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NEWSLETTER

European Training and Education in Radiation Protection Platform

In this isseu more about the Enetrap project, AEA-NSRW training events and the workshop programme

Editorial

The preparations for the first EUTERP workshop are in full swing now. The interest for this event is overwhelming. When writing this, more than 70 participants have registered, coming from 33 countries. The workshop has also raised interest outside the European Union and its Candidate and Associated States: a special welcome to the participants from Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Macedonia and Tajikistan. I am looking forward to share your views and experiences on the role, qualifications and requirements for recognition of Radiation Protection Experts and Officers.

The workshop is surely the most outstanding activity of the Platform. The outcome of our workshop is extremely important, as it will give input for the European Commission for the revision of the Euratom Basic Safety Standards (Directive 96/29/EURATOM). The existing Directive has a definition of the Qualified Expert in which the words “knowledge”, “training”, “capacity” and “recognition” are central elements, but studies have shown that the Member States of the EU have interpreted this in various ways when implementing this in their national regulations. The findings and conclusions of the ENETRAP project, carried out under the 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission and presented at the workshop, will give us the basic material for our discussions in order to define the elements for a common understanding of the necessary qualifications and requirements for those persons that are in charge of assuring a safe use of ionizing radiation. An introduction to this project can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The EUTERP website has become operational since the end of last year. The number of visits is increasing. This is certainly caused by the on-line registration facility for the workshop, showing that, after some initial questions, more and more people could find their way to it. I would, however, like to receive your comments about the user-friendliness of the website. If there are some complaints we can try to improve it. Suggestions are welcome.

A start has been made of the Forum function. Some questions have been placed on it. This function may become more important after the workshop. At that time I am sure that we will not have solved all the problems, and we can use the Forum function to continue our discussions.

We would like to extend the website with information from other networks, organisations, institutes, etc. that are related to training and education in radiation protection. Information and links to websites can be sent to me. Another extension is to establish a database of training events and training materials. Such a database can eventually develop into a list of training events and materials that are earmarked as good quality courses. This is an issue to be taken up in the future work programme of EUTERP, and we could start to discuss it at our workshop. In the meantime, if you have any information that you want to be placed on the website: just inform me.

About 2/3 of the participating countries of the EUTERP Platform have appointed a National Contact Point. A list of National Contact Points is added in this Newsletter (if you are not on the list: please inform me!). This is also a sign of the interest that countries have shown in the Platform and it reflects the importance given to the subjects that we are dealing with. I am aware that in several countries the participants of the Platform have already discussed at a national level the issues that we will address at the workshop. This is exactly what I had in mind when I explained the role of the National Contact Points in Newsletter 1. I would like to ask the remaining countries to join the majority and appoint their NCP.

I hope this Newsletter raises your interest. I would like to receive your comments about it. And of course, if you are interested to contribute to the Newsletter, please send me your information. More copies of the Newsletters can be downloaded from the website www.euterp.eu.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE ENETRAP PROJECT

Occupational, public and environmental radiation protection is a major challenge in the industrial applications of ionizing radiation, both in the nuclear and non-nuclear domain, as well as in other areas such as the medical and the research area. As is the case with all nuclear expertise, there is a trend of a decreasing number of experts in radiation protection. Maintaining a high level of competencies in this field is crucial for (i) the future research and development of safe applications of ionizing radiation and (ii) the assurance of the protection of workers, the public and the environment.

The ENETRAP project

The European Network on Education and Training in Radiation Protection (ENETRAP) consists of 10 partners: SCK•CEN (coordinator, Belgium), INSTN (France), BfS (Germany), FZK-FTU (Germany), NRG (The Netherlands), ENEA (Italy), CIEMAT (Spain), HPA-RTD (UK), North Highland College (Scotland) and the university of Grenoble UJF (France). ENETRAP 6FP is a coordination action under contract number FI6O-516529, started in April 2005 and runs until December 2007.

The ENETRAP project aims to establish a sustainable Education and Training (E&T) infrastructure for radiation protection as an essential component to combat the decline in expertise and to ensure the continuation of the high level of radiation protection knowledge. In a first phase, ENETRAP concentrates on the Qualified Expert, but also the role of the RPOfficers and the workers are to be looked at. The E&T infrastructure needs to offer both the initial training ("Education", knowledge based, in general provided by the academic sector to students) and the continued maintenance of appropriate competencies ("Training", also provided by research and training centres, on all aspects of radiation protection and at all levels).

