

## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Steering Committee on Denial of Shipment of Radioactive Material

The International Steering Committee (ISC) on Denials and Delays of Shipment of Radioactive Material convened its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting from 20 to 21 January 2009 at IAEA premises in Vienna. The meeting was preceded by a one day meeting of the regional coordinators to prepare the regional action plans to be considered and addressed by the Steering Committee. As per the agenda for the meeting:

- a. the new Chair and two vice-chairpersons were elected,
- b. the international action plan to reduce instances of denials and delays of radioactive material was updated; and
- c. the regional coordinators for the Latin America and the Caribbean (Montevideo Network), Mediterranean basin (Rome Network), Asia and Pacific (Beijing Network) and Africa (Arusha and Antananarivo Networks) were endorsed.

Mr. Paul Gray (Canada, Industry) replaced Mr. Jack Edlow as chairman of the Steering Committee. In his opening remarks Mr. Gray thanked Mr. Edlow for the outstanding work as the first chairman and highlighted the progress made since the establishment of the Committee in 2006. Ms. Ana Sobreira (Brazil, representing the industry) and Mr. John Fuller (representing regulators) were elected ISC vice-chairpersons.

Presentations on e-learning package for the transport of radioactive material, on communication strategy for changing public perception and behaviour regarding transport and on the experience in transport of metal contaminated by cobalt were given. Regional coordinators provided the status of the action plan in different regions.

Working groups were formed to address the specific issues as a) The IMO, IAEA and ICAO joint administered database on dangerous goods carriage difficulties; b) Port policy for nuclear and radioactive material; c) Air transport policy regarding Class Seven material; and d) Action proposed for TRANSSC and key performance indicators. Recommendations from the working groups were presented for the consideration of the Committee.



*The regional coordinators for Africa, Latin America, Asia and Mediterranean, the IAEA secretariat and the Steering Committee vice-chairperson*

Participants emphasized the need in providing the National Focal Points (NFP's) with the same level of information as provided to the members of the ISC and the regional coordinators. The Committee was informed that - in response to a request from the IAEA - 70 NFP are now nominated. In addressing the duties of NFP's it was proposed that a workshop should be convened on the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2009. This workshop will discuss and refine the role and duties to be performed by the NFP's at national level and their interaction with regional coordinators and ISC. Finally, the international action plan was updated to include regional actions.

The 4<sup>th</sup> ISC meeting was followed by a two days meeting of the regional coordinators to exchange their experience in establishing the regional networks, to develop regional strategy to implement regional action plans and, as recommended by the Steering Committee, to define their priorities for the next six months.

The full list of ISC members can be found at <http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/radiation-safety/denial-of-shipment.htm>