



## **Meeting of the Group of Experts (GoE) referred to in Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty**

**Luxembourg, 11 – 12 June 2008**

### **SUMMARY REPORT**

(Approved by the Group of Experts at the meeting 26 – 27 November 2008)

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Chairperson welcomed the participants, in particular the new experts from Bulgaria, Germany, and Romania.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved without amendments.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD IN LUXEMBOURG ON 13 – 14 NOVEMBER 2007**

The Summary Report was approved with minor amendments<sup>1</sup>.

#### **3. PROCEDURAL ASPECTS**

##### *3.1. Preparations for the election of a new Vice-Chairperson for the period 2008 - 2010*

According to Article 3 of the Rules of Procedure a new Vice-Chairperson has to be elected after three and a half years, which will be due at the next GoE meeting in November 2008.

It was decided that in early autumn, the Secretariat shall ask the experts to nominate candidates. The Secretariat will inform the GoE on the nominations, on the basis of which the GoE will elect a Vice-Chairperson for the time period 2008 – 2010.

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<sup>1</sup> The approved Summary Report of the November 2007 meeting can be found under [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radioprotection/article31\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radioprotection/article31_en.htm)

### *3.2. Privacy statement for individuals appointed as Experts in a European Commission consultative entity listed in its Register of Expert Groups*

The Secretariat informed the GoE of an initiative of the European Institutions to inform the public about the identity and qualification of experts advising the European Institutions. It is planned to publish a list with Article 31 Group Experts on the internet. The Experts were invited to inform the Commission about their explicit consent or objection to publication of their name in the Register of Expert Groups. The Secretariat distributed a form to be completed and signed by the Experts.

### *3.3 Proposal to use the internet tool CIRCA for posting documents on the web*

The Secretariat proposes to use in future the internet tool CIRCA to make documents available for download.

The GoE welcomed this offer and asked the Secretariat to make appropriate arrangements.

## **4. DEVELOPMENTS ON THE DRINKING WATER DIRECTIVE**

The Commission recalled that the requirements for monitoring Tritium and Total Indicative Dose under EC Directive 98/83/EC were finalised more than three years ago, after a very long process involving the Group of Experts under Article 31 EURATOM, the Member State representatives under Articles 35-36 of the EURATOM Treaty, and the Committee under the Drinking Water Directive but that they have so far not been adopted. The Legal Service of the Commission has recently advised to incorporate the requirements for monitoring levels of radioactivity in specific legislation under the EURATOM Treaty. As a result of this, the Secretariat's intention was to adopt the requirements in the form of a Commission Recommendation under Article 38 Euratom and this was approved by the Group of Experts during a previous Article 31 GoE meeting.

Nevertheless, the Commission has now decided to draft a proposal for a Euratom Council Directive laying down requirements for the protection of the health of the general public with regard to radioactive substances in water intended for human consumption. The requirements for monitoring are included in its Annexes. For the sake of coherence the Commission proposes to keep the same radionuclide categories (Tritium and Total Indicative Dose) and the same parameter values (respectively 100 Bq/l and 0.1 mSv per year) as before. This draft proposal has been circulated to the Group of Experts.

The Group of Experts was asked to confirm that the proposed Euratom Directive matches the EC Directive with regard to the requirements relevant to radioactivity as an indicator parameter, and that the Annexes to this Directive are in agreement with the original proposal. A draft opinion prepared by the Secretariat has been circulated for this purpose to the Group of Experts.

The Group of Experts discussed the issue and adopted a slightly modified opinion which can be found in Annex 1 to this Summary Report.

## **5. INFORMATION BY THE COMMISSION**

### *5.1. Nuclear Safety*

The Head of Unit H1 reported that the High Level Group on Nuclear Safety met three times since the last GoE meeting in November 2007. The High Level Group developed a draft work programme, which is still to be adopted, and initiated three working parties on Transparency, on Waste Management, and on Nuclear Safety. The core issue of nuclear safety aspects is the on-going discussion of the need for and consequences of the development of binding European legislation on nuclear safety.

