

# Requirements and Methodology for the Recognition of the RPE

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**WP2 Partners**  
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Primary focus of ENETRAPII is E&T. Subsidiary objectives address status conferred by that E&T – particularly that of the RPE & RPO.

### Work Package 2:

- i) Define requirements for recognition of RPEs
- ii) Provide guidance with respect to the operation of national schemes for RPE recognition
- iii) Define requirements for mutual recognition of RPEs between Member States
- iv) Develop a mechanism for the mutual recognition of RPEs between Member States.

***“Persons having the knowledge, training and experience needed to give radiation protection advice in order to ensure the effective protection of individuals, whose capacity to act as a radiation protection expert is recognised by the competent authorities”***

*(Current draft, revised BSS)*

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*(Current draft, revised BSS)*

Objective was to work towards an outline model which would not only-

- ❑ Ensure sufficient flexibility for MS to establish systems for RPE recognition that can be readily accommodated within national infrastructures, but also
- ❑ Ensure a degree of commonality sufficient to facilitate mutual recognition of RPE status between Member States

Engagement and consultation considered essential ...

## Views sought ...

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Part	Summary of Content/Objective
Introductory Pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Overview and explanation</li><li>▪ Respondent details</li></ul>
Section A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Addressed “aspects to be considered in the recognition process”</li></ul>
Section B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Considered “criteria for core competence” (Education, training, practical competence)</li></ul>
Section C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Considered “essential components of a national recognition scheme” - RA, assessors, process validity, re-recognition</li></ul>



## A1 : “Aspects to be considered”

A1: Do you agree that the key aspects for consideration in the process of RPE recognition are :



- Education
- Training
- Experience ?

**100% “Yes”**

## Section B :Criteria for Competence

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### B1 : Education

The basic criteria for an “adequate” level of education for an RPE is ....

An education to Bachelor degree level in

- Radiation protection, or
- Physical/biological science

*OR*

An equivalent qualification

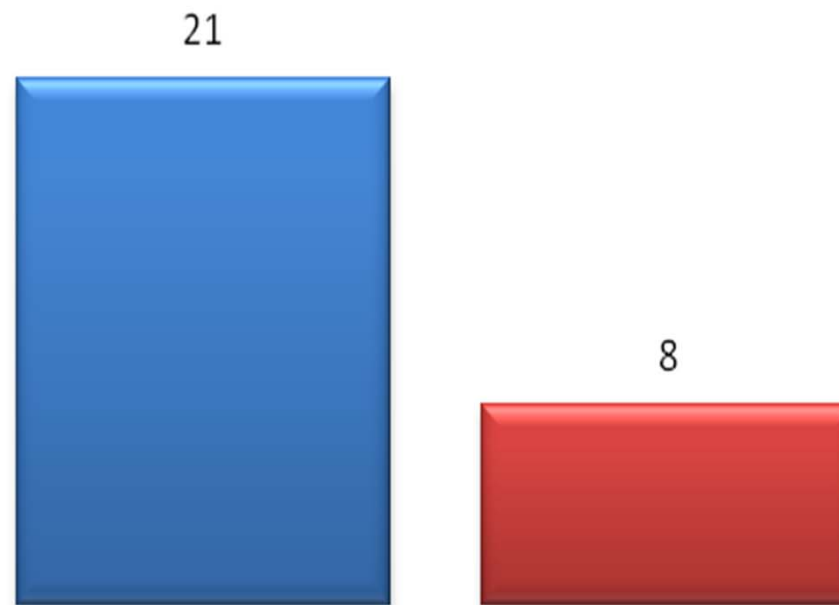
*OR*

Equivalent level of experience

Yes ? No ? (If no, please comment)

Do you agree with proposal B1 ?  
(Overall response)

