

Unclassified

NEA/CNRA/R(2011)1

Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

17-Feb-2011

English text only

**NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY
COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY ACTIVITIES**

Cancels & replaces the same document of 13 January 2011

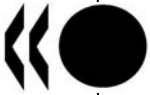
Joint CSNI/CNRA Strategic Plan and Mandates

2011 - 2016

This document is also issued as NEA/CSNI/R(2011)1

JT03296579

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
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NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY

The OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) was established on 1st February 1958 under the name of the OEEC European Nuclear Energy Agency. It received its present designation on 20th April 1972, when Japan became its first non-European full member. NEA membership today consists of 29 OECD member countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. The European Commission also takes part in the work of the Agency.

The mission of the NEA is:

- to assist its member countries in maintaining and further developing, through international co-operation, the scientific, technological and legal bases required for a safe, environmentally friendly and economical use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, as well as
- to provide authoritative assessments and to forge common understandings on key issues, as input to government decisions on nuclear energy policy and to broader OECD policy analyses in areas such as energy and sustainable development.

Specific areas of competence of the NEA include safety and regulation of nuclear activities, radioactive waste management, radiological protection, nuclear science, economic and technical analyses of the nuclear fuel cycle, nuclear law and liability, and public information.

The NEA Data Bank provides nuclear data and computer program services for participating countries. In these and related tasks, the NEA works in close collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, with which it has a Co-operation Agreement, as well as with other international organisations in the nuclear field.

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COMMITTEE ON THE SAFETY OF NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

The NEA Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) is an international committee made up of senior scientists and engineers, with broad responsibilities for safety technology and research programmes, and representatives from regulatory authorities. It was set up in 1973 to develop and co-ordinate the activities of the NEA concerning the technical aspects of the design, construction and operation of nuclear installations insofar as they affect the safety of such installations.

The committee's purpose is to foster international co-operation in nuclear safety amongst the OECD member countries. The CSNI's main tasks are to exchange technical information and to promote collaboration between research, development, engineering and regulatory organisations; to review operating experience and the state of knowledge on selected topics of nuclear safety technology and safety assessment; to initiate and conduct programmes to overcome discrepancies, develop improvements and research consensus on technical issues; to promote the coordination of work that serve maintaining competence in the nuclear safety matters, including the establishment of joint undertakings.

The committee shall focus primarily on existing power reactors and other nuclear installations; it shall also consider the safety implications of scientific and technical developments of new reactor designs.

In implementing its programme, the CSNI establishes co-operative mechanisms with NEA's Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) responsible for the program of the Agency concerning the regulation, licensing and inspection of nuclear installations with regard to safety. It also co-operates with NEA's Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH), NEA's Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) and NEA's Nuclear Science Committee (NSC) on matters of common interest.

COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) of the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is an international committee made up primarily of senior nuclear regulators. It was set up in 1989 as a forum for the exchange of information and experience among regulatory organisations.

The committee is responsible for the programme of the NEA, concerning the regulation, licensing and inspection of nuclear installations with regard to safety. The committee's purpose is to promote cooperation among member countries to feedback the experience to safety improving measures, enhance efficiency and effectiveness in the regulatory process and to maintain adequate infrastructure and competence in the nuclear safety field. The CNRA's main tasks are to review developments which could affect regulatory requirements with the objective of providing members with an understanding of the motivation for new regulatory requirements under consideration and an opportunity to offer suggestions that might improve them or avoid disparities among member countries. In particular, the committee reviews current management strategies and safety management practices and operating experiences at nuclear facilities with a view to disseminating lessons learned.

The committee focuses primarily on existing power reactors and other nuclear installations; it may also consider the regulatory implications of new designs of power reactors and other types of nuclear installations.

In implementing its programme, the CNRA establishes cooperative mechanisms with the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) responsible for the programme of the Agency concerning the technical aspects of the design, construction and operation of nuclear installations. The committee also co-operates with NEA's Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH) and NEA's Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) on matters of common interest.