### *5.2. Radioactive Waste Management and Transport*

No representative of Unit H2 could attend the meeting.

## **6. REVISION OF THE EUROPEAN BASIC SAFETY STANDARDS**

### *6.1. Progress reports from the Working Parties*

#### ***Working Party on Natural Sources***

##### *Protection of the public and workers against indoor exposure to radon*

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Natural Sources reported on the progress with the development of a report on the *Protection of the public and workers against indoor exposure to radon* and the respective outline for the revised Directive. At the previous Article 31 meeting the report and outline were approved in general and were therefore only slightly adjusted according to the discussions at that meeting.

The main topic of the following discussion was related to Article 3.3 (whether or not to include exposure to radon below a certain radon concentration when assessing and reporting doses to workers). In conclusion, the GoE decided to come back to this topic in connection with Title VII (Workers, Apprentices and Students) of the revised EU BSS. The draft outline and report were endorsed. They will be finalised by the Secretariat, taking into account the remarks made by the GoE, and the outline will be forwarded to the WP Recast for incorporation in Title XII (Existing exposure situations) of the revised EU BSS.

##### *Control of natural radioactivity in building materials*

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Natural Sources reported on progress with the development of a report on the *Control of natural radioactivity in building materials* and respective outline for the revised Directive. In addition one of the experts informed about the preliminary results of an overview of the content of radioactivity in European building materials made by the Italian National Institute of Occupational Safety and Prevention and the National Institute of Health. The WP proposes to leave flexibility to Member States in setting a national reference level below which the building materials are exempted as long as this level is no higher than 1 mSv per year. With regard to the issue of whether or not taking radon exhalation from building materials into account, the WP reached no consensus.

In discussion, the Experts agreed that the regulatory control should focus on building materials giving rise to doses above 1 mSv per year. Concerns were raised about the categorisation of materials in A, B and C categories.

In conclusion, the GoE asked the Working Party on Natural Sources to revise the outline and set a common European reference level of 1 mSv per year. The report should be adjusted accordingly.

### ***Working Party on Graded Approach to Regulatory Control***

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Graded Approach to Regulatory Control presented the results of discussions with regard to the revision of Title III of the Directive 96/29/Euratom on *Reporting and Authorisation of Practices*. The objective of this revision was to introduce a graded approach to regulatory control of planned exposure situations where the level of control should be commensurate to the magnitude and likelihood of exposures.

The WP proposes to promote the idea of a graded regulatory approach and to expand the current two-tier authorisation system of *reporting of practices above exemption levels or other criteria*, and *prior authorisation for broad categories of practices* by introducing an additional specific level for planned exposure situations of low and moderate risks to be called **Registration**. This three-tier system would be in line with the requirements set in the International Basic Safety Standards.

The WP prepared the following documents:

- Draft Directive text for *Title I Subject Matter and Scope*, *Title III The System of Protection*, *Title VI Justification and Regulatory Control of Planned Exposure Situations*, and *Title IX Protection of the Members of the Public*.
- Background document on the Graded Approach to Regulatory Control explaining the concepts and providing some examples.

These documents have already been provided as input to the WP RECAST. With this, the WP Graded Approach has fulfilled its mandate.

The GoE welcomed the work performed by the WP Graded Approach, thanked the individual members for their engagement, and concluded that the Working Party has come to an end.

### ***Working Party on the Recast (WP RECAST)***

In November 2007, the Article 31 GoE created the Working Party on the Recast (WP RECAST) with the objective to revise the current BSS Directive (96/29/Euratom) and to consolidate the existing European Radiation Protection legislation. Based on the general outline of the new BSS which was approved by the Article 31 GoE in November 2007, the WP started to work on the 13 titles foreseen.

The Chairperson of the WP reported that the WP agreed to base its work on the following principles:

- take into account the new ICRP Recommendations;
- consolidate the 5 Euratom directives in a suitable way;

- improve clarity of the requirements where appropriate;
- retain flexibility for Member States to achieve compliance;
- achieve greater harmonization between the International BSS and Euratom BSS;
- retain as much of the original text as possible
- maximise regulatory stability consistent with making necessary and justified changes.