■ Yes ■ No



## Section B :Criteria for Competence

### B2: Training

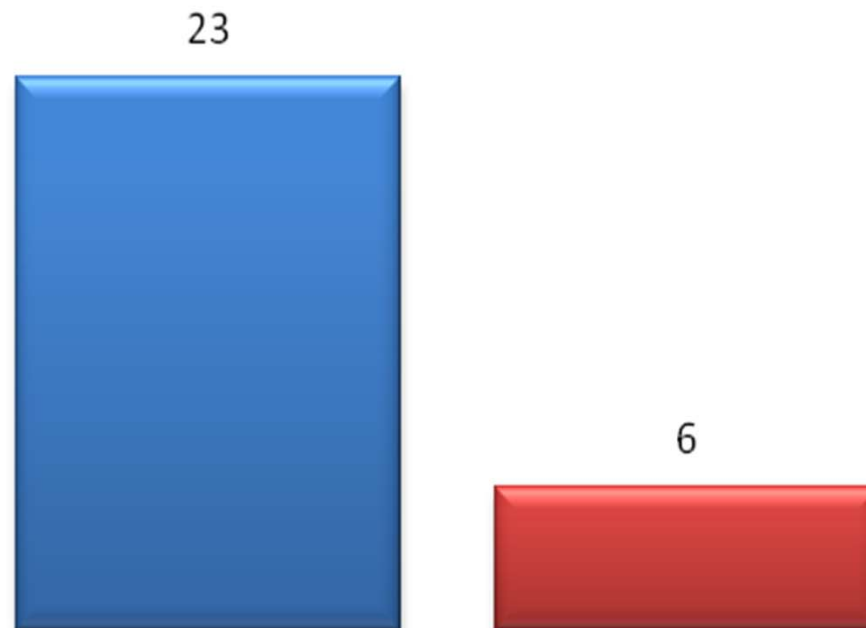
Do you agree that the following aspects can be addressed by training ?

- ☐ *Knowledge and understanding* of each of the topics in the basic/reference syllabus (*ENETRAP FP6*)
- ☐ *Knowledge* of operational radiation protection methods
  - ☐ Interpretation/application of radiation protection data
  - ☐ Radiological measurements
  - ☐ Control procedures (work involving potential for significant exposure)
- ☐ *Ability* to give advice to duty holders

Yes ? No ? (If no, please comment)

Do you agree with proposals B2 ?  
(Overall response)

■ Yes ■ No



### B3: Practical Competence

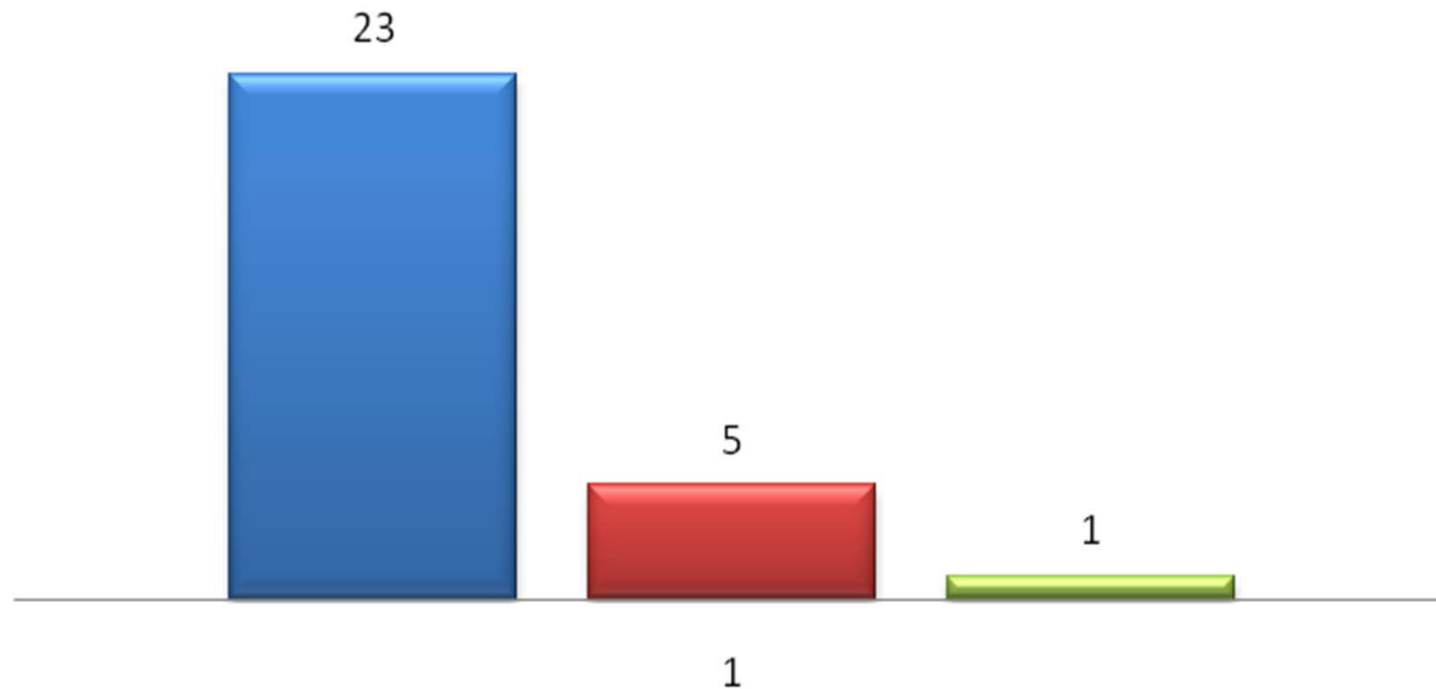
Do you agree that the assessment of core RPE competence should include a requirement for the submission of evidence sufficient to demonstrate competence .. In each of the following areas ?

