

## IAEA NSSC NETWORK NEWSLETTER ISSUE 6 | OCTOBER 2020

## **Chair's Welcome**

## Welcome to the sixth issue of the NSSC Network Newsletter!

As the new Chair of the NSSC Network, I am pleased to highlight progress that <u>the International</u> <u>Network for Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres (NSSC Network)</u> has made toward achieving major objectives since the previous publication of this Newsletter in March 2020.

This year has been unlike any previous years and we have all been called to quickly adapt to new ways of work and communication. The new Network Bureau has fully embraced the 'new normal' to develop several effective methods of remote collaboration. In June, the Bureau gathered virtually to review the progress in implementation of the three Working Groups' Action Plans, identify key actions for the coming year, and discuss actions in preparation for the upcoming Annual Meeting in 2021.

The Bureau also discussed remote collaboration methods to carry out an effective overall Network strategy in 2020-2021 and agreed to hold, with the assistance of the IAEA Secretariat, virtual meetings and discussions where possible. As a result, there were changes to dates and modes of key planned activities such as the Annual Meeting of the NSSC Network, meetings of regional groups, consultancy meetings and technical exchange visits.

Each of the Network's Working Groups A, B and C hosted an informal virtual meeting with their members in August this year to discuss, draft and adopt new Action Plans for 2020-2021. The regional subgroups within the NSSC Network also continue to collaborate and cooperate together virtually. In September, both the Hungary-Lithuania-Ukraine Consortium and the Asia Regional Network (China, Japan and Korea) met virtually to further discuss ways of cooperation and collaboration.

The *In Focus* article in this edition captures the impact of COVID-19 at the Japan NSSC in further detail. Also in September, the IAEA Secretariat hosted the first webinar on the new IAEA publication "Establishing and Operating an National Nuclear Security Support Centre" (IAEA-TDL-010). More information on the publication is available in this issue.

For the remainder of 2020 and beyond, we expect a dynamic and productive future as always, with further effective and innovative ways to strengthen the Network. I look forward to the series of consultancy meetings on developing a pilot regional workshop and its materials on establishing and operating an NSSC, based on the new IAEA publication TDL-010. These will be considered with

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effective remote solutions in mind so that we are ready to reach countries by 2021 regardless of travel restrictions.

I also look forward to the up coming Bureau Meeting at the end of 2020, the Annual Meeting of the NSSC Network in April 2021, and the Technical Exchange Visit on Human Resource Development for the Asia Pacific region, to be conducted by the Asia Regional Network and the IAEA in September 2021.

Finally, I am proud to mention that the NSSC Network is prepared for remote collaboration and cooperation thanks to the efforts in the past years of the Information Management Tools Task Force and Working Groups to develop online tools for information sharing and collaboration. The new <u>Network Database</u> and <u>Network Calendar</u> helps us to share and track priorities of the Network members. The newly launched <u>Library of Lessons Learned and Case Studies (LiLLaCS)</u> documents — shares experiences and good practices among NSSC Network Members. Until we are able to travel freely and gather in person, I strongly encourage the Network members to take full advantage of the Network's tools and to keep them updated in line with constant changes in these times.

As always, I would like to thank all contributors to this issue, especially the leadership of Working Group C (Information Sharing, Promotion, and Outreach) and the IAEA for their ongoing cooperation and support for development of our Newsletter. The next issue is expected in Spring 2021 (here).

\* NUSEC and NSSC Network webpage access is available only for Members of the NSSC Network and participants of NSSC Network meetings.



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