At the three meetings since its creation, the WP developed and discussed seven titles. Further meetings are planned for September and November 2008. The draft directive shall be ready for an initial discussion at the Article 31 GoE meeting in June 2009. The draft is to be completed for discussion and agreement by the Article 31 GoE, if appropriate at the GoE meeting in autumn 2009.

The GoE welcomed the work performed by the WP RECAST, and asked the WP to provide, if possible, some titles for a first discussion at the next GoE meeting in November 2008.

### ***Publication of agreed reports on the EUROPA website***

The work performed with regard to the revision of the European Basic Safety Standards resulted already in a series of topical reports prepared by the various Working Parties, i.e. WP NORM, WP Natural Sources, WP Exemption and Clearance, and WP Graded Approach. These reports contain a wealth of background information, and may support the understanding of the decisions taken as well as the implementation of the Directive.

In order to bring these reports to the attention of a broader audience, the Secretariat proposes to publish these, after an appropriate quality control process, on the EUROPA website. It was made clear that the purpose of this publication is information, not direct consultation of stakeholders. An appropriate disclaimer will be added to mark this as a Commission initiative which is beyond the mandate of the Article 31 Group of Experts.

The GoE was in favour of this initiative and asked the Secretariat to present the relevant reports to the GoE for further discussion and approval, if appropriate, at the meeting in November 2008.

## ***6.2 Progress reports from related studies and projects***

### ***Education and Training (EUTERP)***

The main objectives of the Commission financed project European Radiation Protection Training and Education Platform (EUTERP Platform) can be summarised as:

- to remove obstacles for the mobility of Radiation Protection Experts (RPE) and Radiation Protection Officers (RPO) within the European Union through harmonisation of criteria and qualifications for and mutual recognition of such professionals;
- to facilitate access to vocational education and training in Europe;
- to better integrate education and training into occupational radiation protection infrastructures in the Member, Candidate and Associated States of the European Union.

The EUTERP Platform started on 1 April 2006 and has a term of 36 months. The Platform ensures a permanent dialogue between all involved parties by the use of its website (<http://www.euterp.eu>), including a forum for discussion, by issuing newsletters and by organising workshops. Two successful workshops have been held in Vilnius, Lithuania, May 2007 and April 2008. Following the end of the project, it is intended that the Platform shall be kept functional in a self-sustainable form.

With regards to the revision and recast of the European Basic Safety Standards, it is expected that EUTERP provides proposals for the definitions of the Radiation Protection Expert, and the Radiation Protection Officer, their respective minimum qualification, core competences and responsibilities. In addition, EUTERP will make a proposal on which education and training issues need to be covered by the Basic Safety Standards Directive and which issues are better dealt with in guidance documents.

### ***Comparative Study of EC and IAEA Guidance on Exemption and Clearance Levels***

The Commission recently received the interim report of the comparative study of EC and IAEA guidance on exemption and clearance levels; the final report is expected to be submitted in September 2008. The findings and conclusions of this study will constitute an important input to the revision and recast of the European Basic Safety Standards.

### ***Evaluation of the Implementation of Radiation Protection Measures for Air Crew***

The study to evaluate the implementation of radiation protection measures for air crew in Europe is nearly finalised. Although the contractor did not succeed to receive information from major European airlines, the study could still collect enough information to draw conclusions on the implementation of Article 42 of the BSS Directive 96/29/Euratom. The study did not identify any needs to revise the current regulation for air crew. However, it indicates that additional guidance would be useful. The final report is expected in August 2008. The GoE will be informed about the findings and conclusions.