Legislation      Hazard/Risk Assessment      Optimization  
Area Monitoring      Personal Dosimetry  
Designation of Areas      Classification of Workers

Yes ?    No ?    (If no, please comment)

Do you support the proposal in B3 ? (Overall response)

■ Yes ■ No ■ NA



## Section C: Components of a National Scheme

Proposed 5 key components :

- ☐ Foundation in Regulation
- ☐ Role of Regulatory Body
  - ☐ Management of assessment process ? [C1]
  - ☐ Criteria for “assessors” ? [C2]
- ☐ Administrative aspects
- ☐ Criteria for competence
  - ☐ Acceptable evidence ? [C3]
  - ☐ Length of “pre-recognition” experience ? [C4]
- ☐ Period of validity (of recognition)
  - ☐ Time bound or valid indefinitely ? [C5]
  - ☐ Mechanism for re-recognition ? [C6]



## Section C: Components of a National Scheme

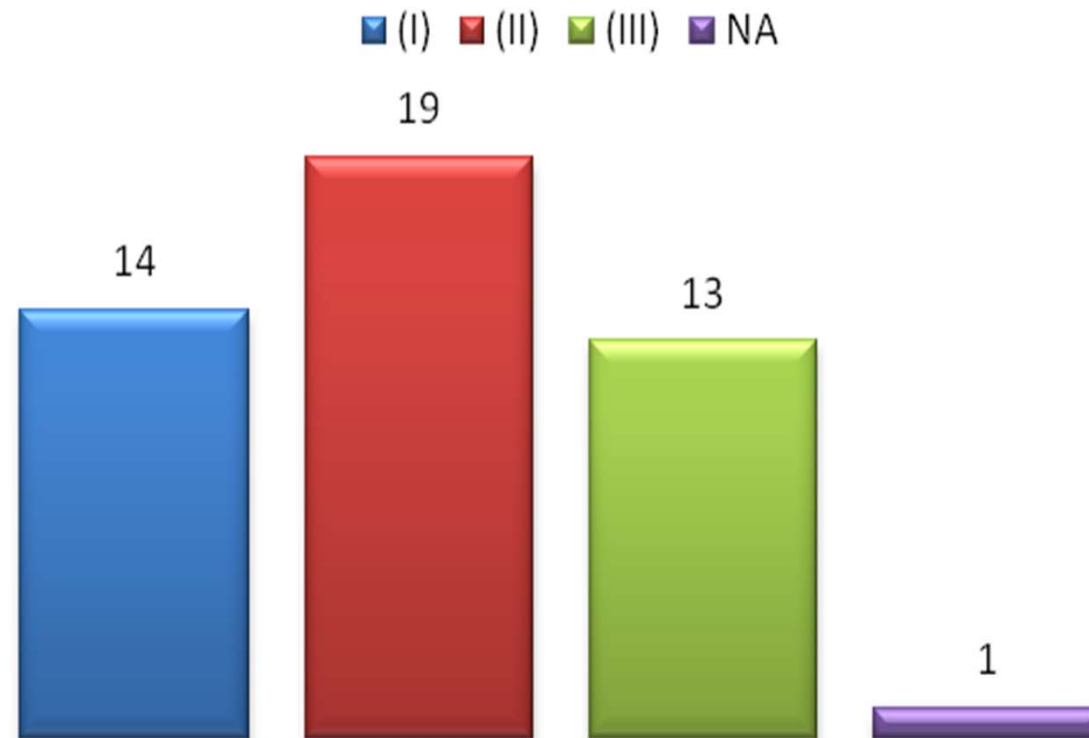
### C1 : Management of Recognition

Which of the following options would you find acceptable\* ?

