

TERMS OF REFERENCE

International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group

Definition

1. The International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group (INSAG) is a group of experts with high professional competence in the field of nuclear and radiation safety and experience of working in regulatory organizations, nuclear industry, technical support organisations, research or academic institutions. INSAG will be convened by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with the objective of providing the Director General of the IAEA with authoritative advice and recommendations on current and emerging issues in nuclear and radiation safety approaches, policies and principles.

Scope

2. INSAG shall address fundamental safety issues as well as current and emerging matters of importance relevant to the nuclear and radiation safety of all facilities and activities¹, including nuclear security issues insofar as they relate to nuclear and radiation safety.

Functions

3. Within this scope, INSAG shall:

(a) identify important current and emerging safety issues and aim to draw conclusions on the basis of results of safety related activities and developments worldwide, and other information such as research and development results;

(b) identify issues on which an exchange of information and/or additional international efforts would be required;

(c) recommend the safety approaches and principles upon which appropriate safety standards or other IAEA measures should be based and applied;

(d) advise on activities relevant to Major Programme 3²; and

(e) advise on specific safety issues of international importance, at the request of the Director General of the IAEA.

Membership

4. INSAG shall have no more than 18 members, including a chairperson. The INSAG membership should take due account of technical, geographical and gender diversity. The members of INSAG shall be appointed by the Director General of the IAEA for a four-year period.

5. Members shall participate in INSAG in their personal capacity and shall not represent their Governments or organizations. Their participation shall not be delegated.

¹ **Facilities and Activities** A general term encompassing nuclear facilities, uses of all sources of ionizing radiation, all radioactive waste management activities, transport of radioactive material and any other practice or circumstances in which people may be exposed to radiation from naturally occurring or artificial sources.

² **Major Programme 3** promotes the worldwide achievement and maintenance of high levels of nuclear safety and security to protect people, society and the environment from ionizing radiation, and forms part of the biennial IAEA Programme and Budget.

Working Methods

6. INSAG shall determine its own working procedures.
7. INSAG may establish task groups composed of INSAG members and/or other recognized experts to study specific problems. The terms of reference and membership of such groups shall be determined by INSAG.
8. If agreed by the IAEA and INSAG, the chairperson of INSAG will act as the spokesperson of INSAG in communicating its views to the international nuclear community, the media and the public. The recommendations and opinions of INSAG may, if agreed by the Director General, be published through the IAEA.
9. The chairperson shall periodically inform the Director General of the completed, ongoing and planned work of INSAG.
10. The chairperson of INSAG will invite to its meeting the Deputy Director General of the IAEA's Department of Nuclear Safety and Security and other designated representatives of the IAEA Secretariat.
11. Meetings of INSAG shall be convened by its chairperson through notifications to be issued by the Scientific Secretary. INSAG shall meet as frequently as required, but not less than once per year.
12. Task groups shall meet as necessary to accomplish their designated task(s).
13. Meetings of INSAG and task groups shall be conducted in English.

Outcomes

14. INSAG's advice and recommendations should be recorded and submitted to DG from INSAG after each regular meeting.
15. In addition, INSAG may produce publications on relevant nuclear and radiation safety as identified (INSAG Publications).

Secretariat, Administrative Support and Costs

16. The Scientific Secretary and administrative services for INSAG and its task groups shall be provided by the IAEA Secretariat.
17. The travel and living expenses of INSAG members attending meetings of INSAG and of experts attending meetings of task groups shall, whenever possible, be borne by their respective organizations.

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