

WENRA Policy Statement

We, the heads of the national Nuclear Safety Authorities, members of WENRA, commit ourselves to a continuous improvement of nuclear safety in our respective countries.

Nuclear safety and radiation protection are based on the principle of the prime responsibility of the operators. The role of national regulators is to ensure that this responsibility is fully secured, in compliance with the regulatory requirements.

In order to work together, we created the Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association (WENRA) with the following main objectives:

- *to build and maintain a network of chief nuclear safety regulators in Europe;*
- *to promote exchange of experience and learning from each other's best practices;*
- *to develop a harmonized approach to selected nuclear safety and radiation protection issues and their regulation, in particular within the European Union;*
- *to provide the European Union Institutions with an independent capability to examine nuclear safety and its regulation in Applicant Countries.*

In order to develop a harmonized approach, we are:

- *sharing our experience feedback and our vision;*
- *making efforts to further exchange of personnel, allowing an in-depth knowledge of working methods of each other;*
- *developing common reference safety levels in the fields of reactor safety, decommissioning safety, radioactive waste and spent fuel management facilities in order to benchmark our national practices.*

We recognise the IAEA standards form a good basis for the continuous improvement of national nuclear regulatory systems and nuclear safety.

The reference levels that we have developed represent good practices in our countries from which we can also seek to learn from each other to further improve nuclear safety and its regulation. Hence, we are committed:

- *by the year 2010 to improve and harmonise our nuclear regulatory systems, using as a minimum the reference levels;*
- *to influence the revision of the IAEA standards when appropriate;*
- *to regularly revise the reference levels when new knowledge and experience are available.*

We strive for openness and improvement of our work. For that purpose we will:

- *keep the European Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Bodies not belonging to WENRA, and the EU Institutions, informed of the progress made in our work;*
- *make our public reports available on the Internet (www.wenra.org);*
- *invite stakeholders to make comments and suggestions on these reports.*

Signed in Stockholm December 2005



J-P. Samain, Belgium



S. Tzotchev, Bulgaria



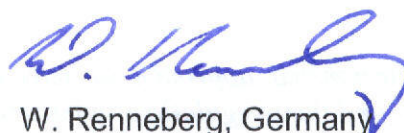
D. Drabova, Czech Republic



J. Laaksonen, Finland



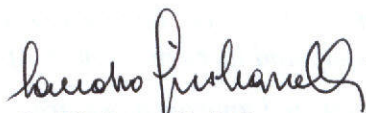
A-C. Lacoste, France



W. Renneberg, Germany



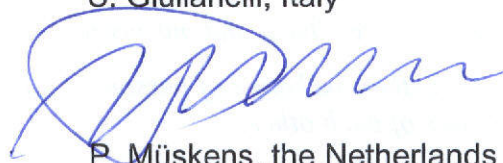
I. Lux, Hungary



S. Giulianelli, Italy



S. Kutas, Lithuania



P. Müskens, the Netherlands



V. Zsombori, Romania



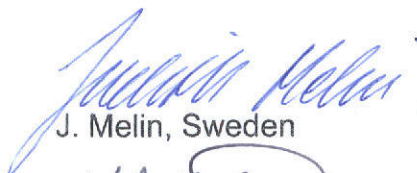
M. Ziakova, Slovakia



A. Stritar, Slovenia



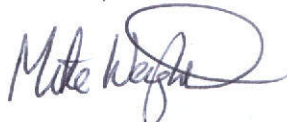
M. Teresa Estevan, Spain



J. Melin, Sweden



U. Schmocker, Switzerland



M. Weightman, United Kingdom