



Special Issue: 100th Anniversary of ANSN Newsletter

A Message from the IAEA



***T. Taniguchi, IAEA Deputy Director General,
Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and
Security***

On this important occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the ANSN Newsletter, I am pleased to convey my sincere congratulations to all ANSN Newsletter readers. The first ANSN Newsletter was issued in March 2005. Since then, significant achievements have been made to help the ANSN countries develop and improve their nuclear safety infrastructure and capacity building. Yet, further challenges and opportunities still await ANSN, and therefore cooperation and coordination are needed more than ever.

Global Trends

The global nuclear community is experiencing a period of dynamic change. Important global

trends and issues, such as the ambitious introduction of new nuclear power plants, the rapid expansion of existing nuclear power programmes and the wider use of radioactive sources highlight the need for continued and improved international cooperation and coordination. The increasing multinational nature of today's nuclear business underscores this need. In this context, the establishment of adequate nuclear safety capacity building and infrastructure is particularly important and cannot be ignored: ANSN will be expected to play an essential role in this effort.

Through consideration of the global trends, three key issues and challenges have been identified for ANSN: (1) continuing international cooperation and emerging coordination for new and expanding nuclear power programmes, (2) capacity building for sustainable nuclear safety and (3) strengthening of global and regional networking activities.

Capacity Building

The international nuclear community has continued its focus on capacity building for sustainable nuclear safety. Capacity building is much broader than traditional education and training. It includes not only human resource development, but also organizational, institutional and legal framework development, with a view to enhancing capacities. The ANSN, inter alia through the coordination activities of the newly established Capacity Building Coordination Group (CBCG), provides overall national capacity building in Asia.



Knowledge Networking: the Leading Role of ANSN

The ANSN has provided an effective model of regional networking by implementing Capacity Building as an integrated approach for achieving and sustaining higher levels of nuclear safety in the region. The ANSN is expected to further take a leading role in providing a platform for dynamic and interactive virtual knowledge networking in the region and beyond, in collaboration with the global and regional nuclear safety networks (e.g. GNSSN, FORO (Ibero-American Network) and the newly created Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA)).

The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) is being developed by the IAEA as a set of existing networks and information resources that reflects the structure of the IAEA safety standards and security guidance.

ANSN Achievements since 2002

The ANSN was established in 2002 with the aim of increasing nuclear safety in the South East Asia and Pacific region. Since then, more than 300 activities, such as training courses and review missions, have been conducted under ANSN auspices. The ANSN website contains key nuclear safety information. Most importantly, thanks to this platform, nuclear safety experts in the region are able to work more closely together. At a higher level, nuclear safety in the region has been enhanced by the establishment of nuclear safety legislation, regulations and in some of the countries, regulatory bodies. There is an increased commitment to international instruments such as the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management and to IAEA codes of conduct and standards. The safety basis for most research reactors and several nuclear power plants in the region has been enhanced and there is increased awareness of the various aspects of nuclear safety amongst decision makers, senior government officials, academics, students and the general public.

The recent establishment of a long term vision, i.e. "The Vision for the ANSN by the year 2020" (Vision 2020) demonstrates a high-level commitment to responding to the challenges of nuclear safety in the region.

Accordingly, in October 2009, the CBCG was established as a group charged with coordinating and monitoring ANSN activities for achieving the Vision 2020, in particular for developing a regional capacity building system in Asia.

ANSN Vision 2020

The ANSN Vision 2020, first revealed at the Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue meeting of ANSN in April 2009, enjoys broad support and commitment at the ministerial level and senior nuclear safety official level in the region. Under this concept, ANSN will combine a strong human and IT component with a regional capacity building system to form a regional network. The regional capacity building system will rest on four pillars, namely: (i) the Integrated Virtual Centre for Education and Training, (ii) the Technical and Scientific Support Service (Virtual TSO), (iii) the Solution Support Service (an integrated mechanism to solve specific national and regional questions) and (iv) the Regional Peer Review and Support Arrangement.

The Integrated Virtual Centre for Education and Training will establish and share common knowledge on education and training among nuclear safety experts in the ANSN Member States.

Technical and Scientific Support Organizations (TSOs) will foster cooperative activities among themselves and will provide technical and scientific support services to ANSN Member States. Virtual cooperative and interactive networking activities among TSOs (Virtual TSOs) will bolster technical and scientific support services.

The Solution Support Service will be aimed at responding to specific national and regional needs for sharing expertise from a pool of qualified experts.

Finally, the Regional Peer Review and Support Arrangement will be established to ensure that the current practices of safety evaluation, the legislative and regulatory framework and the institutional capacities of ANSN Member States will be continuously improved.

The 3rd Meeting of Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue

Yogyakarta, Indonesia

22-23 April 2010

The ANSN Ministers and senior officials responsible for nuclear safety will gather again at the Third Meeting of Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue (NSSD) of the ANSN in Yogyakarta, Indonesia 22–23 April 2010. On the agenda will be discussions on the broader strategy and policy issues that are intended to promote regional cooperation in the establishment and continuous improvement of nuclear safety infrastructure and capacity building in Asia. In particular, this meeting will review the ANSN achievements to date and discuss development of an action plan by the CBCG for the implementation of the Vision 2020.

This meeting will include two topical sessions and a round table discussion. The first topical session, ANSN Achievements and Outcomes Addressing Regional and Global Challenges, will consider regional and global issues, trends and challenges in nuclear safety infrastructure and capacity building. Also to be discussed will be the ANSN achievements and the impact of ANSN in nuclear safety in Asia. At the second topical session: Implementation of the ANSN Vision for 2020, a generic action plan will be discussed for the regional capacity building system in Asia. A round table discussion will be organized to discuss and exchange views on the regional capacity building system in Asia and collaboration with GNSSN and with other regional networks as an outreach activity of the ANSN.

