

**The Chair's Summary of the 9th Annual Meeting of APSN
November 1-2, 2018
Vienna, Austria**

1. The 9th Annual Meeting of Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network (APSN) was held on 1 to 2 November 2018 in Vienna, hosted by Government of Korea and organized by Korea Institute of Nuclear Nonproliferation and Control (KINAC). Opening Remarks was delivered by Dr. Hosik Yoo, the acting Chair of APSN, and the vice president of Korea Institute of Nuclear Nonproliferation and Control.
2. The Plenary meeting of the APSN was held on 1-2 November 2018. The Plenary was attended by 55 representatives from 13 countries, including representatives from the European Safeguards Research and Development Association (ESARDA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM) and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC).
3. At the start of the meeting, Dr. Hosik Yoo welcomed members and express appreciation for gathering Vienna for the meeting and encourage to participate in the IAEA Symposium.
4. Mr. Massimo Aparo welcomed state members and rewarded APSN as the best example of regional safeguards cooperation anywhere in the world.
5. Mr. Massimo Aparo gave a presentation on;
 - IAEA preparations for verification and inspections in DPRK will be ready to start verification in DPRK within one month, training 35 inspectors.
 - Summary of progress on State Level Approach Thanks to strong support from Member States, SLA report will be done in July.
 - Assured that IAEA produce high quality of SER with peer-review
 - Current budget and Budget challenges: Asked member states for support due to the limited budget
6. APSN's five Working Group sessions were held on 1-2 November 2018 in Vienna prior to the Plenary meeting.
7. The Plenary was chaired by Mr. Hosik Yoo, the acting APSN Chair and Vice President of the KINAC. Dr. Hosik Yoo welcomed Indonesia as the 2019-2020 chair of APSN.
8. Mr. Hosik Yoo and APSN members expressed appreciation and support for BAPETEN in agreeing to take on these roles. Also, APSN members appreciated NSSC and KINAC for taking their role as Chair and Secretariat of APSN over 2017-2018.
9. APSN members appreciated the national statements provided by countries on their recent safeguards implementation activities. Members shared experiences on inspection activities, Additional Protocol implementation, and cooperation with the IAEA.
10. Facilitators of working groups reported to chair an update on WG's activities to date and future plans for the next 12 months (details in a Summary of Action Items attached).

- **Safeguards Infrastructure, Implementation and Awareness-Raising (WG1):**

Working Group 1 facilitated information-sharing sessions amongst APSN members on: discussions on ISSAS (IAEA SSAC Advisory Service) missions; and, experiences of States with managing safeguards for LOFs (locations outside facilities).

The discussion on ISSAS missions was led by Mr. Jean-Maurice Crete (Division of Safeguards Concepts and Approaches). Mr. Crete explained the process for initiating and facilitating ISSAS missions, and the value of such missions in improving safeguards implementation in States, and in enhancing the international community's confidence. Within the APSN community, Malaysia has commenced the process of inviting an ISSAS mission.

The LOF management sessions commenced with an overview presentation by Mr. Tomas Stepanek (Division for Safeguards Information Management) on the fundamental requirements for LOFs, and some common issues; and then followed by presentations from Canada, Philippines, Thailand and Australia on their respective experiences. A common experience amongst presenters was that while LOF locations holds very small quantities of nuclear material, most have limited safeguards awareness. As such, the variable quality of accountancy practices across multiple small locations leads to a large administrative effort for the safeguards regulatory authority. Several States are in the process of reviewing how they manage LOF locations to find efficiency gains.

The exchange of views and experiences in these discussion sessions was very productive. Holding the meeting in Vienna, allowed for a diverse representation from the IAEA which provided an excellent opportunity for APSN members to gain a better understanding of a broad range of safeguards requirements and methods for their respective national programs. The opportunity to engage with a variety of IAEA expertise was very well received by APSN members.

Working Group 1 closed with a presentation by Mr. Michael Whitaker, representing the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management) on the INMM-ESARDA joint conference, scheduled for Tokyo, October 2019; encouraging APSN members to consider how they could be involved in the conference.

- **Capacity Building (WG2):**

Japan as the facilitator of WG2 reported on the progress and the results on the Action Items on capacity building. The report indicated that progress has been made on monitoring the status of the Member States' training programs and yearly plans, however the Member States are encouraged to update the information more actively in order to make it useful. The training needs survey was carried out for an extended group of SQP States and the evaluation results showed topical areas of interest, including the Additional Protocol and addressing the training needs for State Authorities, Licensees and facility operators. This information will provide a common understanding of the training needs of the SQP States as useful input in carrying out the training programs. The WG2 believes that the evaluation of the training activities and the follow-up of the outcomes are important parts in the assessment of the quality and effectiveness of the training program and reviewed the ISCN experiences in the training evaluation process. The WG also proposed additional areas of interest for Action Items, such as further evaluation of training programs, the trainers' pool database and potential use of E-learning modules.

