



**STEERING GROUP MEETING
January 28, 2022– web-conference meeting**

**Meeting Minutes
(CRR/EAN/SG/49)**

Final version as 14 February 2022

Participants:

ANDRESZ Sylvain	CEPN	France
CROÛAIL Pascal	CEPN	France, EAN Vice-chairman
ECONOMIDES Sotirios	EEAE	Greece
FIJULJANIN Selma	SRPA	Slovenia
KULKA Ulrike	BfS	Germany
HEFNER Alfred	Seibersdorf Lab.	Austria
LIVOLSI Paul	CEA/INSTN	France
MALGORZATA Sneve	NRPA	Norway
MORGAN Julie	UKHSA	United Kingdom, EAN Secretary
MULAS-PEREZ Arturo	CSN	Spain
NUCCETELLI Cristina	ISS	Italy
O'CONNAR Barry	EPA	Ireland
ROESLER Stefan	CERN	Switzerland
STRITT Nicolas	SFOPH	Switzerland, EAN Treasurer
VERMEERSCH Fernand	SCK•CEN	Belgium, EAN Chairman

Apologies for absence:

ALLISY Penelope	EFOMP (<i>observer</i>)	United Kingdom
FOLKERT Draaisma	NRG	The Netherlands
KABRT Franz	AGES	Austria
OKYAR Burcin	IAEA (<i>invited</i>)	-
SYNNOTT Hugh	EPA	Ireland

Distribution:

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

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

Discussion on financial aspects

The minutes of the Administrative Board meeting (CRR/EAN/AB/35) and the Powerpoint presentation prepared by Nicolas Stritt [[Document 1](#)] provides information about the final 2021 budget and the provisional 2022 budget.

Renewal of the Bureau

The EAN Bureau remains unchanged: Chair: Mr. Fernand Vermeersch, Vice Chair: Mr. Pascal Croûail, Treasurer: Mr. Nicolas Stritt and Secretary: Mrs. Julie Morgan.

Activities of the ICRP Committee 4

Mr. Thierry Schneider, Chair of the International Committee for Radiological Protection Committee 4 (ICRP C4) was invited to present the activities of C4 and unfold potential collaboration with the EAN. An overview of the ICRP strategic priorities and the generic programme of work of C4 was provided [[Document 2](#)] and the ground for interaction or collaboration with EAN Members was discussed:

- The report from TG97 (Surface/near surface disposal of waste) will soon be open for public consultation to which some EAN members can contribute;
- The TG106 (Activities involving mobile high activity sealed sources) – set up following EAN and IRPA recommendations – will include Fernand Vermeersch;
- TG109 (Ethics in radiological protection for medical diagnosis and treatment) might consider driving its work based on former EAN experience in the medical field;
- TG110 (Veterinary practices) is a very new domain in RP and will consider planning an information webinar soon to which some EAN members can participate;
- EAN has been involved in reflections composing the base of TG114 (Reasonableness and Tolerability, run by Thierry Schneider) notably the IRPA-SFRP seminar-webinar series. The next steps for TG114 include the planning of:
 - A mini-workshop focused on the medical sector (April-May 2022);

- A brainstorming meeting focused on the nuclear sector with Special Liaison Organizations (SLO) (in 2022-2023);
- And possibly other form of interactions with SLO.
- Results of TG115 (radiation protection of astronauts, a TG of Committee 2) might also be of interest for some EAN Members.

ICRP has also prioritized the definition of the Terms of Reference of several TG that will be set up in a short future, notably on:

- The ecosystem/environment;
- The justification principle;
- The delineation and transition between the type of exposure situations and the categories of exposure.

For each of these topics, the ICRP Main Commission is considering the planning of mini-workshop of information. The members of these TG will be selected by the ICRP Scientific Secretariat after an open-call (this membership to TG is a totally different process from the previous one).

So in summary, possible collaboration between ICRP and EAN can take the form of:

1. Peer-reviewing: draft report, ...
2. Attending and contributing to mini-workshops, brainstorming and symposium (next ones: Vancouver, November 2022 and Tokyo, 2023).
3. Contributing to ICRP as a SLO: survey, meeting with SLO, ...
4. Participating in TG, especially under the new membership scheme.