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1. Introduction

This Joint Strategic Plan for the Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) and the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) takes into account the evolving status of the nuclear industry worldwide and the main challenges that will face the regulatory bodies, technical safety organisations, and the scientific community over the next six years (2011-2016).

Independent of the national energy policies in different countries, the continued interest in and support for nuclear energy is closely associated with the excellence of the safety performance in each part of the world where nuclear reactors, fuel cycle facilities and other nuclear installations are operated. The common experience of the CNRA and CSNI (the Committees) is that the success of the individual countries can be greatly enhanced through international efforts. The Committees provide a unique forum for established regulatory bodies and technical safety organizations to exchange knowledge and information, and to collaborate on scientific research. The combined success achieved through the Committees enables the individual countries to be more effective and efficient in their programs.

The clear safety priority of the Committees is on existing nuclear installations and the design and construction of new reactors and installations. For the next generation of reactor designs, because nuclear safety is essentially science-based, CSNI in particular can provide a forum for improving safety related knowledge and a vehicle for joint research. In the last five years, the interest in nuclear energy has expanded worldwide, as evidenced by the development in new reactor designs, the need for multiple new regulatory safety reviews, and the construction of new nuclear reactors. In response to this challenge, several national regulatory bodies have expanded or restructured to maintain an appropriate safety focus on existing and future nuclear installations. Additionally, in the last five years, several countries are considering or have begun a nuclear program for the first time.

In the next five years, the nuclear industry, regulatory bodies, technical safety organizations and research institutes will need to address the growth of the nuclear community to ensure continued safety for existing and future nuclear installations. Additionally, it is evident that the supply chain of materials, equipment, and the workforce for nuclear installations is relying on an international collection of specialists. As such, the ability of regulatory bodies and technical safety organisations to interact on an international level is vital to their national success. The Committees exist to provide this vital link between member countries. Furthermore, the knowledge and lessons learnt by the mature countries should be available to the countries developing their programmes.

The objectives of this Joint Strategic Plan are to:

- ensure alignment of the Committees' Plan with the NEA Strategic Plan;
- define the Committees' mission and main challenges for nuclear safety in the next five years and outline the focus areas to properly respond to those challenges; and
- identify the roles, responsibilities, and coordination of the Committees.

2. Mission

The mission of CNRA and CSNI is to assist member countries in ensuring adequate safety of existing and future nuclear installations in their respective territories, through maintaining and further developing the knowledge, competence and infrastructure needed to regulate and support the complete life cycle, including the design, construction, operation, decommission and waste management of nuclear reactors, fuel cycle facilities, and other nuclear installations.

Both Committees will strive for continually improving the effectiveness and harmonisation of regulatory practices and for facilitating consensus through joint undertakings and shared expertise.

In light of the number of countries seeking to expand or introduce nuclear power, the Committees may also interact with non-member countries where appropriate, within the boundaries set by the Agency's policy orientation and promote the use of CNRA and CSNI products.

Vision

The vision of the CNRA and CSNI is to sustain excellence in the safety and regulation of existing and future nuclear installations.

3. Scope of the Committees

The fundamental interest of both Committees is nuclear safety. This includes safety related to nuclear reactors, fuel cycle facilities, and other nuclear installations throughout their entire life cycle and all modes of operation (e.g., design, construction, initial start-up, all modes of operation, decommission and waste management).

The Committees recognise the high level of societal expectations with respect to nuclear safety practice in OECD member states. From the public perspective, a key consideration is the absence of any accident leading to a significant radioactive release from any nuclear reactor currently in operation, as well as a transparent demonstration that low risk is achieved at any time and confidence in regulatory systems.

The construction of new reactors, fuel cycle facilities, and other nuclear installations, as well as the development of new reactor designs, will also require CNRA and CSNI attention, considering that new technologies will be employed. Additionally, the Committees should consider in their work scope that new countries with limited experience in nuclear technology are entering the nuclear energy community.