Recent studies have shown that there is a wide variety of approaches to E&T of the Qualified Expert across the EU. National education and training programmes show often large differences in content, duration, level, the introduction of practical work, etc. In answer to the need to develop a common European radiation protection and safety culture and, based on that, the mutual recognition for radiation protection courses and the acquired competencies of Qualified Experts, the ENETRAP project is working on a European harmonized approach of E&T programmes in radiation protection.

The main objectives of the ENETRAP project are:

- to better integrate existing education and training activities in the radiation protection infrastructure of the European countries in order to combat the decline in both student numbers and teaching institutions;
- to develop more harmonized approaches for education and training in radiation protection in Europe and their implementation;
- to better integrate the national resources and capacities for education and training;
- to provide the necessary competence and expertise for the continued safe use of radiation in industry, medicine and research.

It is the intention that these objectives are achieved via the establishment of a European-wide E&T network in radiation protection which will:

- assess training needs and capabilities;
- identify the potential users and their future involvement in order to insure the sustainability of the network;
- launch a consortium of universities with the aim to create an European Master in Radiation Protection (EMRP);
- review the scientific contents of current E&T activities;
- explore the effectiveness of on-the-job training and identify options for additional programmes;
- propose recommendations for the recognition of courses and competencies of radiation protection experts;
- make recommendations for revising the current European Radiation Protection Course (ERPC) to include a system for credit points and modern educational tools, such as e-learning and distance learning.

As such, the ENETRAP project can be seen as a research programme which will deliver input and recommendations to the EUTERP Platform.

The main deliverables of the ENETRAP project are:

- a report on the status, value and appropriateness of current E&T initiatives within the EU;
- a proposal for the establishment of a Universities Consortium which will develop a EMRP;
- a proposal for a revised syllabus and programme for an "ENETRAP training scheme" as a revision of the former ERPC and the delivery of one or two pilot sessions;
- recommendations to EUTERP regarding the way forward with respect to (i) required developments in E&T education and training resources to support the Qualified Expert, and (ii) establishing a system for mutual recognition of training and competencies.

Results

In a first phase of the ENETRAP project a questionnaire was set up. The objective of this questionnaire was to elicit detailed information which would enable us to:

- assess the actual training needs in the EU Member States and Candidate States;
- understand the various regulatory aspects and consequently propose minimum requirements for mutual recognition of RPEs and RPOs;
- collate details of the various training and education activities available in the EU Member and Candidate States, and
- review the content, structure and methods of these training and education activities.

Hereto, an extensive list of questions was set up addressing the following topics:

- numbers of RPEs;
- identification of practices;
- national capabilities for education and training in radiation protection;
- regulatory requirements and
- recognition.

This questionnaire was sent out to 31 countries, i.e. the European Member States, the Candidate States Croatia and Turkey, and the Associated States Norway and Switzerland. We are grateful to the 29 countries who showed an interest in ENETRAP and who replied to this vast document.

Meanwhile a Universities Consortium was set up consisting of INSTN, NHC, technical University of Prague and UJF. The latter one is coordinating a proposal to the DG EDUC to establish the EMRP.

A proposal for the content and approach of the ENETRAP training scheme (revision of the former European Radiation Protection Training Course) was also put forward. ENETRAP based its recommendations on:

- the answers to the questionnaire;
- a study on the need and effectiveness of on-the-job training (OJT);
- a study on the approach of e- and distance learning tools;
- a study of the EU and IAEA requirements and syllabi for Qualified Experts.

More detailed information about the different studies mentioned above will be presented at the first EUTERP workshop, where the first afternoon of the programme is entirely dedicated to the dissemination of the ENETRAP results.

Looking forward meeting you in Vilnius.

