ISOE Management Board Meeting

The 21st annual meeting of the ISOE Management Board held on 9-10 November 2011 in Paris (France) was attended by participants from nuclear electricity utilities and national regulatory authorities from thirteen countries. The meeting was chaired by Mr. G. Abela (ISOE Chair) from EDF (France).

The Management Board reviewed the current ISOE programme. Key outcomes included approvals to:
- renewal of ISOE Terms and Conditions for the new term (participating utilities and authorities will be asked to confirm ongoing acceptance),
- establishment of ad-hoc new Expert Group on Occupational Radiation Protection in Severe Accident Management and Post-Accident Recovery (EG-SAM),
- approval of WGDA Terms and References,
- approval of “Framework for cooperation between the secretariat of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) and the Management Board of the Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE) to coordinate practical arrangements for periodic collection and exchange of data on occupational radiation exposures”

Cooperation with UNSCEAR

“Framework for cooperation between the secretariat of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) and the Management Board of the Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE) to coordinate practical arrangements for periodic collection and exchange of data on occupational radiation exposures” was signed by the ISOE Chairman Mr. G. Abela and the Secretary of UNSCEAR Mr. M. Crick in December 2011. The purpose of the framework for cooperation is to facilitate systematic and regular provision by ISOE to UNSCEAR of data and information on occupational radiation exposures at nuclear facilities with a view to increasing awareness and deepening understanding among
According to the relevant articles of the signed cooperation, the ISOE secretariat, under direction from the ISOE Management Board, will be responsible for the collection and provision of data on national-level average exposures of nuclear installation employees, and the associated full documentation of the data structure and format. These specific data include:

a. Average collective dose over the period (total, average/reactor, average/energy generated);
b. Average number of reactors over the period;
c. Average energy generated over the period; and
d. Totals for each reactor type, based on reported data.

In addition, each party agrees under this framework for cooperation to appoint a focal point responsible for:

a. Coordination of the common activities;
b. Resolving any issues related to data collection;
c. Providing clarification on data definitions or anomalies with the data;
d. Contribution to the interpretation and analysis of the data; and
e. Reviewing the types of data collected.

New Expert Group on ORP in Severe Accident Management

During the November meeting of the ISOE Management Board, it was decided to launch an Expert Group on Occupational Radiation Protection in Severe Accident Management and Post-Accident Recovery (EG-SAM), which will be in close collaboration with the CRPPH Working Party on Nuclear Emergency Management (WPNEM). The objective of the ad-hoc EG-SAM is to develop a report on best radiation protection management procedures for proper radiation protection job coverage during severe accident initial response and recovery efforts to identify good radiation protection practices and to organise and communicate radiation protection lessons learned from previous reactor accidents. During the meeting, it was indicated that the WGDA may take a leading role in assigning the experts and also work of the group with the active participation of the ISOE Technical Centres. It was noted that this activity would benefit from broad ISOE participation to ensure that the final product would be cohesive and valuable, and it was requested that a call for nominations be sent by the NEA Secretariat to the full Management Board. Following this direction, a call for nominations to the newly established expert group was sent to the ISOE membership in December 2011. Mr. Wataru Mizumachi (JNES, JAPAN) was proposed and assigned as the chair of the expert group. The EG-SAM will undertake its work by:

— collecting information on dose management of high radiation area workers and practical experience available in the nuclear industry on addressing operational aspects, dosimetry, etc with special emphasis on procedures to the control of occupational exposures. Some first elements have been identified for collecting information, such as:
  o RP Management on an highly contaminated / irradiated area,
  o RP equipment needed on site,
  o Emergency procedures dosimetry prevision (the post accident situation "normal" procedures),
  o Remote tooling available,
  o Sites stress tests dosimetric impact,
  o Crew stress management,
  o Searching and stopping of releases and contamination carry off,
  o Means to fix and eliminate contamination,
  o Access procedures to the site,
Monitoring of high dose rate areas, pinpoint hot spots,
- Shielding and blocking of high dose rate areas,
- Declaration of new controlled areas and zoning,
- Selection of persons to act in emergency organisations and be exposed above normal annual dose limit (e.g. genetic tests).

— identifying factors and aspects which play key roles in achieving good practices on occupational radiation protection in severe accident management and post-accident recovery (knowledge, experience, technology, regulatory requirements and guidance, worker involvement, information exchange, training aspects, etc) and analysing and quantifying their impact on worker doses,

— submitting a report, including possible recommendations for further work, to the ISOE Management Board for approval, and to the CRPPH.

2012 ISOE International Symposium

The 2012 ISOE International ALARA Symposium will be organised by the North American Technical Center between 8-11 January 2012 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (US). The symposium will feature technical papers and exhibits on the latest approaches in work management, dose control, remote monitoring and dose measurement. Each participant will receive important BWR, CANDU, and PWR & VVER benchmarking data from previous years’ occupational dose performance. The ALARA Symposium is held early in the calendar year at the suggestion of ISOE utility Radiation Protection Managers to assist individual plants in setting annual and refueling outage ALARA dose goals/targets. Good ideas on successful ALARA initiatives are also shared at the symposium. Global ALARA technical papers will be presented on timely radiation protection management topics including depleted zinc addition at PWRs, noble metal addition experience at BWRs, CANDU heat exchanger tubing replacement projects, outage radiological worker management approaches and PWR reactor head inspection, repair and replacement experience.

For more information:
http://hps.ne.uiuc.edu/natcisoe/

2012 ISOE European Symposium

The European Technical Centre of the ISOE in collaboration with Temelin and Dukovany NPPs and the Czech State Office for Nuclear Safety (SUJB) is organizing the 2012 ISOE European Symposium on Occupational Exposure Management at Nuclear Facilities. The Symposium will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, from 20th to 22nd June 2012. The Symposium is targeted at all those concerned with radiological protection at nuclear power plants (radiation protection managers and staff members, maintenance and operation planners...), contractors, exposed workers (represented by trade unions or work committees), inspectors and other regulatory bodies representatives, and international organisations. The Symposium is also opened to research reactors and professionals from other nuclear fuel cycle installations that have common radiological protection problems with nuclear power plants. The main aims of the Symposium are:

— to provide a large forum of information exchange on occupational exposure concerns (practices, management and procedures, dose results and reduction, improvements of techniques and tools, etc.),

— to allow vendors to present their recent experience and developments in radiation protection (measurement techniques, operating and plant design improvements, ALARA practices during operation and outages, etc.) in a commercial exhibition.

The Symposium will give an opportunity for the participants to take part in discussions in plenary sessions, and presentations of posters. Visits will be organised the last day of the Symposium at Dukovany NPP and Temelin NPP (for only restricted number of participants).

For more information:
Schedule of Meetings for 2012

- 8-11 January 2012: ISOE International Symposium (Fort Lauderdale, USA)
- 30-31 January 2012: CRPPH EGOE Meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 14-15 February 2012: ISOE EGWC Meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 16 April 2012: ISOE Bureau Meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 17-18 April 2012: ISOE WGDA Meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 18-19 April 2012: ISOE EG-SAM Meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 20-21 June 2012: ISOE European Symposium (Prague, Czech Republic)
  (19 June 2012: RPM meeting and Regulators meeting, 22 June 2012 NPP visits)
- 12-13 November 2012: ISOE WGDA meeting (OECD, Paris)
- 13 November 2012: ISOE Bureau (OECD, Paris)
- 14-15 November 2012: 22nd ISOE Management Board meeting (OECD, Paris)

For further information, please visit the ISOE Network: www.isoe-network.net