The Committees will also address the challenges of an adequate knowledge base and competent infrastructure for supporting safety are available in sufficient amount and quality, and that the regulatory process takes place in a demonstrably objective, scientifically sound and transparent manner. The Committees will strive for continual improvement in the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing regulatory processes.

4. Main challenges

The Committees recognise the evolving status of the nuclear industry worldwide and the challenges that regulators and technical safety organisations will need to address over the next five years. The following five challenges will likely determine the focus of CNRA and CSNI activities:

1. Adequate nuclear skills and infrastructure

There is a significant shift internationally in nuclear workforce demographics being experienced, as those staff experienced in all areas that affect the safety of installations (e.g., construction,

operation, maintenance, engineering, technical safety, research, and regulation) approach retirement. At the same time, there is an increased demand for these skills due to the combined effect of the extended operation of current installations, construction of new installation, and increasing interest by non-nuclear countries to establish a nuclear programme. As a result, industry, regulatory bodies, technical safety organizations and research institutes need to ensure that sufficient levels of trained and competent staff exist to discharge their respective safety responsibilities. The Committees will include the following considerations when defining their programmes of work:

- Reduction in experienced staff in nuclear workforce demographics in all areas (industry, regulators, research, et al.).
- Increasing demand for skilled/trained staff in all areas for the extended operation of the current installations, and the design, construction, and operation of new installations.
- Increasing need for qualified suppliers of equipment and replacement parts.
- Continuing need to support long-term research commitments including financial resources.
- Effective use of the research and development infrastructure and knowledge bases through international collaborative efforts.
- Increasing number of countries that are expanding or establishing a nuclear program.

CNRA and CSNI focus

- The Committees will give a high priority to and focus on new means to sustain safety excellence in operating and new nuclear installations given the increasing infrastructure challenges.
- The Committees should support new opportunities for co-operative research and development efforts and information exchange to enhance the nuclear infrastructure in support of the safe operation and construction of nuclear installations. In Committee- endorsed projects, research projects in particular, member countries should be encouraged to include educational considerations in support of increasing nuclear skills and infrastructure.

2. *Effectiveness and efficiency of activities related to safety*

To sustain high levels of nuclear safety, it is not sufficient to establish and meet regulations, conditions, etc. Rather there needs to be embedded in all organisations, impacting on nuclear safety, a commitment to continuous improvements not least to guide against complacency. This requires continued attention to learning from experience and from others, and is especially important in a climate of rapid change and expansion in the use of nuclear energy. Thus, this is at the core of the work of the Committees and represents a significant challenge.

Additionally, regulatory bodies and their technical safety organisations need to ensure that new regulations, guidance, etc., and the revisions of existing regulations, have sound technical bases and lead to enhancements in safety. Through continued learning from each other and harmonization of implementation strategies for key regulatory processes, improvements in regulatory effectiveness and efficiency may be achieved. Improvements in effectiveness can be gained through the learning from others what has worked or not worked in response to particular issues, pooling of knowledge

and experience, selection of relevant research efforts, etc; and in efficiency, through the use of collaborative efforts and cost sharing.

International, collaborative efforts on regulatory issues and research efforts provide an additional benefit of creating and maintaining relationships between international counterparts. An effective regulatory system should seek transparency and increased public awareness of safety and regulatory efforts. The Committees will include the following considerations when defining their programmes of work:

- Harmonising, as the extent possible, national strategies for key regulatory processes, in particular for licensing of new nuclear installations, and for inspection of components originating from different countries.
- Need for continuous improvement in effectiveness through the selection of relevant research topics, efficiency through the use of collaborative efforts and cost sharing, and timeliness of relevant safety studies and safety research.
- Improving transparency and public awareness of regulatory activities.