On behalf of the ENETRAP Consortium,

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IAEA-NSRW Training Events within the framework of Technical Cooperation Regional Radiation Protection Projects 2007

(TSA = Thematic Safety Area)

TSA	Project	Type	Title	Language	Host country	Date start	Date end
TSA1	RER9092	RTC	**Customs Radiation Safety Course**	Russian	Russia	3 July	6 July
TSA1	RER9092	RTC	**Training Course for Lawyers**	English	HQ IAEA	16 July	19 July
TSA1	RER9092	RTC	**Customs Radiation Safety Course**	English	Cyprus	29 October	31 October
TSA1	RER9092	RTC	**Training Course for Lawyers**	Russian	Moldova	16 October	19 October
TSA2	RER9089	RTC	**Assessment of Occupational Exposure due to Intakes of Radionuclides, 2 weeks**	English	Greece	17 Sept. 2007	28 Sept. 2007
TSA2	RER9089	RTC	**Development of National Work Place Monitoring Programme by Member State**	English	Latvia	27 Aug. 2007	31 Aug. 2007
TSA2	RER9089	RTC	**Development of National Work Place Monitoring Programme by Member State (10 days)**	Russian	Russian Fed.	15 Nov. 2007	24 Nov. 2007
TSA3	RER9093	RWS	**Radiation Protection in diagnostic radiology for radiographers and radiology technologists**	English	**To be defined**		
TSA3	RER9093		**Group Training on practical demonstration of patient dose estimations in radiography, fluoroscopy, mammography and computed tomography**	English	Italy, Udne	13 June 2007	17 June 2007
TSA4	RER9094	RWS	**Experience on corrective actions at near surface repositories**	English	Hungary	12 June 07	13 June 07
TSA4	RER9094	RWS	**Control of Public Exposure**	Russian	Russia	26 June 07	29 June 07
TSA4	RER9094	RWS	**Safe Predisposal Managements of Radioactive Waste**	English	Spain	3 Sep 07	7 Sep 07
TSA5	RER9091	RWS	**Application of the Requirements (GS-R-2) and Guidance on Developing a National Capability for Response to Nuclear or Radiological Emergencies (a Fundamentals workshop).**	English	Cyprus	3 Sept. 2007	7 Sept. 2007
TSA5	RER9091	RTC	**Training Course for First Responders; 2 weeks**	Russian	Lithuania	8 Oct. 2007	19 Oct. 2007
TSA5	RER9091	NWS	**Practical Response to Radiological Emergencies (for First Responders) - *states Further to Regional Training-the Trainers Course***	English or Russian	*To be defined*		
TSA6	RER9090	PGEC	**Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radiation Sources (22 weeks)**	English	Greece	8 Oct. 2007	4 April 2008
TSA6	RER9090	PGEC	**Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radiation Sources (22 weeks)**	Russian	Belarus	25 Jan. 2008	

List of National Contact Points

Country	National Contact Point	Affiliation
Austria	Th. Geringer	ARC Seibersdorf
Belgium	L. van Bladel	Federal Agency for Nuclear Control
	P. Kockerols	Belgian Association for Radiological Protection
Czech Republic	H. Podskubkova	State Office for Nuclear Safety (SUJB)
Estonia	M. Lust	Radiation Protection Centre
Finland	R. Havukainen	STUK
France	Th. Lahaye	Ministry of Labour
Greece	P. Dimitriou	GAEC
Italy	A. Luciani	ENEA
	G. Cucchi	General Secretary of ANPEQ
Latvia	M. Caikovska	Ministry of Environment; Radiation Safety Centre
Lithuania	J. Karpenko	Radiation Protection Centre
Luxembourg	N. Harpes	Ministry of Health
Malta	P. Brejza	Radiation Protection Board
Netherlands	A. Vermeulen	Ministry of Social Affairs
Norway	T. Wøhni	National Radiation Protection Authority
Poland	P. Krajewski	Central Laboratory for Radiological Protection
Portugal	C. Oliveira	Nuclear and Technological Institute
Romania	M. Ceclan	Politechnic University of Bucharest
	V. Zsombori	National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control
Spain	M. Marco	CIEMAT
	B. Ekström	SSI
Switzerland	S.-G. Jahn	Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate
United Kingdom	R. Paynter	HPA-RPD

Last update: 8 April 2007

The Arkikatedra in Vilnius

The coat of arms of Vilnius

The armorial bearings of Vilnius show a picture of Saint Christopher (Kristupas) wading through the water with the infant Jesus on his shoulders. The coat of arms was given to the city in its seventh year of existence, i.e. in 1330.
In heathen times, until the end of the 14th century, the coat of arms of Vilnius characterized Titan Alkis, a hero in ancient Lithuanian stories, who carried his wife Janterytė on his shoulders over the river

Colophon

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First EUTERP Platform Workshop
"Qualifications and Requirements for Recognition of Radiation Protection Experts, Radiation Protection Officers and Radiation Workers"
Hotel and conference Centre Karolina
Sausio 13 street 2, Vilnius, Lithuania
22 – 24 May 2007

Objective

This workshop is the first in a yearly series of workshops of the EUTERP Platform. The aim of this particular workshop is to focus on finding a common denominator for international agreement on the qualifications for training and education and requirements for mutual recognition of Radiation Protection Experts (RPEs) and Radiation Protection Officers (RPOs). Since this is the first workshop, the objectives of the Platform will also be discussed, as well as the expectations of the participants with regard to the outcomes of the Platform. The workshop will consist of presentations (oral and posters) and work in small working groups.