## ***6.3 Revision of the international Basic Safety Standards***

### ***Status of revision***

The IAEA representative informed the meeting about the status of the revision of the International Basic Safety Standards. The current draft 0.8 of the revised BSS is based on the initial topical drafting meetings that were completed in May 2007, on the collation of the drafting group material by the IAEA Secretariat, and on the recommendations of a Technical Meeting (TM) held in Vienna from 16-20 July 2007. Additional advice has been received from several meetings of the co-sponsoring organizations and from the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC) and the Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC) at their meeting in October 2007. Structure and content of the revised international BSS is based to the extent possible on the concepts introduced in the new ICRP recommendations (ICRP 103). A draft version 1.0 of the revised International BSS will be made available in June/July 2008. The IAEA will consult all their Safety Standards Committees to conduct a first review of draft 1.0 in October/November 2008. The IAEA will hold a workshop on the revision of the BSS in Qatar, 1 – 3 December 2008.

## *Views of co-sponsors and potential co-sponsors*

### *Nuclear Energy Agency*

The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is one of the six co-sponsors of the current International Basic Safety Standards (SS115, published in 1996), and is now part of the Secretariat established by IAEA to coordinate the BSS revision process. The NEA, its Committee on Radiation Protection and Public Health (CRPPH) and the CRPPH Expert Group on Implications of ICRP Recommendations (EGIR) are actively involved in the drafting and review of the BSS. NEA comments on Draft 1.0 will be forwarded to the BSS Secretariat. The full and active participation of all co-sponsoring organisations is considered essential for the broad acceptance of the new BSS, which should appropriately reflect new ICRP Recommendations, and be a complete and stand-alone reference for radiation protection requirements. Active NEA involvement is highly supported within the NEA and its member countries. The final decision on the co-sponsorship will be made by the NEA Steering Committee.

### *European Commission*

As a potential co-sponsor of the new International BSS the European Commission participates actively in co-sponsors meetings and in RASSC meetings. Although there is no formal mechanism to consult the Article 31 GoE on the International BSS, the Commission will distribute Draft 1.0 for information to the experts.

By the end of 2009, the Commission is planning to start the formal procedure on co-sponsorship of the International BSS. The Article 31 GoE will be consulted for a formal opinion on this co-sponsorship.

## **7. PRESENTATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

### *7.1. ICRP*

No representative of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) could be present at the meeting.

### *7.2. IRPA*

The representative of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) reported on recent initiatives within IRPA. IRPA proposes a definition of the Radiation Protection Expert (RBE) as input to the discussions for the revision of the International BSS and the European BSS. In addition, IRPA launched an initiative which resulted in IRPA Guiding Principles for Radiation Protection Professionals on Stakeholder Engagement. Finally, the IRPA representative drew the attention of the GoE to the next IRPA Congress, which will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 19 – 24 October 2008 (for more information: <http://www.irpa12.org.ar/>).

## **8. REVIEW AND PRIORITISATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING PARTIES AND RELATED PROJECTS**

### *8.1. Medical Exposures (WP MED)*

#### *Progress report*

The Vice-Chairperson of the Working Party on Medical Exposures reported on recent activities of the WP MED. The WP MED discussed the revision and recast of the Basic Safety Standards and the best way to include the Directive 97/43/Euratom on health protection of individuals against dangers of ionising radiation in relation to medical exposure into the new recast BSS. A proposal from WP MED will be given to the WP RECAST for further discussion. In addition, the Vice-Chairperson of the WP MED summarised the status of on-going projects to assist Member States in the application and harmonisation of the medical Directive.

Finally, the WP proposes to focus its work on the following priority issues:

- Follow up of the Recast process for the chapter on Medical Exposures.
- Follow up of the ongoing contracts to produce European Guidelines.
- Cooperate with the IAEA in the project on Accidents and Incidents in Medical Exposures.
- Support the EC in the process of launching the new proposals on European Medical ALARA Network (EMAN) and Harmonisation of the Medical Physics Expert.

The GoE thanked the WP MED for their valuable work.

#### *Mandate of the Working Party on Medical Exposures*

In accordance with Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure for the Group of Experts, the Group:

- may set up any Working Party, with clearly defined tasks, which it thinks would facilitate the progress of its work;
- shall fix the membership and terms of reference of each Working Party.