CNRA and CSNI focus

- The Committees should focus on maximising outcomes of their work in line with their missions - “doing the right work” (effectiveness), and seeking collaborative working focused on “doing the work right” (efficiency) in defining and implementing regulatory and research efforts.
- The Committees should support the harmonisation of regulatory practices.
- The Committees will support cost sharing and cost-effective safety programs and research efforts.
- The Committees should focus on improving their capability to interact with the public by providing clear, accurate and timely information on regulatory efforts and on the safety of nuclear installations.

3. Safe operation of current nuclear installations

The safety of operating installations depends on a number of factors such as plant configuration, aging of materials and components, safety culture and human performance in maintenance, engineering and operation. Regulatory oversight through the use of inspection and performance assessment ensures that safety margins necessary for adequate protection are maintained. As more installations operate with extended licenses and at increased power levels, it is critical to understanding the safety implications of changes in plant configuration, operational modes, and the maintenance of aging components. Safety can be maintained, and even enhanced, through the use of operating experience, analysis, research and available tools such as probabilistic safety assessments (PSA) to gain insights that are not available from purely deterministic analyses. The Committees will include the following considerations when defining their programmes of work:

- Ensure safety for the entire plant life cycle, in particular the management of aging of materials and components.
- Improve safety through utilising operating experience, research and analytical tools, such as PSA.

- Ensure changes in plant configuration and operation (e.g., license extension, power uprates, new operating modes) and new features, components and technology (e.g., digital I&C) do not compromise safety.
- Continue improving safety culture and human performance in maintenance, engineering and operation.

CNRA and CSNI focus

- The Committees will focus on maintaining safety margins in light of advances in scientific and technical knowledge to ensure the implications of aging, changes in plant configuration, and requested operating domains are understood and well managed.
- The Committees should focus on improving the use of risk-informed regulatory strategies, updated with operating experience and safety research results, to evaluate, measure, and enhance the safety performance of nuclear installations.

4. Safety in new nuclear installations

If new technology or analytical methodologies are utilised in a design, the regulatory body must ensure sufficient technical basis is demonstrated. Additionally, an assessment of current regulations and standards should be included in the review of new reactor designs and technology. International experience and lessons learnt from safety reviews and construction of new installations should be considered at the national level for safety reviews. Recent new design and construction experience has already demonstrated new challenges with a global workforce and suppliers. International collaborative efforts can yield improvements in regulatory practices and increases in the knowledge and understanding of new technology. The Committees will include the following considerations when defining their programmes of work:

- Increasing need for the harmonisation of implementation of regulatory strategies worldwide.
- Need to identify and address safety issues specific to new designs, and create a validation basis for new safety features.
- Need for an assessment of the adequacy of current regulations and analytical tools for the safety review of new designs.
- Increasing necessity to deal with a global environment, in terms of users/licensees, designers and service providers.
- Increasing the exchange of and access to scientific results, technical databases and standards across the nuclear safety community.
- Support of co-operative solutions to address the lack of experience base for new technologies, equipments and materials.
- New approaches for fuel cycle facilities to address non-proliferation concerns.
- Continue improving safety culture and human performance, in particular emphasis on quality assurance during manufacturing and construction.

CNRA and CSNI focus

- The Committees will support, to the extent practical, the utilisation of new or improved analytical tools in safety reviews.
- The Committees should aim to identify the best practices in regulatory oversight through collaborative efforts among member countries, and support opportunities to increase global nuclear safety by availing the information to non-member countries to the extent possible and in accordance with NEA policy.

5. *Safety in advanced reactor designs*

New approaches, new concepts and new technology often present new issues for safety. The development and validation of new analytical tools and research is necessary to support the identification and resolution of new or unique safety issues based on the technology of the advanced designs. Standards and safety practices for advanced designs have the greatest potential for international harmonisation and should be pursued to the extent practical. Likewise, international collaborative projects and cost-sharing have significant potential for mutual gains. The Committees will include the following considerations when defining their programmes of work:

- Identify key technical areas and safety issues for advanced reactor concepts, in particular Generation III and IV reactor concepts.
- Perform screenings of the research infrastructure needed to address the identified safety issues.
- Provide or support the development of the data necessary for licensing and safety analysis through international undertakings.
- Support the development and validation of new analytical tools.
- Harmonisation of the implementation of regulatory strategies, safety standards and safety practices.
- Identify means for achieving long-term commitments and funding for safety research.