In the sharing of capacity building experiences, Japanese State Authorities made presentations on the training of domestic inspectors and their qualification. IAEA Training Section shared extensive experience on various trainings and assessment of its results and follow-ups.

These presentations and subsequent discussions that followed provided very valuable information and practical advices for the APSN members to apply the training programs. •several participants agreed that this Working Group and others should consider a product that highlights their outcomes.

- **IT support, communications and information (WG3):**

The working group facilitators provided an overview on the updates to the APSN website since the last Plenary. The WG3 also discussed ongoing challenges to ensuring APSN website remains dynamic and serves the needs of the Members. WG3 introduced several ideas for consideration by the Members. Specifically, the audience discussed putting together an “APSN Story” for the next Plenary (potentially consider a topical theme for the 10th year anniversary); developing an “APSN product,” similar to the Good Practices publications that was published as an INFCIRC and served as input to IAEA SIP guides. Several ideas were raised, including developing an APSN perspective in application of SLA and capturing lessons learned/experiences of APSN over the past ten years that could inform the establishment of other regional safeguards networks. Also discussed were the ways to enhance the APSN website: WG using folders to update their respective WG activities; State Authorities to add links on their webpages to the APSN website; updating POCs charged with APSN implementation; regular follow up by WG3. The facilitators of WG3 will be working together with the new APSN Secretariat (Indonesia), the Steering Committee and other Members to help prepare the communication and outreach materials for the 10th year anniversary of the APSN.

- **Experiences in Safeguards Applications (WG4):**

Member States might need legal basis in order to implement Safeguards by Design (SBD). The legal basis will also ensure compliance by designers/ vendors/ operators for nuclear installations to be built and operated in the Member States. In order to implement SBD, Member States need provision, among those are guidelines and standards to be implemented by operators.

To collect information and idea from the IAEA and through sharing experience on the implementation of SGs among the Member States on particular nuclear installations both from advanced and embarking countries.

Revising the document of Safeguards Legislation Kit (SLK) by incorporating provisions of SBD into the document. The group also invited members of the SBD working group at the IAEA to contribute to their WG.

- **Physical protection in support of strengthening safeguards (WG5):**

Working Group 5 facilitated information-sharing session on synergy between Safeguards and other areas such as export control and physical protection.

Dr. Craig Everton from ASNO introduced Australia’s experience on physical protection in support of strengthening safeguards. Dr. Everton overviewed 3S in peaceful use of nuclear energy and international standards for accountancy and graded approach, and common tools for nuclear safeguards and security. Dr.

Everton also shared Australian situation on nuclear regulation and commented that safeguards and security can support each other.

Dr. Hosik Yoo from KINAC, the facilitator of WG5 gave presentation on the preparation of annual report in accordance with bilateral agreement. Dr. Yoo explained ROK's case on bilateral cooperation including administrative arrangement with USA, Canada, Australia, and Japan. Also, Dr. Yoo shared procedures for preparing report based on the bilateral cooperation.

11. The Venue and date for the 10th APSN Annual Meeting will be determined after further discussion.

WG3: IT support, communications and information

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload all the materials from the 9th APSN Plenary 	APSN Secretariat/WG3	End of Nov 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated Points of Contacts to be Submitted to DOE 	All Members	Dec. 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a discussion forum/folder on preparation for the 10th APSN Plenary 	All Members/WG3	Dec 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Working Groups to submit progress on their activities on Members Only site 	Working Group Facilitators	Quarterly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration for new participants (email to: https://apsn-members.labworks.org/user/register) 	WG3	Ongoing

WG4: Experiences in Safeguards Applications

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing Knowledge Implementation SBD and additional Provision for New Facility 	IAEA/All Member States	9th Plenary 2018 and 10th Plenary 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing knowledge on decommissioning process 	All Member States	10th Plenary 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft of additional provision on SLK to support SBD 	All Member States	10th Plenary 2019

WG5: Physical Protection in Support of Strengthening Safeguards

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and share presentations on the best practice of synergy between safeguards and other areas 	Canada, Malaysia and Philippines	10th Plenary 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss possibility to expand the scope of WG5 	All Members	10th Plenary 2019