The Working Party on Medical Exposure (WP MED) was established back in the 1980s, and it proved to bring substantial benefit to the work of the Article 31 Group. However, a mandate as required by the Rules of Procedure has never been defined for the WP MED.

Therefore, a proposal for a mandate was presented to the GoE. The GoE adopted the mandate of the Working Party on Medical Exposures as given in Annex 2 of this Summary Report. The mandate and membership shall be reviewed and revised, if appropriate, at the beginning of a new term for the Article 31 GoE in Spring 2010.

### *8.2. Research Implications on Health and Safety Standards (WP RIHSS)*

#### *Publication of the proceedings of the EU Scientific Seminar 2007 on Emerging issues on tritium and low energy beta emitters*

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Research Implications on Health and Safety Standards (WP RIHSS) presented the draft proceedings of the EU Scientific Seminar 2007 on *Emerging issues on tritium and low energy beta emitters*.



The GoE welcomed this very good report and approved it for publication in the European Commission Radiation Protection Series (RP 152). The document has been published since and is available on the EC webpage<sup>2</sup>. In addition, printed copies will soon be distributed.

*Additional publication of the proceedings as a supplement of the Journal of Radiological Protection (J. of Rad. Prot.)*

The Chairperson of the WP RIHSS proposed that the results of the 2007 Scientific Seminar could reach a broader audience within the radiation protection community through an additional publication of the proceedings as a supplement of the Journal of Radiological Protection (J. of Rad. Prot.). The papers would have to undergo a peer review process.

The GoE welcomed this proposal and approved an additional publication of the proceedings as a supplement of the Journal of Radiological Protection.

*Draft programme for the 2008 Scientific Seminar Emerging Evidence for radiation induced circulatory diseases*

The Chairperson of the WP RIHSS presented the draft programme for the next EU Scientific Seminar 2008 on ***Emerging evidence for radiation induced circulatory diseases***.

The GoE approved the draft programme and asked the WP RIHSS to proceed with the preparation of the 2008 Scientific Seminar. The draft programme is given in Annex 3 to this summary report.

*Childhood cancer in the vicinity of nuclear power plants*

The European Commission has been contacted and asked whether the Commission is aware of the ***Epidemiological study on childhood cancer in the vicinity of nuclear power plants*** which was published by the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection, and under which conditions the Article 31 Group of Experts could analyse current knowledge of risk of childhood cancer and childhood leukaemia around nuclear power plants. In addition, the Commission received written questions on the same subject from a member of the European Parliament.

The Chairperson of the WP RIHSS informed the GoE that the German Radiation Protection Commission (Strahlenschutzkommission – SSK) has established a specific task group, comprising SSK-members and additional international experts in the field, which will prepare an opinion on this issue. The SSK statement will be published in September 2008.

Recognising the competence of the SSK in this area, the GoE recommended to await the opinion of the SSK and to ask a SSK-representative to present the findings to the next meeting of the Group of Experts in November 2008.

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<sup>2</sup> The publication European Commission Radiation Protection 152 *EU Scientific Seminar 2007 on Emerging issues on tritium and low energy beta emitters* can be found under [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radioprotection/publication/doc/152\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radioprotection/publication/doc/152_en.pdf)

## 9. ONGOING PROJECTS AND STUDIES

### 9.1 *Establishment of European Technical Recommendations for Monitoring Individuals Exposed to External Radiation*

The Commission has launched a project to review and revise the European *Technical recommendations for monitoring individuals occupationally exposed to external radiation*, which was published by the Commission in 1994 (Radiation Protection Publication 73). Recent scientific and technical developments as well as 12 years of experience with the current recommendations have made it necessary to thoroughly revise the document. A first draft technical recommendation will be distributed to experts in dose monitoring in July 2008. A final review of the document is foreseen in January 2009 before the technical recommendations can be presented to the Article 31 GoE.