CNRA and CSNI focus

- The Committees, in particular, CSNI, will provide a forum to discuss advanced design issues and encourage the balanced and gradual incorporation of items relevant to advanced reactor safety in the Working Group programme of work.
- The Committees should focus on international collaborative projects in the advanced reactor area, aiming to develop a common knowledge basis through cost-sharing arrangements. The Committees should encourage member countries to include considerations for education in Committee-endorsed research projects.

5. *Consistency with NEA strategy*

To accomplish its mission, the NEA Strategic Plan provides high-level guidance for nuclear safety and regulatory activities. Listed below are the proposed strategic areas of work for the next NEA

Strategic Plan, and the alignment of the main challenges described in this Joint CNRA/CSNI Strategic Plan. The specific activities to address the challenges are detailed in each Committee's Operating Plan through their integrated plans and programme of work.

1. *Ensure an effective exchange of safety-relevant information among member countries and develop common understandings and approaches on current safety issues.*

Associated challenges:

- All main challenges according to Section 4.

2. *Identify generic issues and trends that may affect the safety of nuclear installations and anticipate problems of potential safety significance.*

Associated challenges:

- Safe Operation of Current Nuclear Installations.
- Safety in New Nuclear Installations.
- Safety in Advanced Reactor Designs.

3. *Assist member countries in the resolution of safety issues and strengthen confidence in the solutions and their implementation.*

Associated challenges:

- Safe Operation of Current Nuclear Installations.
- Safety in New Nuclear Installations.

4. *Address safety issues emerging from operating experience, use of new technologies and new reactor designs.*

Associated challenges:

- Safe Operation of Current Nuclear Installations.
- Safety in New Nuclear Installations.
- Safety in Advanced Reactor Designs.

5. *Help maintain an adequate level of capability and competence necessary to ensure the safety of existing and future nuclear installations, in OECD member countries, as well as in countries benefiting from cooperation agreements with NEA.*

Associated challenges:

- Adequate Nuclear Skill and Infrastructure.
- Effectiveness and Efficiency of Regulatory Activities.

6. *Enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory process and encourage harmonisation of regulatory practices.*

Associated challenge:

- Effectiveness and Efficiency of Regulatory Activities.

6. Roles and responsibilities

The role of the CNRA is to be a vehicle for collaborative regulatory efforts and communication between national regulatory and technical safety organisations focused on the licensing, regulation, and inspection of existing and future nuclear installations.

The focus of CNRA activities is to support the effective and efficient regulation of existing and future nuclear installations, as well as to promote the convergence of regulatory practices among countries, bearing in mind that the licensing and regulatory functions are and will remain a prerogative of national regulatory authorities.

The CNRA currently includes four work groups, as follows:

- Working Group on Operating Experience (WGOE),
- Working Group on Inspection Practices (WGIP),
- Working Group on the Regulation of New Reactors (WGRNR),
- Working Group on Public Communication (WGPC).

The responsibilities of the CNRA include the following:

- reviewing developments for existing and future installations which could affect regulatory requirements;
- reviewing management strategies and safety management practices at nuclear installations;
- reviewing operating experiences regarding current operation and the design and construction of new installations with the objective to promote safety improvements based on lessons learnt from experience;
- promoting efficiency and effectiveness in the regulatory process;
- promoting measures to maintain adequate infrastructure and competence in the nuclear safety field;
- promoting transparency of nuclear regulatory activities and open public communication; and
- identifying CSNI research activities and working group tasks based on operating and regulatory issues from which member countries could benefit from CSNI technical expertise.