Capacity for Capacity Building

The CBCG is now developing a draft guidance document on the Regional Capacity Building (RCB) activities accomplished by Topical Groups (TGs) to identify the scope of each TG and its interaction with the other TGs to implement the RCB. The CBCG is also developing the “Generic Action Plan for Establishing Regional Capacity Building in Asia” that provides a roadmap to achieve the ANSN Vision by 2020. The CBCG will have its first meeting 29–31 March 2010 in Tokyo, Japan, to develop the guidance document and the Generic Action Plan to be presented at the upcoming NSSD.

Regional Conference on Capacity Building

At the initiative of the Coordinator of CBCG, Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization (JNES)/Japan, the CBCG will organize a Regional Conference on 21st Century Capacity Building and Virtual TSOs in Asia, 29 October 2010, within the framework of the International Conference on Challenges Faced by TSOs in Enhancing Nuclear Safety and Security, 25–29 October 2010, Tokyo Japan. The objectives of this regional conference are to strengthen and expand human networks among international and regional nuclear safety networks, and in particular with ANSN, for facilitating nuclear safety capacity for capacity building in Asia. The establishment and implementation of Virtual TSOs and promotion of the establishment of the Regional Capacity Building System in Asia will also be discussed. It is expected that the conference will address the challenges to nuclear safety and capacity building in the 21st century and lead to the formulation of recommendations and guidance for the future.



ANSN activities for 2010

The ANSN plans to organize 39 activities in 2010, which include meetings, workshops, training courses and expert missions. Some of these activities are listed below.

Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue

- 3rd Nuclear Safety Strategy Dialogue Meeting, Indonesia, 22 - 23 April 2010

Regional Conference

- Regional Conference on 21st Century Capacity Building and Virtual TSO in Asia, Japan, 29 October 2010

Steering Committee and CBCG

- 1st Capacity Building Coordination Group (CBCG) meeting, Japan, 29 - 31 March 2010
- 11th ANSN Steering Committee meeting and 2nd Capacity Building Coordination Group (CBCG) meeting, Vienna HQ, 25 - 28 May 2010
- 12th ANSN Steering Committee meeting and 3rd Capacity Building Co-ordination Group (CBCG) meeting, China, 18 - 22 October 2010

ITSG

- 6th IT Support Group (ITSG) meeting, Vienna, 3 - 5 March 2010
- 7th IT Support Group (ITSG) meeting, Republic of Korea, September 2010

E&TTG

- Topical Group on Education and Training Topical (ETTG) Workshop on Training Management and Annual Meeting of S&TTG, Indonesia, 09 - 13 August 2010
- Basic Professional Training Course in Nuclear Safety, Republic of Korea, 21 June - 02 July 2010

EPRTG

- Topical Group on Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPRTG) Workshop on National Intervention Levels for taking Urgent Protective Actions and Protection of Workers and the Annual Meeting of EPRTG, Indonesia, 10 - 14 May 2010
- EPRTG Workshop on Radiation Emergency Management for Decision Makers and Technical Supporters, Japan, June 2010

GRITG

- Topical Group on Government and Regulatory Infrastructure (GRITG) Workshop on the Lessons Learned from Peer Review Missions (IRRS) and annual meeting of GRITG, Vietnam, 06 - 09 July 2010
- GRITG Basic Training Course on Governmental and Regulatory Infrastructure, Korea, Republic of, October 2010

OSTG

- Topical Group on Operational Safety (OSTG) Workshop on Commissioning preparation and management, and annual meeting of OSTG, China, 18 - 22 January 2010
- OSTG Workshop on Experience on the Periodic Safety Review (PSR) for Nuclear Power Plants, China, 17 - 21 May 2010

RWMTG

- Topical Group on Radioactive Waste management (RWMTG) Training Course on Evaluation of Decommissioning Waste including Waste Inventory and Characterization, Indonesia, 26 - 30 April 2010
- RWMTG Workshop on the Joint Convention and annual meeting of SMRRTG, Japan, September 2010

SATG

- Topical Group on Safety Analysis (SATG) Workshop on Web-based Safety Analysis Competency Building, Malaysia, 15 - 19 March 2010
- SATG Training Course on Level 2, 3 and External Events PSA, China, 17 - 21 May 2010

SMRRTG

- Topical Group on Safety Management of Research Reactors (SMRRTG) Workshop on Ageing Management of Research Reactors and annual meeting of SMRRTG, Australia, June 2010
- SMRRTG Meeting on Application of the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors, China, July 2010

STG

- Topical Group on Siting (STG) Workshop on Regulatory Requirements for Site Selection and Evaluation for Nuclear Power Plants, Vietnam, 07 - 11 June 2010

Expert Missions

- Expert mission to review Regulatory Document entitled "Regulatory Guidelines for Site Selection and Evaluation of Nuclear Power Plant", Malaysia, 12 - 16 April 2010
- Expert Mission to review the National Policy and Strategy on Radioactive Waste Management, Philippines, 10 - 14 May 2010
- Expert mission on Siting for radioactive waste disposal in Java Island, Indonesia, 22 - 26 November 2010

The Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN) knowledge base can be accessed at <http://www.ansn.org>

Information on ANSN can be obtained from Mr. Y. Fukuda y.fukuda@iaea.org