Report of the 9th GNSSN Plenary Meeting
IAEA GC66: Results & Perspectives

2nd Chairs’ Coordination Meeting – Regional and Thematic Networks under GNSSN
21 November 2022 (Virtual Event)
11:00 – 13:00 CET

Alfredo de los Reyes
GNSSN Chair
Event provided a forum for IAEA Member States to discuss challenges related to the development of a sustainable radiation and nuclear safety infrastructure in line with the IAEA safety standards and international good practices.

Over 100+ participants from Member States and other International Organizations attended in-person the 9th GNSSN Plenary Meeting on Sep 28, 2022.
GNSSN Plenary Programme

- Overview of IAEA international legal instruments
- Convention on Nuclear Safety and the
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its Amendment
- IAEA’s safety standards, security guidance
Led by Ms. Lydie Evrard, IAEA Deputy Director General and Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security.

Mr. Alfredo de los Reyes Castelo, (Spain), GNSSN Steering Committee Chairman

“Over the past 15 years, GNSSN has been continuously supporting implementation of the IAEA integrated methodology for capacity building and has significantly contributed to enhancing international cooperation and dialogue in the field of nuclear safety and security,”
Mr. Alfredo de los Reyes Castelo, (Spain), Head of International Relations at the Spanish Nuclear Safety Council (CSN) and Chair of the GNSSN’s Steering Committee.

“I would like to emphasize the role of GNSSN to support and coordinate the regional and inter-regional efforts for the sharing of knowledge, expertise and experience on safety-relevant issues and take this opportunity to encourage the Member States to actively participate in the GNSSN for efficient information sharing and effective cooperation,”
PANELLISTS

Anna Bradford, Director of the IAEA’s Division of Nuclear Installation Safety
Challenges and opportunities for safety and security on newer technologies - SMRs

Highlighted the challenges and opportunities presented by innovative reactors, such as SMRs, and explained what the Agency is doing to address the unique safety and security issues. She drew attention to the Nuclear Harmonization and Standardization Initiative (NHSI), an initiative the IAEA Director General announced in March this year, as well as the Agency-wide platform on SMRs and the SMR Regulators’ Forum, in which national regulators can discuss approaches to this new technology.
PANELLISTS

Wolfram Tonhauser, IAEA Section Head of Nuclear and Treaty Law
Promotion of IAEA legal instruments and conventions

Highlighted the comprehensive assistance available to support Member States in adhering to the various international legal instruments adopted under IAEA auspices and in developing corresponding national nuclear legislation. He emphasized the importance of the GNSSN in raising awareness about these instruments and in highlighting the services at the disposal of Member States under the Agency’s Legislative Assistance programme.
Meeting participants were also informed that the IAEA has launched new eLearning initiatives to support countries with their human resource development to ensure a better understanding of the Agency’s safety requirements and security recommendations. The initiatives aim to complement instructor led courses or provide a foundation for other IAEA specialized courses.

eLearning Initiatives related to Nuclear Safety and Security Programme (Ms. M. Labyntseva, Ms. T. Karseka-Yanev, IAEA)

International School on Nuclear and Radiological Leadership for Safety (Ms. M. Moracho Ramirez, IAEA)
EU funded the ELSE project aiming to develop a research-based approach for education in the domain of safety leadership, complementing the IAEA School
PANELISTS

Svetlana Nestoroska-Madjunarova, Coordinator for Assistance to Ukraine in Nuclear Safety and Security, delivered a presentation on the scope of the IAEA’s assistance to Ukraine, including the delivery status and major accomplishments arising from recent activities and missions.

IAEA’s role in nuclear safety and security at the nuclear facilities within Ukraine. Frederic Stephani, IAEA Emergency Preparedness Officer, provided a presentation on the Agency’s Incident and Emergency Centre response to the Ukraine situation, highlighting the Director General’s updates, which provide regular information on the safety and security status at nuclear installations in the country.
Conclusions

• GNSSN can serve as a platform to enhance effective and efficient coordination among the regional and thematic networks.

• GNSSN in close cooperation with the regional and thematic networks will continue to identify challenges, issues and opportunities to facilitate capacity building in Member States.

• GNSSN will encourage Member States to benefit from the Agency’s technical support, services, standards, and guidance related to nuclear safety and security.