Closing Plenary Session – Progress Report

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- 9 full time participants
- 3 part-time/guest participants
- representing 8 Member States

- Developing a TRS-Document
  - The TRS will provide a decision-aiding framework, processes and tools for situations requiring an assessment of potential remedial options
  - Combining Technical and Preference Modelling
Main Result (November, 2015 – 2016?):

- The TRS will provide a decision-aiding framework, processes and tools for situations requiring an assessment of potential remedial options
Decision Theory

- Important to distinguish
  - Technical modeling
  - Preference "modeling"
- Need for structured decision making
- Theoretical basis has limitations
  - Well defined for individual's decisions
  - Multiple parties complicate things
Engagement of Interested Parties

- It is very difficult to understand preferences of interested parties except through a program of engagement.
- Engagement has a life of its own:
  - Building trust
  - Requires good preparation, adaptability, good facilitation
- Dialogue not pronouncement:
  - 51% listening:
    - Understanding other values, concerns, preferences
    - Identifying other options
    - Feedback on scope and constraints
  - 49% explaining:
    - Communicating the science
    - You are entitled to your own judgments, but not your own facts
- Requires a genuine openness to other perspectives:
  - Not decide and defend
We can recommend a process that can help people find the most appropriate methods for their cases

- Good preparation
- Identifying interested parties
- Technical models play a very important role
- Adaptability
Decision Process

- Choice of approach depends on complexity of project and diversity of perspectives
  - 2x2 matrix
- All decision models are tools for exploring decisions
  - Best use is work-shopping with interested and understanding different opinions
  - Consensus building process
- MCDA method selection
  - Various methods give similar results
  - You get the "90%" value of exploring perspectives regardless of what software you use for the "10%" calculations
High Level Conclusions

- **Limitations of science**
  - Many valid inputs to decisions cannot be expressed in scientific terms
  - The best decisions will respect the validity of science and the validity of other perspectives
  - That is why IAEA says "optimization" includes "with economic, societal and environmental factors taken into account"

- **Different countries, different decision processes**
  - Different resources, prevailing circumstances, regulatory & government systems
  - May only be making a recommendation, rather than having the authority and resources needed for full implementation
  - Still needs to follow the best possible process

- **Importance of follow-up**
  - Communicating how the decision was made is critically important
Thank you

Questions?