

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORKING GROUPS

WORKING GROUP ON INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Terms of Reference

Adopted June 2010

This Terms of Reference describes a proposed scope, objectives and initial set of deliverables for the Infrastructure Development Working Group to support the cooperative goals outlined in the Steering Group Action Plan. It is understood that the specific activities may evolve as the Infrastructure Development Working Group engagement continues to be integrated with other initiatives.

OBJECTIVE

The Infrastructure Development Working Group (Working Group) is established to carry out work on the issues specified in the Scope section below to support the expansion of nuclear power to help meet growing energy demand in a sustainable manner and in a way that provides safe operations of nuclear power plants and management of wastes by facilitating the development of the infrastructure needed for worldwide expansion of clean, sustainable, nuclear energy in a safe and secure manner, while at the same time reducing the risk of nuclear proliferation.

SCOPE

This Working Group is to identify common interest among the Participants, recommend practical measures, and carry out activities as specified below and without prejudice to market and commercial operations to address the critical elements needed for the development and implementation of a robust nuclear energy infrastructure to meet the above mentioned objective. These include, but are not limited to, cooperation among Participants in the areas of national planning for nuclear energy introduction, grid management requirements for the introduction of nuclear power plants, including regional sharing, human resource development, meeting nonproliferation and safeguards requirements, legal frameworks, regulatory requirements, nuclear safety, financing considerations, environmental impacts, emergency management, radiation protection, quality assurance, codes and standards, operational practices and experiences, physical protection and security, spent fuel, waste management and transportation, while taking full advantage of IAEA and bilateral efforts. When possible and necessary, activities are to be coordinated with the Working Group on Reliable Nuclear Fuel Services.

ACTIVITIES

To help leverage the Participants' resources as they may make available for this purpose (e.g. technical capabilities, experience) and to focus cooperative efforts and prioritize infrastructure development activities, the Working Group will exchange views on the following issues:

- Improving the understanding of needs, challenges and potential solutions necessary for taking Working Group objectives from concept to reality. This could include the following:
 1. Determining infrastructure needs of the Participants.
 2. Identifying areas of global infrastructure that could be improved through international cooperation (fuel services notwithstanding) in coordination with multilateral organizations and fora such as the IAEA or GIF.
 3. Identifying relevant on-going activities to support infrastructure development (multilateral, bilateral, and other) in Participant states.
 4. Identifying resources and potential opportunities for cooperation among Participants.
 5. Characterizing financial and organizational barriers to the introduction/expansion of nuclear power and identify means to address them.
- Developing a path forward that reflects the interests, concerns, and contributions of Participants.
- Evaluating options for additional resources, such as in-kind (*inter alia* cost-free experts, internships, university programs) assistance or funding mechanisms to support the relevant activities.
- Implementing concrete actions and investments. Take realistic and pragmatic next-steps that increase benefits to Participants.

In exercising its activities, the Working Group recognizes the critical and complementary roles of industry, governments, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international institutions.

NEXT STEPS

- Continue to pursue infrastructure activities of value to IDWG members including the sharing of information on Human Resource Development, Small and Medium Reactors, Financing and Radioactive Waste Management. Continue to utilize at resource library to facilitate sharing of information.
- Continue to engage with relevant international organizations and fora such as the Generation IV International Forum, based upon consensus, to cooperate closely with the Working Group activities.
- Annually update the program plan for the Infrastructure Development Working Group.
- Complete fact finding on issues specified and prepare report to the Steering Group.
- Initiate engagement with regulators.