

TERMS OF REFERENCE NUCLEAR SAFETY STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Nuclear Safety Standards Committee (NUSSC) is a standing body of senior experts in nuclear safety, established by the Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security. NUSSC advises the Deputy Director General on the overall programme for the development, review and revision of standards relating to nuclear safety (i.e. the safety of nuclear power plants, research reactors and nuclear fuel cycle facilities). Its objective is to achieve consensus, quality, coherence and consistency in the development of international standards for nuclear safety.

Functions

The functions of NUSSC are:

- To advise on the approach to the development of the nuclear safety standards issued in the Agency's *Safety Standards Series*, covering Safety Fundamentals, Safety Requirements and Safety Guides, both thematic and facility specific, and to advise on priorities.
- To review proposals for the development of new standards relating to nuclear safety and to approve the relevant document preparation profiles (DPPs) prior to their submission to the Commission on Safety Standards.
- To review draft nuclear safety standards, considering, throughout the preparation and review process, the value of each draft standard and the needs of users of the standards.
- To approve the text of draft nuclear safety standards prior to their submission to Member States for comment and again prior to their submission to the Commission, in accordance with the established procedure.
- To ensure a broad international input in the preparation and review of nuclear safety standards.
- To advise on nuclear safety standards, relevant regulatory issues and activities for supporting the use and application of the Agency's safety standards.
- To advise on the timely review of and the need for revision of published safety standards.

The functions of NUSSC members are:

- To prepare for and attend the meetings of NUSSC and to contribute actively to the work of NUSSC.
- To disseminate the draft nuclear safety standards in their respective States, to seek comments from their potential users and to develop a national position on each draft safety standard.
- To promote awareness of the safety standards in their respective States.
- To share experience within NUSSC on how nuclear safety standards are being used in their respective States.
- To compile feedback from the users of nuclear safety standards, including feedback on any identified shortcomings or gaps, and to report on it to NUSSC.

Membership

- Member States will be requested to nominate a senior expert in nuclear safety to represent their views. The Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, will appoint the members for a term of three years.

- Specialized international organizations and relevant non-governmental bodies may be invited by the Deputy Director General to attend the NUSSC meetings.
- The Director of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety or his appointee will participate in all NUSSC meetings.
- The Director of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety will designate a scientific secretary for NUSSC.

Working methods

- The Deputy Director General will appoint a chairperson for NUSSC's three-year term from among the members.
- Ordinarily, NUSSC will meet twice a year with each meeting lasting up to five working days. Extraordinary meetings may be called when required. The chairperson, in conjunction with the scientific secretary, will prepare a report of the proceedings of each meeting and a report at the end of each three year period on the progress made.
- The Director of the Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, in consultation with NUSSC, may establish working groups of experts to deal with specific tasks for the purpose of assisting NUSSC in its work.
- The chairperson will represent the views of NUSSC at the meetings of the Commission and will ensure that NUSSC members are kept informed of any decisions taken. In particular, the chairperson will seek the views of the Commission on any unresolved issues.
- Modern technology for information exchange will be used, particularly in dealing with draft standards and related documents.
- Meetings will be conducted in English.
- NUSSC will report to the Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security.

Resources

- The Secretariat will provide all the resources necessary for ensuring the efficient working of NUSSC.
- All costs involved in the participation of each NUSSC member, including travel and per diem expenses, will be borne by the Member State that nominated the member.