- i) Assessment of competence & awarding of recognition undertaken by RA only
- ii) Assessment ...undertaken by individuals ..acting in accordance with specified criteria. Outcome forwarded to the RA for consideration..
- iii) Assessment ... & awarding...undertaken by individuals.. Acting in accordance with specified criteria

■ \* May chose more than one

### Acceptability of options for recognition process (overall)



### C2: Assessors

...would be expected to satisfy the following criteria :

- ☐ Able to satisfy the specific criteria for RPE recognition
- ☐ Active in the field of radiation protection...minimum of 10 years operational experience
- ☐ Member of a recognised professional society
- ☐ Act independently and remain impartial
- ☐ Active contributor to the profession ... Nationally and/or internationally

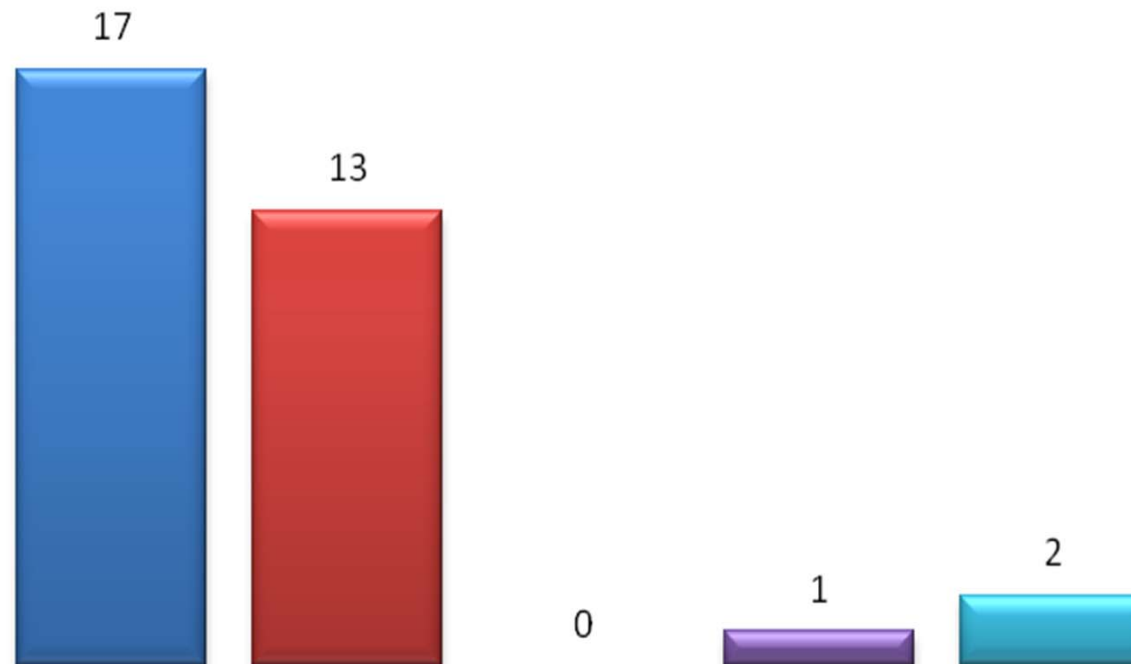
### C3: Acceptable Evidence

Which of the following would you find acceptable ?