### 9.2 *European ALARA Network for Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM)*

The Secretariat reported on progress in the project of setting up an ALARA NORM network. The contractor has established a web-site ([www.ean-norm.net](http://www.ean-norm.net)) and set up a network of contact persons. A well-attended workshop was held in Dresden in November 2007 where issues related to NORM and networking were discussed. The proposal from the Commission on strengthening the regulatory framework for NORM in the revision of the BSS was presented at the workshop and has also been posted on the website for comments.

The Secretariat stressed that the viability of the ALARA NORM network will depend on the willingness of Member States to contribute financially, and/or with expertise, when the two-year project will end in December 2008. A meeting is scheduled for autumn 2008 with interested parties to discuss further management of the network. It was noted that it will be a challenge to transfer this project into a sustainable network.

The GoE took note of the information and encouraged further progress in this domain.

## 10. OTHER BUSINESS

### *Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law*

The Parliament has reached a first-reading agreement with the Council on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of the environment through criminal law. This is the last step before its formal adoption, its publication and its entry into force. The declaration as regards provisions of the legislation adopted on the basis of the Euratom Treaty that are covered by this Directive was read out both at the Plenary and at the COREPER and will be recalled another time during formal adoption at the Council.

### *Generation of energy by nuclear reactors in the United Kingdom*

An expert from the United Kingdom briefly informed the GoE that in the UK a detailed high-level assessment of four different types of nuclear reactors has been launched. This assessment covers also radiation protection aspects.

## **11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Group of Experts will be held **25 – 27 November 2008, in meeting room M1, European Commission – Jean Monnet Building, rue Alcide de Gasperi – L-2920 Luxembourg-Kirchberg**. The Scientific Seminar will take place on 25 November 2008 starting at 11:00. The Article 31 Group of Experts meeting will follow on 26 – 27 November 2008, starting at 9:30 on 26 November 2008.

To allow time for discussions on the revision of the European BSS, the summer 2009 meeting of the Group of Experts has been scheduled as a three day meeting, **9 – 11 June 2009, in meeting room EUFO 0001, European Commission – Euroforum Building, 10, rue Robert Stumper – L-2557 Luxembourg – Gasperich**.

## **ANNEX 1: OPINION OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS UNDER ARTICLE 31 EURATOM TREATY ON DRINKING WATER**

The Group of Experts welcomes the proposal of the Commission for a Council Directive *laying down requirements for the protection of the health of the general public with regard to radioactive substances in water intended for human consumption*, under Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty. This proposal will allow the requirements for monitoring Tritium and Total Indicative Dose under EC Directive 98/83/EC to be implemented. The Group emphasises the need to preserve coherence with the EC Directive related to microbiological and physico-chemical parameters.

The Group of Experts notes that the Commission proposes to keep the same indicator parameters (Tritium and Total Indicative Dose) and the same parameter values (respectively 100 Bq/l and 0.1 mSv per year) as before. The Experts confirm that the new proposal is not liable to prejudice the principles of radiation protection, in particular of optimization.

The Experts feel that it should be useful to define a common approach to manage situations where the values of indicator parameters are exceeded and invite the Commission to consider the drafting of appropriate guidance for this purpose.

The Group of Experts confirms that the proposed Euratom Directive matches the EC Directive with regard to the requirements relevant to radioactivity as an indicator parameter, and that the Annexes to this Directive are in agreement with the original proposal elaborated by a Working Party of Article 31.

The Group of Experts recommends eventually to include the proposed Directive in the recast of all Community legislation in the framework of the ongoing revision of the Basic Safety Standards Directive. This would allow the requirements for the monitoring of levels of radioactivity to be put in a proper perspective to the overall system of protection. In this process the Commission Recommendation 2001/928/EURATOM *on the protection of the general public against exposure to radon and its decay products in drinking water supplies* should be included, together with similar requirements on natural mineral waters.

The Group of Experts further emphasises that the overall objective of the Directive is the health protection of the general public and this includes children. Where appropriate a specific assessment of Total Indicative Dose for this age group may be warranted.

