

## **Press release – Conclusions of the President of the 6<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting of the CNS**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety was held at the Headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna from 24 March to 4 April 2014. Mr André-Claude Lacoste from France had been elected as President of the 6<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting at the Organisational meeting in Vienna on 31 August 2012. The vice-Presidents were Mr Sukho Lee from Republic of Korea and Mr Khoirul Huda from Indonesia.

Mr Lacoste had expressed during the opening session his expectations for this RM, i.e. to achieve three main objectives namely:

- to allow wide-ranging, animated high-quality discussions, with real commitment by all Contracting Parties, so that it is a true peer review, where all learn from the others;
- to improve the mechanisms of the Convention and to strengthen its effectiveness;
- and to discuss a common position on the lessons to be learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident, with a clear statement at the end of this Review Meeting.

At the end of this meeting, it appears clearly that:

- The attendance and level of participation in the Review Meeting was generally good with a lively and frank exchange of information. This was the case during the country group sessions as well as the final plenary sessions. Nevertheless, there were discussions on the way to improve the effective participation of all Contracting Parties at all steps of the process
- In order to reinforce the effectiveness of the Convention Peer Review process, the Contracting Parties approved the modifications of the CNS Guideline documents issued from the works carried out by the working group Efficiency and Transparency, set up after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Meeting of the Convention in August 2012. These modifications aim for example to ensure greater consistency in reporting and to enhance international cooperation.  
The Contracting Parties decided with a 2/3 majority to organise a Diplomatic Conference in order to examine a proposal from Switzerland to amend Article 18 of the Convention addressing the design and construction of both existing and new nuclear power plants.
- The Contracting Parties reconfirmed their commitment to the findings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Meeting and in particular:  
“The displacement of people and the land contamination after the Fukushima Daiichi accident calls for all national regulators to identify provisions to prevent and mitigate the potential for severe accidents with off-site consequences.
  - Nuclear power plants should be designed, constructed and operated with the objectives of preventing accidents and, should an accident occur, mitigating its effects and avoiding off-site contamination.
  - The Contracting Parties also noted that regulatory authorities should ensure that these objectives are applied in order to identify and implement appropriate safety improvements at existing plants”.

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The next review meeting will be convened from 27 March to 7 April 2017.