

# Briefing on the outcomes of the GNSSN Plenary 2021

**17<sup>th</sup> GNSSN Steering Committee Meeting,  
(Virtual Meeting)  
6–7 December 2021**

**GUO Lingquan**  
Section Head

**Networks Management and Partnership Section, NSOC**

# GNSSN Plenary 2021 – Agenda and Participation

- GNSSN Plenary was conducted on the side-lines of the IAEA General Conference 64, on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2021.
- Event was held in hybrid format and opened by then Acting Director of IAEA-NSOC, Mr. MALLICK Shahid.



Web-story on the IAEA webpage:

[Pandemic's Impact and Pandemic's Impact and Enhancing Regulations Discussed at Nuclear Safety & Security Gathering | IAEA](#)

# GNSSN Plenary 2021 – Agenda and Participation



- Participation was open and the event was well attended (~ 105 participants), including IAEA Member States and IAEA staff members from Department of Nuclear Safety and Security.
- Participation from the following IAEA Member States was noted:  
(Argentina, Austria, Armenia, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Korea, Republic Of, Lithuania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Poland, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Taiwan, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America)
- Agenda items for the Plenary were as stated below:
  - GNSSN Programme Enhancements (presented by GNSSN Chair, Mr. Alfredo de los Reyes)
  - Topical Discussions on “Networking during pandemic” (presented by representatives of GNSSN associated networks, namely FORO, TSOE and EuCAS)
  - Topical Discussions on “Enhancing Regulations for Safety and Security” (presented by IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security and representatives from IAEA Member States, namely Seychelles and Uganda)

A vertical promotional graphic for the GNSSN. At the top left is the IAEA logo and the text 'GNSSN Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network'. At the top right is the text 'Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN)'. The central text reads 'Connect, Communicate and Collaborate' in yellow. Below this is the tagline 'Providing a global gateway to help Member States build a smarter, safer planet'. At the bottom, it says 'For more information visit: https://gnssn.iaea.org'. The background is dark blue with a network of white lines and nodes. At the bottom, there are four circular inset images: a person in a hard hat, a group of people, a nuclear reactor, and a person in a hard hat. The word 'GNSSN' is written in large, semi-transparent letters across the middle.

- Opening Session: GNSSN Programme Enhancements (presented by GNSSN SC Chair – Mr. Alfredo de los Reyes)
  - Report of progress since August 2020 was presented;
  - Key achievements of GNSSN SC during 2020-2021 (drafting and endorsement of GNSSN SC ToR and GNSSN Strategic Plan);
  - Upgrade of GNSSN IT platform to be undertaken in 2021-2022;
  - Enhancing international cooperation through dialogue and cooperation among global, regional and thematic networks under the GNSSN framework.
- Topical discussions during the GNSSN Plenary were focussed on:
  - Networking during a pandemic.
  - Enhancing regulations for Nuclear Safety and Security.

Meeting material of the Plenary, along with the complete video recording, accessible on the GNSSN website at the following link:

[GNSSN Plenary - 2021 \(iaea.org\)](https://www.iaea.org/gnssn/plenary-2021)

- Session I: Topical discussions – Networking during a pandemic (presented by representatives of EuCAS, FORO and TSOE)

Discussion outcomes:

- Restrictions due to the pandemic at an early stage led to difficulties in implementation of GNSSN and its associated network activities; although eventually were successfully adopted;
  - Concerns on whether virtual environments were always effective in transferring knowledge and experience due to limitations of some Member States to participate in virtual formats efficiently were also raised;
  - Face-to-face meetings are still better format for some technical training course and workshops.
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- Session II: Topical discussions – Enhancing regulations for Nuclear Safety and Security
    - IAEA’s activities such as “[School for Drafting Regulations on Nuclear and Radiation Safety](#)” were presented.
    - Member States’ experiences of the IAEA School of Drafting Regulations on Nuclear and Radiation Safety were shared during the session (presented by Seychelles Ministry of Employment, Immigration and Civil Status AND Uganda’s Atomic Energy Council)

- GNSSN Plenary is an important event each year as it brings together key stakeholders active in networking and helps to support broader IAEA capacity building efforts.
- GNSSN with support of the IAEA Member States and the associated networks should engage to the greatest possible extent to ensure long term sustainability of the networks by closely focussing on the challenges related to nuclear safety and security.
- GNSSN remains committed to support Member States' networking needs and looks forward to work closely with Member States, in person or virtually to better understand needs and identify solutions.



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*Atoms for Peace and Development*

*Thank you!*