The role of the CSNI is to be a vehicle for research collaboration and communication between national organisations focused on maintaining and advancing the scientific and technical knowledge for the safety of nuclear installations.

The focus of CSNI activities is to provide sound and timely technical bases for nuclear safety assessments and regulatory decisions, including lessons learned from operating experience and based on a balanced approach to risk, by means of information exchange, analyses, and when necessary by promoting research on specific issues.

The CSNI currently includes six work groups, as follows:

- Working Group on Integrity of Components and Structures (IAGE),
- Working Group on Analysis and Management of Accidents (WGAMA),

- Working Group on Risk Assessment (WGRISK),
- Working Group on Human and Organisational Factors (WGHOE),
- Working Group on Fuel Safety (WGFS),
- Working Group on Fuel Cycle Safety (WGFCS).

Additionally, CSNI includes seventeen joint research projects.

The responsibilities of the CSNI include the following:

- supporting CNRA with timely, in-depth technical assessment of regulatory and safety related issues;
- considering the safety implication of scientific and technical developments, communicating findings to all involved countries, and promoting the resolutions for implementation by the regulatory bodies;
- considering operating experience, in particular as identified by CNRA, with the objective to address safety issues by ad-hoc tasks or new research;
- reviewing the state of knowledge regarding nuclear safety technology and safety assessment, including risk analysis methods and data development;
- promoting training and research projects that serve to maintain focus on safety relevant disciplines and ensure competence in specific nuclear safety matters;
- promoting efficiency and effectiveness in safety assessment and research efforts; and
- promoting state-of-the-art assessments and research projects as needed to reach consensus on nuclear safety issues of common interest.

7. Ways of working together

The Committees work closely together to ensure co-ordination and co-operation in areas of mutual interest. The Joint Strategic Plan emphasises the link between the CNRA and CSNI and their working groups. This is accomplished by:

- mutual briefings to each Committee on their respective activities;
- formal and informal requests for assistance between Committees;
- conducting periodic joint Bureau meetings to review priorities and programmes of work;
- establishing new tasks to address emerging safety significant issues, including clearly identifying the purpose, schedule and regulatory objectives for tasks;
- conducting joint workshops, meetings, etc., on topics of mutual interest;
- issuing joint statements on selected issues; and
- reviewing and providing feedback on each others' operating plan.

Co-ordination with other NEA committees, in particular with the Nuclear Science Committee (NSC); the Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH) and the Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) will continue to be supported.

Co-ordination with outside organisations including other international organisations (e.g., International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the European Commission (EC – EURATOM), World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) and non-member countries on relevant topics of common interest (e.g., Russia, China) must be ensured. They will be invited to delegate observers to the CNRA and CSNI committee meetings and selected working group meetings, and to participate in individual activities of the Committees.

8. Implementation of work

The Committees develop the Joint Strategic Plan in alignment with the NEA Strategic Plan. In turn, the Operating Plan for each Committee aligns with the Joint Strategic Plan. The Committees assess their level of achievement in conducting activities in accordance with this Joint Strategic Plan.

The Committees' Operating Plans describe each Committee's organisation, priorities and operating procedures to be used in fulfilling their mandates. The Operating Plans will reflect the guidance given in the Joint Strategic Plan and incorporate objectives, schedules, and mandates for working group. Specific attention will be given to ensure that cross-cutting issues are dealt with satisfactorily.

The Committees' Operating Plans develop their own integrated plans and programmes of work and implement them through working and expert groups which are given specific mandates. The integrated plans and programmes of work detail the actual activities and tasks to meet the intent of the strategic challenges. New tasks may be established to address specific safety significant issues and concerns in a fixed term. The tasks of each working group, as detailed in the integrated plans should clearly address regulatory and safety needs.

The Committees provide leadership and guidance to their working and expert groups to ensure work activities are appropriately focused on the strategic challenges. The Committees develop communication and publication procedures to ensure that their work and work products are useful, visible, and timely.