- i) Submission of documentary evidence only
- ii) Interview with candidate
- iii) Observation of candidate “at work”
- iv) Combination of all of the above

### Acceptability of options for evidence to support Recognition (Overall)

■ (i) ■ (ii) ■ (iii) ■ (iv) ■ NA



## Section C: Components of a National Scheme

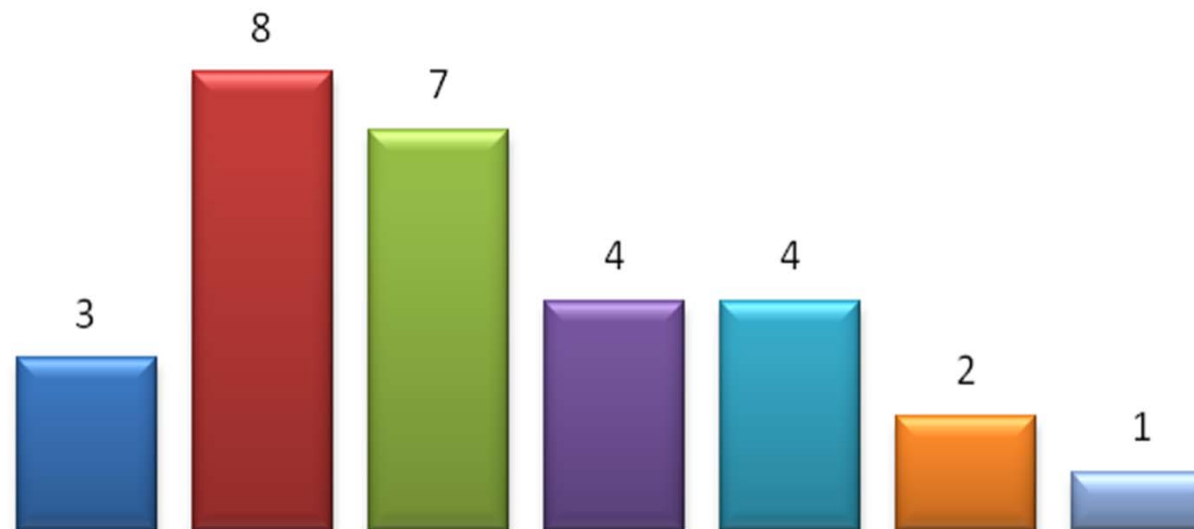
### C4: Pre-recognition experience ?

How long should a prospective RPE have been working & gaining practical experience in radiation protection before eligible for recognition ?

- i) 0 years (not needed)
- ii) 1 year
- iii) 3 years
- iv) 5 years
- v) > 5 years (please specify)

