participated to the **HERCA** workshop about the implementation of the RPO/RPE system. Several questions discussed during the meeting have been reported to the Members:

- Harmonization of national regulations (ex. France did not implement the RPE/RPO system);
- How to involve young professionals?
- Incorporating soft skills and the whole-risk management vision in education and training.

HERCA plans one (or several) surveys on the RPO/RPE system in the next years.

RadoNorm is expanding its “stakeholder group” of people/organization interested in being informed about the RadoNorm results and/or being engaged in activities. It has been proposed that EAN answer positively to the letter of invitation to be recognized as RadoNorm stakeholder [Document 7].

Action. Sylvain Andresz will send the filled-in Invitation Letter to RadoNorm.

Former action: At the last meeting, it was planned that **Cristina Nuccetelli** can make the liaison with the European NORM Association (ENA).

Newsletters

Several proposals for article have been put forward:

² <https://www.isglobal.org/en/-/radiacion>

- The updated guidance for safe use of dental X-ray equipment in the United Kingdom (**Julie Morgan**);
- The implementation of the NORM regulation in Italy (**Cristina Nuccetelli**);
- A description of the radiation protection challenges at CERN (**Stefan Roesler**);
- The broader picture in the management of legacy site and clean-up of NORM (**Malgorzata Sneve**);
- Theory and practice in the clean-up and the support of the supervision on legacy sites located in North-West Russia (**Malgorzata Sneve**);
- The actions engaged by IAEA in re-invigorating ALARA networks (**Sylvain Andresz** will as Burcin Okyar);
- Short announcement of the EAN workshop 22 (**Arturo Perez-Mulas** and **Sylvain Andresz**);
- Elements coming from ICRP (**Fernand Vermeersch**);
- Offer to AFAN to publish (**Sotirios Economides** and **Sylvain Andresz**);
- Offer to EUTERP to publish (ex. feedback from ETRAP workshop) (**Fernand Vermeersch** will ask Michèle Coeck, SCK•CEN);

Deadline: articles should be sent to Sylvain Andresz before October 2021.

Other communications

Fernand Vermeersch and the EAN Bureau have published an article in the Belgian magazine of Radiation Protection presenting the EAN, its activities and achievement. The article is also available in the public part of the EAN website³.

Fernand Vermeersch will send the EAN contribution to the French national radiation protection congress (14~18 June 2021) in the form of a pre-recorded video "*EAN: 25 years of European Collaboration*".

The next European IRPA congress is planned in June 2022 in Budapest. The call for contribution ends 30 September 2021. The Bureau can propose a communication broadly similar to the above-mentioned presentations and supplemented with the 1st results on the assessment of the impacts of the recommendations and conclusions of EAN workshops (**Action: EAN Bureau**).

Survey

A survey on a topic linked with the prospective EAN workshop can be organized in liaison with Arturo Perez-Mulas. The output of a suitable survey could provide input to the headline topics, assist with generating workshop discussion questions and generate interest in the forthcoming workshop.

Open question

An open question about the regulatory status of geothermal plant in European countries has been put forward. Cristina Nuccetelli reported that many geothermal plants are located in Italy, ex. more than 50 in Tuscany. Most of these are following a closed cycle design (hence limited NORM retention) nonetheless this industry has gained attention from the authorities. In the UK, geothermal plants are classed as a NORM industrial activity and could generate 'Type 2' NORM waste if the activity concentration of the waste(s) produced are above the 'out of scope' levels. The arising NORM waste would then be classified as either exempt or permitted (authorised) depending on activity concentration and a suitable disposal route agreed with the regulator. Malgorzata Sneve reported a

³ https://eu-alara.net/images/stories/EANdocuments/Presentations/The_European_ALARA_Network_BVS_2021_FINAL.pdf

similar situation in Norway. Overall, it seems that geothermal plants are rarely considered as NORM facilities.

Sylvain Andresz informed that IAEA TecDoc n°419⁴ provides some elements about the radiological questions in geothermal plants (radionuclides, concentrations, exposure and management etc.). The Members agreed there is potential for additional discussion or a survey.

Next meetings: dates and places

The next Administrative Board and Steering Group meetings are planned for 7 and 8 December 2021. The meeting could be in-person at CEPN, with the possibility to also attend via videoconference. The meeting arrangements will be adapted according to the prevailing circumstances.

⁴ <https://www.iaea.org/publications/6789/extent-of-environmental-contamination-by-naturally-occurring-radioactive-material-norm-and-technological-options-for-mitigation>