Overall, the programme of work of ICRP includes the creation of 50 TG for the next decade, therefore allowing plenty of room for future collaboration. More information about ICRP programme of work can be found on the ICRP website and also by contacting the ICRP Scientific Secretariat.

Actions:

- (1) **Each Member** should identify the fields where he/she can contribute (or colleague of their organization) and under which stance: of the behalf of EAN or of their organization;
- (2) Report their conclusion at the next meeting(s). The EAN Members will discuss on how to proceed for the better coordination.

ALARA at the design stage: MINERVA

Mrs Dana Ene (SCK•CEN) was invited by Fernand Vermeersch to present the implementation of the ALARA principle in the design of the MINERVA installation [Document 3]; a proton beam accelerator for research on radioisotopes and the production of radiopharmaceuticals. The highlights of the presentation include:

- The initial radiological classification will be updated with the most-reliable occupancy factor available (previously, a generic full occupancy factor was used), resulting in reduction of the thickness of the wall and cost savings.
- The dose constraints are: 10 mSv/y (max.), 2 mSv/y (average) and the collective dose target is 400 person.mSv/y. For the public, the dose impact from discharge should be less than 5 µSv/y.
- The responsibility of applying the ALARA principle falls in the hands of the Project Manager, who is assisted by the ALARA Coordinator, and implemented in an integrated manner by the Health and Safety Group.
- ALARA check-lists have been developed to be used in a systematic way before the installation of equipment or system.

The EAN Members welcomed the quality of the presentation and the information provided. Questions have dealt with:

- The consideration at the design on the incidental/accidental conditions: these are indeed considered and the ALARA principle still apply if the consequences are above the dose limit.
- Unforeseen issues in the application of ALARA at the design stage: none major reported.
- Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) approval for the manufacture of specific radioactively labelled material: it was not included. The Installation is foreseen to provide the basic product for further research.

Actions:

- (1) **Mrs Ene** and **Fernand Vermeersch** will prepare an article for the Newsletter (*cf. p.6*);
- (2) **Mrs Ene** might plan to present an update of the project;
- (3) **All**: look for keynote on ALARA topics for next EAN meeting.

Fernand Vermeersch plans a presentation about ALARA in the design of a uranium processing facility. **Julie Morgan** plans a presentation about use of X-rays and radioactive material in the veterinary sector and the application of ALARA.

Next workshop and webinar

The topic of the next workshop is: “Development of ALARA in interventional radiology and in the use of novel radio-pharmaceuticals”. Arturo Perez-Mulas informed the members that CSN will not be able to host the workshop and that he will not be able to take part due to work pressures.

The Plan B is to plan the workshop in Belgium (**Action: Fernand Vermeersch**) or in Vienna (**Action: Franz Kabrt**) in the first semester of 2023 (ex. March-April).

The programme committee includes: **Fernand Vermeersch** and/or **Franz Kabrt**, **Nicolas Stritt**, **Julie Morgan**, **Sotirios Economides**, **Penelope Allisy Robert**, **Sylvain Andresz** and **Action: any other Members** who want to join.

The following items were considered in the previous EAN meeting and are reproduced here:

- 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 MEDIRAD¹ (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 ethics.

The Members recognized the advantages of virtual setting (limited cost, etc.) and the Members agree to collaborate in the planning of a webinar that will take place during ½ day at the end of 2022. The topic is “The application of the justification principle, the choice of the exposure situation and the categories of exposure in the context of NORM and radon”. This topic finds echoes in the EAN Strategic Agenda, in the ICRP programme of work as presented previously by Mr. Schneider (*cf. p. 2*) and the inclination to work with other organizations; namely RadoNorm project partners and European NORM Association (ENA, *cf. p. 6*). There is also ground to present part of the results of the EAN A-RAW working group (*cf. p. 5*).

Actions: (1) **Ulrike Kulka** to find speakers from RadoNorm (ex. Sebastian Feige), **Fernand Vermeersch**, **Sylvain Andresz** and **Cristina Nuccetelli** to participate and/or find other speakers.