### Time before eligible for Recognition (Overall)

■ 0 yrs ■ 1 yr ■ 3 yr ■ 5 yrs ■ >5yrs ■ NA ■ Varies



## Section C: Components of a National Scheme

### C5: Period of Validity

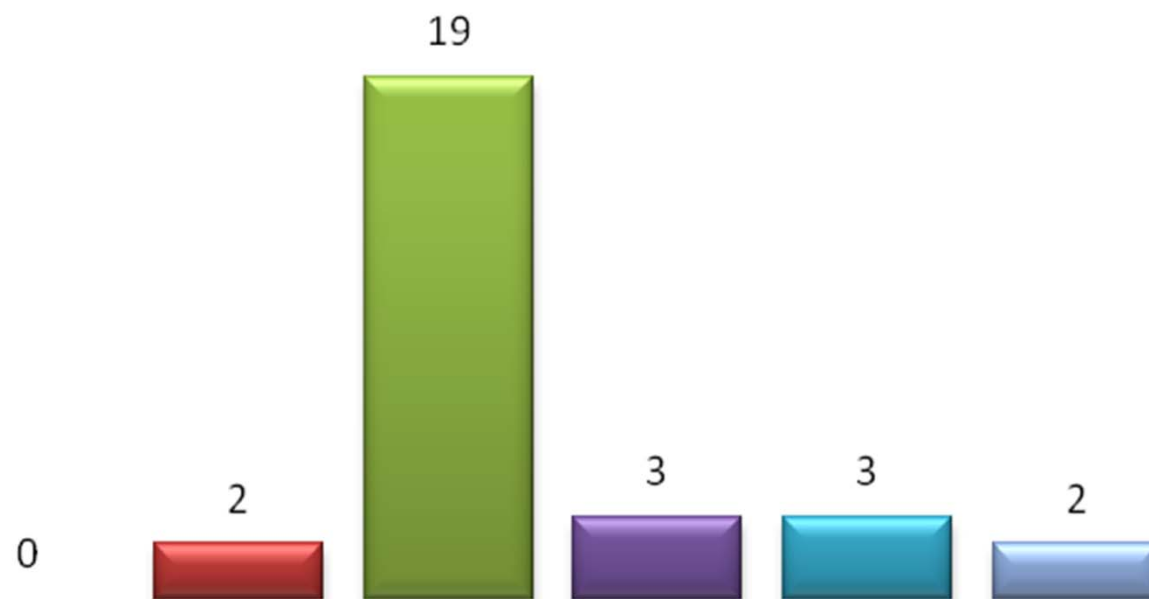
Should RPE recognition be time bound or, once gained, valid indefinitely ?

- i) valid for 1 year
- ii) valid for 3 years
- iii) valid for 10 years
- iv) valid indefinitely



### Period of Validity (Overall)

1 yr 3 yrs 5yrs 10 yrs Indefinitely NA



## Section C: Components of a National Scheme

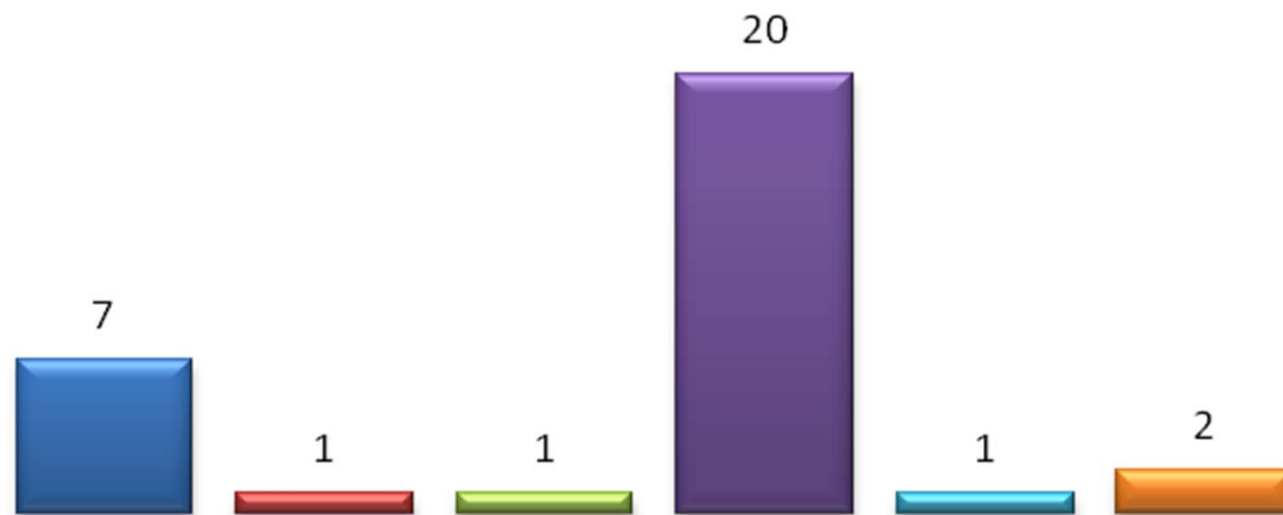
### C6 : Re-Recognition

If recognition is timebound then a mechanism for re-recognition will be required. Preferred option ?