Expected outcome

The workshop aims at providing recommendations to the European Commission for international agreement on the qualifications for training and education and requirements for mutual recognition of RPEs and RPOs.

Programme

Day 1

08.30Registration / Poster installation

Session 1: Setting the scene	Chair: A. Mastauskas
09.00Welcome addresses	Ministry of Health of Lithuania / A. Mastauskas / J. Naegele
09.15Introduction and objectives of the EUTERP Platform	J. van der Steen
09.30Objectives, outcome and work programme of the workshop	J. van der Steen
Session 2: International E&T activities and links with other networks	Chair: A. Mastauskas
09.45Training and education activities of the EC, DG TREN	J. Naegele
10.00Training and education activities of IAEA	G. Sadagopan
10.15Training and education activities of IRPA	Ch. Wernli
10.30Training and education activities of EFOMP	K. Olsen
10.45Coffee break / Poster viewing	
11.15European ALARA Network	Ch. Lefaure
11.30Regional European and Central Asian ALARA Network	G. Morkūnas
11.45EURADOS	E. Fantuzzi
12.00CHERNE	J. Ródenas
12.15Introduction to the ENETRAP project	M. Coeck
12.35Lunch	
Session 3: Results of the ENETRAP project	Chair: Ch. Wernli
14.00Assessment of training needs	A. Luciani
14.20Interpretation of the definition of the QE in national legislations and requirements for competences of RPEs, RPOs and workers	J. Stewart
14.50The role of on-the-job training in building competence	A. Schmitt-Hannig
15.10The use of e-learning in radiation protection training	M. Marco-Arboli
15.30Coffee break / Poster viewing	

16.00 Comparison of the EC and IAEA syllabus with the European Radiation Protection Course	A. Schmitt-Hannig
16.15 Establishment of the ENETRAP Training Scheme in Radiation Protection	P. Livolsi
16.30 Establishment of the European Master Course in Radiation Protection	J. Balosso
16.45 General discussion on the results of the ENETRAP project	
17.15 Poster viewing	
18.00 End of day 1	
19.00 Buffet	

Day 2

Session 4: Contributions to and expectations of national participation in EUTERP	Chair: J. Naegele
09.00 Country presentation - Belgium	L. van Bladel
09.15 Country presentation - Croatia	N. Belamaric / D. Kubelka
09.30 Country presentation - Finland	R. Havukainen
09.45 Country presentation - France	Th. Lahaye
10.00 Country presentation - Germany	A. Schmitt-Hannig
10.15 Country presentation - Italy	G. Cucchi
10.30 Coffee break / Poster viewing	
11.00 Country presentation - Latvia	M. Caikovska
11.15 Country presentation - Poland	P. Krajewski
11.30 Country presentation - Romania	M. Ceclan
11.45 Country presentation - Spain	M. Marco-Arboli
12.00 Country presentation - Sweden	B. Ekström
12.15 Country presentation - UK	R. Paynter
12.30 Summary of the poster presentations	I. McAulay
12.45 Summary of the oral presentations	R. Paynter
13.00 Introduction of the Working Groups	J. van der Steen
13.15 Lunch	
Session 5: Discussion on programmatic issues	Chair: R. Paynter
14.45 Working Groups	
17.15 Intermediate reports of Working Groups	Chairs of WGs
18.00 End of day 2	

Day 3

Session 5: Discussion on programmatic issues (cont'd)	Chair: I. McAulay
08.30 Working Groups	
10.00 Coffee break	
10.30 Final reports of Working Groups	Chairs of WGs
11.30 Lunch	
Session 6: Results of the workshop	Chair: G. Morkūnas
14.00 Conclusions and recommendations	J. van der Steen
15.15Identification of issues for next year's work programme	
15.25Date and place of next workshop	
15.30Closure	