(2) **Any other members** who want to join

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

The 3rd meeting of the working group took place 23rd September and Sylvain Andresz provided a short presentation of the status of the work on behalf of the Working Group [[Document 4](#)].

At the September meeting, the feedbacks from Belgium, France, Ireland, Norway, Slovenia, Swiss and the United Kingdom were discussed. The scope of the feedbacks is very wide: goes from mine, cave,

¹ <https://www.isglobal.org/en/-/radiacion>

old castle, school or cooking instrument factory. Several 'hot topics' were discussed: need and format of education and training of the affected parties, the usage of the reference level, the difficulties to remediate against radon, the impact of the changes of the dose coefficient and the cases of mixed populations and mixed exposures.

The next steps for the working group include:

- A wrap-up meeting in April-May 2022;
- The presentation of the work at the IRPA-2022 Budapest (30 May-3 June); the abstract has just been accepted for oral presentation;
- The presentation of part of the work at the EAN webinar (end 2022);
- And taking advantage of any opportunity to present the outputs of the Group.

Working group on the review of the implementation and dissemination of recommendations and conclusions of EAN Workshops

Franz Kabrt was not able to join the meeting, yet he sent the draft on the evaluation of the impacts of the EAN workshops [Document 5] and a slideshow [Document 6]. An Evaluation Sheet was designed to collect the feedback of the speakers of former EAN workshop and the work is based on the elements collected (127 emails were sent!). The slideshow has been overlooked. The feedbacks from the EAN workshops are generally very positive.

Actions.

- (1) Franz Kabrt will be invited to present himself the achievements of the work and the perspectives at the next EAN meeting.
- (2) **All:** read the documents and share their thoughts with Franz Kabrt.

Collaboration and partnership

1. Fernand Vermeersch represented the EAN at the IAEA ORPAS meeting in September 2021. A slideshow presenting the EAN and achievements was presented [Document 7]. **Action:** **Fernand Vermeersch** will contact Burçin Okyar about the follow-up actions of the meeting.
2. Sotirios Economides indicated that he met virtually with Dr. Josphe Amako, executive of the AFAN. Material from AFAN for the EAN Newsletter was expected, yet nothing was received. **Action:** **Sotirios Economides** will re-contact AFAN to know the status of the article and see if there is ground for advance collaboration.
3. EPAN: Nicolas Stritt indicated that the ERPAN network has not met in-person because of the travel restrictions. Yet, the Members regularly interact by emails.
4. EUTERP and ETRAP2023: nothing has been reported.
5. SHARE: nothing has been reported.
6. ENA: Cristina presented ENA organization [Document 8], merging European NORM association and EAN_{NORM}, the activities of ENA (ex. tasks groups) and the next events.
7. It has been proposed to establish contact with the IAEA Network of Environmental Management and Remediation (ENVIRO-NET). **Action:** **Cristina Nuccetelli**.

Newsletters

The last newsletter was published in November 2021 and received several positive feedbacks. The publication of the next issue is planned in Spring 2022 and the proposed articles are

- The updated guidance for safe use of dental X-ray equipment in the United Kingdom (**Julie Morgan**);
- ALARA in the management of legacy site and clean-up of NORM (already sent by Malgorzata Sneye);
- ALARA in design of MINERVA (**Daniela Ene, Fernand Vermeersch**);

- SHAMISEN-SINGS (**Cristinal Nuccetelli, Pascal Croüail**);
- Update on the OFPH Action plan for the security of sealed sources (**Nicolas Stritt**);
- Short announcement of the EAN workshop and webinar (**Sylvain Andresz**);
- Offer to AFAN to publish (**Sotirios Economides**);
- Offer to EUTERP to publish (ex. feedback from ETRAP workshop) (**Fernand Vermeersch** will ask Michèle Coeck);

Deadline: articles should be sent to Sylvain Andresz before 31 March 2022.

Next meetings: date and place

The next Administrative Board and Steering Group meetings are planned for 14 June 2022. It is hoped the meetings may eventually take place in-person at CEPN (noting that the access to the building will become more stringent). The meeting arrangements will be adapted according to the prevailing circumstances.
