

**RECORD OF THE CEG WORKSHOP
on Environmental Impact and Risk Assessment as Applied to the
Dismantling of Nuclear Submarines and the Remediation of Sites
17-19 March 2004, Oxford, United Kingdom**

The workshop of the IAEA Contact Expert Group (CEG) was organised according to decision of the 17th CEG meeting (November 2003, Murmansk). The workshop was organised by the UK Department of Trade and Industry and RWE NUKEM in cooperation with the CEG Secretariat and Minatom of Russia.

The CEG workshop was attended by representatives from 10 countries: Canada, Finland France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, Japan and European Commission, International Scientific and Technical Center and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

During the workshop the Russian side presented the following information:

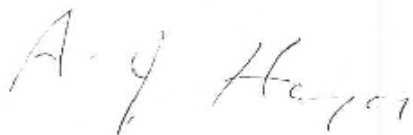
- requirements of Russian rules and regulations on performing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA),
- procedures for the EIA development and interaction with regulatory bodies,
- experience on EIA development for remediation of nuclear and radiation hazardous facilities and dismantling of nuclear submarines (NS),
- application of risk assessments for prioritisation of projects and for safety management during remediation of sites.

Western experts presented information on their experience in risk management and the donors requirements for the mitigation of risks for the projects they finance have been discussed.

Key outcomes of the workshop were elaborated and recommended as a set of key guiding principles for the donor funded projects in the Russian Federation (see Attachment A).

As a result of discussions of the presentations made a number of conclusions and recommendations were made and agreed (see Attachment B).

The CEG workshop considered that close cooperation on risk management would strongly benefit to successful implementation of projects to satisfaction of donors.



Alan Heyes
Acting Chairman of the CEG



Victor Akhunov
Head of the delegation of the Russian Federation

Guiding Principles for the Donor Funding Projects

Nuclear legacy projects in Russia involve risk. The Partners must work together to ensure that all risk aspects, including those to successful project delivery, health and safety and the environment, are assessed and reviewed from inception and continuously throughout the duration of each project. To this end the following guiding principles have been recommended:

1. Projects should be planned as far ahead as practicable to allow Partners to prepare accordingly. Access should be afforded to all appropriate information to meet individual Donor requirements to make their funding decisions. This could include existing environmental impact and other risk assessments.
2. A Total Risk Management process should be used for all projects. This process is taken to manage all risks associated with successful project delivery (Project Risk), Health & Safety and Environmental Impacts. This process should be employed from inception and continuously throughout the life of the project.
3. The Total Risk Management process should be transparent and interactive between Stakeholders, including regulators, from the outset.
4. The Total Risk Management process should be employed to aid decision making at all stages.
5. Current Russian practice should be employed as the basis for obtaining necessary regulatory approvals.
6. The Partners will work together to develop and support the Total Risk Management process.

These guiding principles are designed not to hinder, but facilitate the timely implementation of projects and their successful completion and to aid the transparency and improve confidence to all Stakeholders. These principles build upon the comprehensive framework already in place in the Russian Federation.

Main Conclusions and Recommendations of the Workshop

1. System of requirements based on Russian rules and regulations for EIA conduction, its review and interaction with the regulators in general is similar to the one used in the West. Level of the EIA detalisation for projects on construction of installations and facilities depends on the project development stage. For projects dealing with NS dismantling and remediation of nuclear sites the available requirements should be applied at the extend possible with due consideration of the facilities' specifics. Similar situation has been established in the Western countries too.
2. Conduction of EIA and risk assessments is a compulsory part of the international projects financed by Western donors and related to nuclear and radiation hazardous facilities, and this work needs to be conducted jointly. Since the Russian side bears all responsibility on EIA development and actual implementation of projects as implied by current Russian legislation and regulations, actual development of EIA should be performed by Russian experts. Western experts can conduct peer review of the EIA documentation produced and presented by the Russian side, assess the methodology that have been applied and analyses completed, and provide advice and technical assistance.
3. The workshop participants agreed that it is necessary to conduct joint projects on development of generic EIAs for three shipyards in the North-west Russia involved in nuclear submarine dismantling. These generic EIAs will include the list of environmental conditions for safe management of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel at the shipyards, assessment of technologies and tools used there together with installations and facilities in place. These data are mostly specific for the shipyards and less dependent of the type and state of particular submarine that is to be dismantled. Specific features of a given submarine will be considered in the NS specific EIA, which is to be produced as a part of design documentation for the NS dismantling as implied by the Russians regulations. This approach will speed up preparation and implementation of the Western sponsored projects and address the donors' needs and requirements.
4. In a similar way the workshop participants recognised the need to conduct joint projects on development of generic EIAs for Andreeva Bay and for Gremikha sites, which are being remediated. These generic EIAs will cover description and evaluation of the current situation at the sites, include the lists of environmental conditions for safe management of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, and other information that is required, but not related to specific remediation technologies and facilities to be applied. These generic EIAs will speed up production of project specific EIAs that need to be prepared within the frame of design documentation, preparation and implementation of the Western sponsored projects and address the donors' needs and requirements.