

RECORD OF THE CEG WORKSHOP
PROBLEMS OF MULTI-PURPOSE NUCLEAR SUBMARINE DISMANTLING
IN THE NORTH-WEST REGION OF RUSSIA
26-27 March 2003, Severodvinsk, Russian Federation

The workshop of the IAEA Contact Expert Group (CEG) was organised at the initiative of Mr. T.Norendal, Chairman of the CEG, and Mr. S.Antipov, Deputy Minister, Minatom, who also co-chaired the workshop. The workshop was organised by Zvezdochka Shipyard in cooperation with Onega Special Design Bureau and the CEG Secretariat. Organisation of the CEG workshop was sponsored by the UK Department of Trade and Industry and by the CEG member-countries through the CEG Secretariat.

The CEG workshop was attended by representatives from 10 countries: Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, and the European Commission. During the workshop the Russian side presented detailed information on major aspects of the multi-purpose nuclear submarine dismantling activities and problems in implementation of this task. As a result of discussions the following conclusions were drawn:

I. At present sufficient capabilities are available in the North-West Region of Russia for implementation of the Programme for Integral Nuclear Submarines (NS) Dismantling by 2010. The shipyards have the necessary equipment, skilled staff and developed infrastructure.

II. A number of problems have been resolved within the framework of international cooperation, mainly with the USA and Norway including construction of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) unloading facilities and equipment for further SNF management, liquid radioactive waste (LRW) treatment plants, and others.

III. The most difficult problem now is insufficient funding of the NS dismantling.

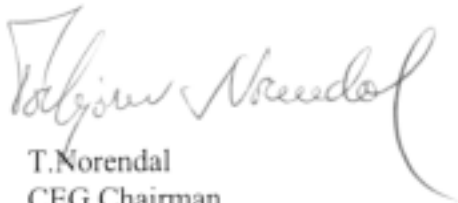
IV. Participants of the workshop underline the necessity of active cooperation between interested countries and international organizations in solving the following urgent tasks related to multi-purpose nuclear submarines dismantling.

1. Providing buoyancy, explosion and fire safety, nuclear and radiation safety during the NS storage in the waiting mode.
2. Development of the technical means for safe NS transportation to dismantling site.
3. Creation of infrastructure for toxic wastes handling (sites for collection, interim storage at the place of generation, regional centers for toxic wastes treatment and isolation).
4. Development of standard design documentation for dismantling multi-purpose nuclear submarines of different classes.
5. Pilot dismantling of multi-purpose nuclear submarines kept on hold in Gremikha, at Zvezdochka and Nerpa Shipyards in 2003.
6. Shipyards outfit with technological equipment required for safe NS dismantling that includes the following:
 - Deployment of environmentally safe techniques for hull cutting;
 - Upgrading and construction of solid radioactive waste (SRW) treatment facilities;

- Construction of mobile facilities for the treatment of LRW with complex chemical composition;
 - Safety improvements of RW interim storage sites;
 - Upgrading and deployment of equipment for physical protection and radiation monitoring systems.
7. Construction of on-shore reactor compartments (RC) storage facility at Sayda Bay including necessary RC management infrastructure.
 8. Integral dismantling of NS with liquid metal coolant reactors.
 9. Establishment of regional center for SRW treatment and interim storage.

V. In spite of substantial financial allocations from the RF budget for Andreeva Bay and Gremikha storage sites remediation, additional international assistance for these activities would speed up the multi-purpose nuclear submarines dismantling.

International cooperation on the above issues would improve the radiation and environmental safety in the Arctic region.



T.Norendal
CEG Chairman
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Norway

S.Antipov
Vice Minister
Minatom of Russia