- i) Automatic re-recognition
- ii) Repeat the full process
- iii) Interview to confirm competence
- iv) Re-recognition subject to being able to demonstrate CPD
- v) Other (please specify)

### Preferred option for re-recognition (Overall)

■ (i) ■ (ii) ■ (iii) ■ (iv) ■ (v) ■ NA



# Proposal: Requirements for Core Competence

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*i) An education to:*

*Bachelor degree level either specifically in radiation protection, or in a physical/engineering/mathematical discipline*

**OR**

*An academic equivalent*

*ii) Knowledge and understanding of each of the topics in the basic/reference syllabus*

*iii) Knowledge of operational radiation protection methods*

*iv) The ability to develop and provide appropriate advice with respect to*

*Legislation*      *Hazard/Risk Assessment*      *Optimization*

*Area Monitoring*      *Personal Dosimetry*

*Designation of Areas*

*Classification of Workers*

*v) A minimum of 3 years experience working in radiation protection environment*

*Note: With respect to (iii) and (iv) above it is considered to be the responsibility of the Regulatory Authority, or a 3<sup>rd</sup> party operating with the approval of the Regulatory Authority to establish any further detailed criteria that may be deemed necessary*

## Establishment of Overall Framework

Requirement for RPE Recognition to be **established in national legislation**



**Basis on which RPE Recognition will be awarded** (ie criteria for core competence) to be established



An appropriate number of assessors/assessing bodies to undertake the **assessment of core competence** should be identified. Regulatory Authority to establish criteria that assessor(s) must satisfy.



Individuals/organizations with **authority to award recognition** of core competence should be identified by the Regulatory Authority

## Operation of Scheme

Once eligible, prospective RPEs submit required documentary evidence to the assessor(s)/assessing body.



Assessors consider evidence and conduct interview with prospective RPE.



Outcome of assessment notified to those with responsibility for awarding recognition. If criteria of competence satisfied, individual is awarded RPE status, valid for not more than 5 years.



At end of period of validity RPE should apply for re-recognition

# “Mutual Recognition”

Primary objective is to facilitate movement of RPEs between Member States – as such, the process has to be practical and straightforward.

## “Mutual Recognition”

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....the emphasis, therefore, on recognising RPE status conferred by another country. The individual should not have to go through the full process of RPE recognition again !

***“mutual acceptance”***



Component of Recognition	Transferable ?	Further evidence required by Assessing Body ?	Further action required by RPE ?
i) An education to ...	Yes	No	No
ii) Knowledge ..topics..in basic syllabus	Yes	No	No
iii) Knowledge of operational rad. prot. methods	Yes	Summary of areas in which experience was gained would be of value.	No
iv) Ability to develop and provide ...advice	Yes ...with exception of "legislation". Fluency of language must be considered.	Yes	RPE to gain knowledge of national legislation (as directed by the assessing body). May wish to improved language skills.
v) A minimum of 3 yrs experience...	Yes	Summary of areas in which experience was gained would be of value.	No

## Framework of Operation

The RPE wishing to practice in a European Member State other than his/her own submits required **documentary evidence** to the assessor(s)/assessing body of the country in question. That is:

- Evidence of RPE recognition in home country - Resume of RPE experience –*
- Statement of language ability - Evidence of knowledge/understanding of radiation protection legislation of new country*



Assessor(s)/Assessing Body conducts an **interview** with the applicant



Approval to practice as an RPE in the new country awarded. Information sufficient to inform with respect to consideration of suitability to be included with formal approval. Approval to run co-incidental with RPE's original recognition.



At the end of the period of validity RPE required to apply for re-recognition.

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