Appendix

The CNRA and CSNI mandates

MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

The Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA) shall be responsible for the programme of the Agency concerning the regulation, licensing and inspection of nuclear installations with regard to safety. The Committee shall constitute a forum for the effective exchange of safety-relevant information and experience among regulatory organisations. To the extent appropriate, the Committee shall review developments which could affect regulatory requirements with the objective of providing members with an understanding of the motivation for new regulatory requirements under consideration and an opportunity to offer suggestions that might improve them and assist in the development of a common understanding among member countries. In particular it shall review current management strategies and safety management practices and operating experiences at nuclear facilities with a view to disseminating lessons learnt. In accordance with the NEA Strategic Plan for 2011-2016 and the Joint CSNI/CNRA Strategic Plan and Mandates for 2011-2016, the Committee shall promote co-operation among member countries to use the feedback from experience to develop measures to ensure high standards of safety, to further enhance efficiency and effectiveness in the regulatory process and to maintain adequate infrastructure and competence in the nuclear safety field.

The Committee shall promote transparency of nuclear safety work and open public communication. The Committee shall maintain an oversight of all NEA work that may impinge on the development of effective and efficient regulation.

The Committee shall focus primarily on the regulatory aspects of existing power reactors, other nuclear installations and the construction of new power reactors; it may also consider the regulatory implications of new designs of power reactors and other types of nuclear installations. Furthermore it shall examine any other matters referred to it by the Steering Committee. The Committee shall collaborate with, and assist, as appropriate, other international organisations for co-operation among regulators and consider, upon request, issues raised by these organisations. The Committee shall organise its own activities. It may sponsor specialist meetings and working groups to further its objectives.

In implementing its programme the Committee shall establish co-operative mechanisms with the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations in order to work with that Committee on matters of common interest, avoiding unnecessary duplications. The Committee shall also co-operate with the Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health and the Radioactive Waste Management Committee on matters of common interest.

MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SAFETY OF NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

The Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) shall be responsible for the activities of the Agency that support maintaining and advancing the scientific and technical knowledge base of the safety of nuclear installations, with the aim of implementing the NEA Strategic Plan for 2011-2016 and the Joint CSNI/CNRA Strategic Plan and Mandates for 2011-2016 in its field of competence.

The Committee shall constitute a forum for the exchange of technical information and for collaboration between organisations, which can contribute, from their respective backgrounds in research, development and engineering, to its activities. It shall have regard to the exchange of information between member countries and safety R&D programmes of various sizes in order to keep all member countries involved in and abreast of developments in technical safety matters.

The Committee shall review the state of knowledge on important topics of nuclear safety science and techniques and of safety assessments, and ensure that operating experience is appropriately accounted for in its activities. It shall initiate and conduct programmes identified by these reviews and assessments in order to overcome discrepancies, develop improvements and reach consensus on technical issues of common interest. It shall promote the co-ordination of work in different member countries that serve to maintain and enhance competence in nuclear safety matters, including the establishment of joint undertakings, and shall assist in the feedback of the results to participating organisations. The Committee shall ensure that valuable end-products of the technical reviews and analyses are produced and available to members in a timely manner.

The Committee shall focus primarily on the safety aspects of existing power reactors, other nuclear installations and the construction of new power reactors; it shall also consider the safety implications of scientific and technical developments of future reactor designs.

The Committee shall organise its own activities. Furthermore, it shall examine any other matters referred to it by the Steering Committee. It may sponsor specialist meetings and technical working groups to further its objectives. In implementing its programme the Committee shall establish co-operative mechanisms with the Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities in order to work with that Committee on matters of common interest, avoiding unnecessary duplications.

The Committee shall also co-operate with the Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health, the Radioactive Waste Management Committee, the Committee for Technical and Economic Studies on Nuclear Energy Development and the Fuel Cycle and the Nuclear Science Committee on matters of common interest.