Luxembourg, 12 June 2008  
Kaare Ulbak,

Chairman of the Group of Experts

## **ANNEX 2: MANDATE OF THE WORKING PARTY ON MEDICAL EXPOSURE**

As approved by the Group of Experts referred to in Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty, 12 June 2008

The main objective of this Working Party is to discuss current issues in the radiation protection of patients and other individuals subject to medical exposures.

In particular, the Working Party should:

- Keep track of recent developments of the international recommendations (IAEA, ICRP, etc.) in the field of radiation protection in medical exposures;
- Discuss emerging issues in the field of radiation protection in medical exposures in EU Member States;
- Contribute to the Article 31 Group's discussions on other issues relating to medical aspects of radiation protection, e.g. radiation protection of medical staff, training and education in radiation protection, medical care for victims of radiological accidents, etc.
- Submit, through its Chairman, written reports with the results of its work to the meetings of the Article 31 Group;
- When necessary, make proposals to the Article 31 Group for elaboration of formal opinions, guidance or statements on radiation protection in medical exposures;
- When deemed necessary by decision of the WP, or if requested by the Group or the Commission, prepare reports or guidance on certain issues in the field of radiation protection in medical exposures for final approval by the Article 31 Group of Experts;
- Review, upon request of the Commission, existing legislation relating to medical exposure (Directive 97/43/EURATOM and relevant provisions of the Directive 96/29/EURATOM) and propose appropriate amendments, including for the recast of all current Euratom Directives as well as relevant EC legislation for final approval by the Article 31 Group of Experts;
- Upon request of the Commission provide its views on planned and ongoing EC-funded projects in the field of radiation protection in medical exposures;
- Suggest to the Commission to launch projects aiming at research into emerging issues or at harmonization in the European Union of radiation protection in medical exposures.

**ANNEX 3: DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE EU SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR 2008 (VERSION 13  
JUNE 2008)**

**EU Scientific Seminar**

**Emerging evidence for radiation induced circulatory diseases**

**Luxembourg, 25 November 2008**

*starting at 11:00 - ending at 18:00*

**in meeting room “M1” (96 places!)**

**European Commission – Jean Monnet Building  
rue Alcide de Gasperi – L-2920 LUXEMBOURG (Kirchberg)**

**Draft Programme**

(Version 13 June 2008)

**Chairman: Eliseo Vaño**

**Rapporteur: Serena Risica**

11:00	<b>Objectives of the seminar</b> <i>Patrick Smeesters, on behalf of the Article 31 WP RIHSS</i>
11:15 – 12:00	<b>Evidence of circulatory diseases among patients treated with radiotherapy</b> <i>Klaus Trott, Germany</i>
12:00 – 12:45	<b>Epidemiological evidence for circulatory diseases – Non-occupational exposure</b> <i>Richard Wakeford, UK</i> <i>Mark Little, UK</i>
13:45 – 14:15	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:15 – 15:15	<b>Epidemiological evidence for circulatory diseases – Occupational exposure</b> <i>Tamara Azizova, Russia</i> <i>Colin Muirhead, UK</i>
15:15 – 16:15	<b>Investigation of biological mechanisms of radiation induced circulatory diseases</b> <i>Susanne Schultz-Hector, Germany</i> <i>Guido Hildebrandt, Germany</i>
16:15 – 16:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>

16:45 – 17:45	<p><b>Round table discussion: Policy implications and research needs</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Gilbert Eggermont</i></p> <p><i>Round table:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>David MacGregor (Chief medical officer of Sellafield)</i></li> <li>– <i>Maria Grazia Andreassi (Cardiovascular specialist)</i></li> <li>– <i>Zarbib, Sabir (Worker representative)</i></li> <li>– <i>Radiotherapy expert (ask Klaus Trott, TU München, Germany)</i></li> <li>– <i>Wolfgang Weiss (BfS, Germany)</i></li> </ul>
17:45 – 18:00	<p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <p><i>Patrick Smeesters, Chairman of the RIHSS WP</i></p>
18:15	<p><b>Cocktail</b></p>