

Progress Report on the Action Plan

Revision dated 30 August 2012

Steering Committee on Competence of Human Resources for Nuclear Regulatory Bodies

ACTION	DETAIL	LEAD	TIMING	PROGRESS
Revision of the strategy.	Advise the IAEA Secretariat on its revision of the strategy paper on education and training.	Bureau	Start during Bureau meeting in September 2012.	IAEA Secretariat has produced a draft strategy paper for comments. Revision and endorsement — if appropriate — expected in December 2012.
AIM 1: Adequate tools are available for helping the regulatory body to establish and implement an adequate competence management system.				
1.1 Finalize safety report on competence management and issue to Steering Committee (SC) for its consideration and endorsement.	This safety report provides guidance for regulatory bodies on their competence management systems. It is a successor to TECDOC 1254 and will give consideration to and reference the SARCoN document.	SC/IAEA	SC comments before 15 March 2012 Consultancy meeting before Bureau meeting on 27–28 March 2012 The safety report is expected to be approved by the Coordination Committee on Safety Standards and Nuclear Security Publications in October 2012 and to be ready for the publication process in December 2012.	Two consultancy meetings took place in Vienna: one to revise and expand the appendix for embarking countries (5-9 March 2012), and a second one to revise the main safety report (12-16 March 2012). A third consultancy meeting took place 9–13 July 2012 in order to finalize the appendix for embarking countries. Members of the Bureau participated in the consultancy meeting in March, and a number of other meetings took place at IAEA Headquarters in order to discuss and finalize the safety report.
1.2 Submit revision 16 of the SARCoN guidelines to the SC for its consideration.	The SARCoN guidelines allow for self-assessment of the regulatory body's competence needs.	SC/IAEA	Target for completion after the safety report is finalized.	It is anticipated that revision 16 of the SARCoN guidelines will be ready in 2013. New software was presented in December 2011. It has since been further improved.
1.3 Provide training for training coordinators on application of the SARCoN guidelines.	It is anticipated that this training will be provided on a workshop/seminar basis.	IAEA	A first seminar was given in December 2011 and a follow-up is expected in December 2012.	Ongoing.

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1.4 Set up a system for the provision of examples of good practices related to competence management and its continual updating.	It is expected that initial work will concentrate on information thought to be available in Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) reports. In due course it may be possible to include examples provided by Member States as the relevant standing agenda item at SC meetings.	IAEA	Information targeted for SC meeting in December 2012.	Permanent action at the SC. IAEA made available a shared space for sharing information and documents amongst SC's members
1.5 Analyse questionnaires on training systems and practices.	Approximately 20 questionnaires have been received to date.	Bureau	Progress report at SC meeting in December 2010. Difficulty in allocating resources for this task.	Initial stage of action completed. Questionnaires need to be uploaded on the shared space.
AIM 2: A system is in place for sharing knowledge, training materials and exchanging information on training events.				
2.1 Establish an IAEA-based continuous improvement process for sharing relevant training information.	This should include obtaining, capturing and making available training information from regional centres and other agencies (e.g. the OECD/NEA), in particular for use by embarking countries. It will also include a section on the IAEA website for accessing training information and capturing Member States' practice.	IAEA	IAEA will report on developments at each SC meeting. Much progress has been made on improving the IAEA website, and this has been demonstrated at SC meetings.	Permanent action at the SC. IAEA made available a shared space for sharing information and documents amongst the SC's members.
2.2 Analyse questionnaire on web links.	Approximately 20 questionnaires have been received to date.	Bureau	Progress report was discussed at SC meeting in December 2010.	Action completed at this stage. No further actions required. Questionnaires need to be uploaded on the shared space.
2.3 Identify barriers to exchange of information on training and competence management.	This action has been proposed to follow up on and explore feedback on language barriers that was received in December 2009. There may be other barriers to communication apart from language barriers.	SC	It was discussed at the SC meeting in December 2010.	Action completed. No further actions required.
2.4 Complete revision of Basic Professional Training Course on Nuclear Safety (BPTC).	Develop syllabus. Revise textbook. Organize course at international level.	IAEA	Progress and future intentions are reported at SC meetings.	Permanent action at the SC. Funds have been made available for a future revision of the BPTC and for producing an e-learning platform.

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2.5 Revision of the course on regulatory control.	Develop syllabus. Revise textbook	IAEA	Progress and future intentions are reported at SC meetings.	New table of contents has been drafted for the course. A project for the revision of the main text is intended to start at the end of 2012 or in early 2013.
AIM 3: To incorporate the outputs of the Steering Committee's work into the development of IAEA safety standards dealing with competence of the regulatory body.				
3.1 IAEA to establish and implement a process to keep SC members advised of developments of all safety standards and other relevant activities that deal with the competence of the regulatory body.	This is intended to complement existing IAEA processes for the development of standards and guides.	IAEA	The effectiveness of this will be a standing review item at the SC meetings.	Permanent action at the SC.
3.2 Training coordinators in Member States to comment on relevant standards as appropriate and to report to the Bureau on any issues of concern.	The IAEA will ensure that feedback from Member States is taken into consideration as standards are developed.	Member States	Standing review item at the SC meeting in December 2012.	Permanent action at the SC.
3.3 New Safety Guide on competence, to be compatible with the existing safety report.	The objective is to produce a Safety Guide based on the safety report and the SARCoN guidelines.	IAEA	This remains under consideration as a potential long term action.	No progress because this is not considered to be a priority at the moment.
AIM 4: Mutual support and sharing of experience, in the area of regulatory competence, to meet the needs of embarking countries.				
4.1 Develop assistance proposals specific to the needs of each embarking country.	Development of information exchange with the Regulatory Cooperation Forum aimed at embarking countries and other similar activities. Identification of additional steps needed that are not covered by other actions in this plan.	IAEA	Further actions to be discussed at the SC meeting in December 2012. Briefing from the IAEA at each Bureau and SC meeting. Two consultancy meetings have been organized (see Action 1.1).	The safety report now includes a specific appendix for embarking countries.