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EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT
(EUR-OPA)

International Workshop

**PUBLIC AUTHORITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY TOGETHER FOR A
SAFE EUROPEAN NUCLEAR FUTURE**

“Learning from the Chernobyl legacy to make European nuclear energy safer: the role of local communities, authorities and central governments in emergency preparedness and management “

Kiev, Ukraine, 22-23 September, 2008
Hotel Rus, Kiev

CONCLUSIONS



The international workshop “***Public authorities and civil society together for a safe European nuclear future: learning from the Chernobyl legacy to make European nuclear energy safer: the role of local communities, authorities and central governments in emergency preparedness and management***” was held in Kiev, Ukraine **22-23 September, 2008**.

The main aim of the Workshop was to define priorities and tools for better emergency preparedness of populations living in the areas that might be affected by an accident at a Nuclear Power Plant (NPP). This should be done by disseminating best European practices on emergency planning; co-operation between the state, local authorities and NPP operators; early warning procedures; iodine prophylaxis and other protective actions.

The participants of the Workshop (*see list attached*) were representatives of international organizations: European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe (EUR-OPA), Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Also national, regional and local authorities and communities’ representatives, Mayors of cities from 14 countries: Armenia, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Sweden and others, discussed and adopted the conclusions of the workshop as presented below.

Background

Energy is an essential part of modern life. If we are to continue to be a modern society, we need safe, clean and sufficient sources of energy for the future.

Nuclear power has some advantages compared to fossil fuels, like low-carbon emissions – helping to minimise climate change, also increasing diversity and reducing our dependence on any one technology or country for energy or fuel supplies.

However, nuclear power also has disadvantages. Each NPP is an accumulator of huge amounts of radioactivity and thus is a source of risk. Although construction and operation of nuclear power plants are closely monitored and regulated, an accident, though unlikely, is possible.

For any incidents that do occur, the practical measures to minimize the consequences on human life and health and on the environment have to be ready at all times for rapid and effective implementation, prepared on the basis of best international experience. The Chernobyl disaster stands as a testimony that a nuclear accident has no respect for local, national or international boundaries. Nuclear safety cannot be confined to a single country’s political and administrative boundaries. It demands effective neighbourhood solidarity and trans-frontier co-operation to ensure that each area concerned, irrespective of the country to which it is attached, is ready to respond. In this respect, it is important that authorities which have already experienced accidents, or which live under their threat, improve population safety through exchange of experiences.

Proposal

The participants of the Workshop recommend establishing a Euro-Mediterranean Communities' Network for Nuclear Safety "***Public Authorities and Civil Society together for a safe nuclear energy. Chernobyl lessons.***"

The main aim of the Community Network would be to foster better radiological protection and information for populations living in areas that might be affected in the case of an accident at a Nuclear Power Plant or any other nuclear facilities through dissemination of best European experience on emergency planning, early warning procedures, iodine prophylaxis and other elements of radiological protection.

The priority activities for 2009-2012 are to:

1. develop "Iodine Prophylaxis Administration Guidance" for local authorities;
2. develop and deploy a multi-level website "Radiological Hazard, what we must do in the case of an accident at a nuclear facility" for the benefit of people living in areas that might be affected in the case of an accident at such facilities;
3. organize training courses for local doctors on "Emergency medicine in the case of a radiological accident";
4. organize the development of modern teaching materials for schools and organize training courses for teachers on "Radiological Hazard";
5. organize training courses for journalists on "Communications with the public in the case of a radiological accident";
6. identify opportunities to support bilateral exchange study visits of local authorities and key community stakeholders (teachers, medical doctors);
7. examine insurance aspects of rehabilitation in the case of nuclear accident;
8. elaborate benchmark legal approaches for better co-operation between local communities and nuclear facility authorities.

The following institutional tasks were decided:

1. deploy a task force group;
2. develop a legal approach for the creation of the Network under the Council of Europe umbrella;
3. organise the inaugural meeting of the Network in Spring 2009.

List of participants

	<i>Family name</i>	<i>First name</i>	<i>Country</i>
1.	Badalyan	Stepan	<i>Armenia</i>
2.	Galstyan	Samvel	<i>Armenia</i>
3.	Ojaqov	Habib	<i>Azerbaijan</i>
4.	Bauwens	Luc	<i>Belgium</i>
5.	Bernaerts	Monique	<i>Belgium</i>
6.	Degeldre	Didier	<i>Belgium</i>
7.	Delcourt	Catherine	<i>Belgium</i>
8.	Dassy	Anne	<i>Belgium</i>
9.	Lhoest	Pascale	<i>Belgium</i>
10.	Ramacker	Benoît	<i>Belgium</i>
11.	Roets	Christiaan	<i>Belgium</i>
12.	Sorgeloos	Didier	<i>Belgium</i>
13.	Vandecasteele	Christian	<i>Belgium</i>
14.	Stoyanova	Gloria	<i>Bulgaria</i>
15.	Goodwin	Ruth	<i>Council of Europe</i>
16.	Antoniades	Christos	<i>Cyprus</i>
17.	Fernandez-Galiano	Eladio	<i>EUR-OPA</i>
18.	Pla	Francesc	<i>EUR-OPA</i>
19.	Demet	Michel	<i>France</i>
20.	Kerns	Kenneth	<i>IAEA</i>
21.	Muratore	Carmen Patrizia	<i>Italy</i>
22.	Toce	Barbara	<i>Italy</i>
23.	Feider	Michel	<i>Luxemburg</i>
24.	Micallef	Ian	<i>Malta</i>
25.	Carvalho Soares	Jose	<i>Portugal</i>
26.	Nagorny	Nikolay	<i>Red Cross</i>
27.	Granada	Maria Josefa	<i>Spain</i>
28.	Sterling	Agustina	<i>Spain</i>
29.	Almstrom	Pia	<i>Sweden</i>
30.	Andersson Öhrn	Barbro	<i>Sweden</i>
31.	Rosen	Mats	<i>Sweden</i>
32.	Söderblom	Anna- Lena	<i>Sweden</i>
33.	Doganoglu	Gaye	<i>Turkey</i>
34.	Bebeshko	Vladimir	<i>Ukraine</i>
35.	Belyi	David	<i>Ukraine</i>
36.	Kholosha	Vladimir	<i>Ukraine</i>
37.	Omelyanets	Nikolay	<i>Ukraine</i>
38.	Parashin	Sergey	<i>Ukraine</i>
39.	Poyarkov	Viktor	<i>Ukraine</i>
40.	Kazemirov	Alexandr	<i>Ukraine</i>
41.	O'Donnell	Francis M.	<i>UNDP</i>
42.	Zamostyan	Pavlo	<i>UNDP</i>
43.	Leshenko	Oksana	<i>UNDP</i>
44.	Remiga	Oksana	<i>UNDP</i>