EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

DIRECTORATE D - Nuclear Safety and Fuel Cycle
Radiation Protection

Meeting of the Group of Experts
established under Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty

Luxembourg, 26 March 2013

SUMMARY REPORT

(Approved by the Group of Experts at the meeting 19 – 20 November 2013)

INTRODUCTION

The Chairperson of the Group of Experts welcomed the participants to this extraordinary meeting, which was scheduled to discuss the draft *Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations (Version 28.12.2012)*, with the objective to adopt an Opinion of the Article 31 Group of Experts.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved without amendments.

2. APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD IN LUXEMBOURG ON 19 – 21 NOVEMBER 2012

As the *Draft Summary Report of the Article 31 Group of Experts meeting held on 19 – 21 November 2012* reached the Experts only shortly before the meeting, the Experts were invited to send written comments to the Secretariat by 15 April 2013[1].

3. OPINION ON THE PROPOSED COUNCIL DIRECTIVE ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK FOR THE NUCLEAR SAFETY OF NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

A representative of the Commission (Unit D1) presented the context of the legislative proposal, the main areas of amendment (regulatory role and independence of the competent regulatory authorities, transparency, general technical principles and requirements, harmonised Community nuclear safety criteria, on-site emergency preparedness and monitoring and verification) as well as the necessary steps in the process of adoption of the Commission proposal. He highlighted the importance of the consultation of the Article 31 Group of Experts as a first step in the legislative procedure laid down in Article 31 of the Euratom Treaty. The Commission representative

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[1] The **Summary Report of the November 2012 meeting** approved by written procedure can be found under
    http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radiation_protection/article_31_en.htm

emphasised also the tight time frame which currently foresees an adoption of the draft proposal by the College of the European Commission in May 2013.

The Chairperson of the Article 31 Group of Experts reported on the preparatory work performed by the ad-hoc Article 31 Working Party on the Nuclear Safety Directive. The Working Party collected and grouped the comments on the draft proposal received from Article 31 Experts. At a meeting on 26 February 2013, the Working Party discussed the comments and prepared a first draft Opinion.

The Group of Experts discussed in detail the Commission proposal and worked further on the draft opinion based on the text proposed by the ad-hoc Article 31 Working Party on the Nuclear Safety Directive.

During discussions, the Group of Experts noted that, given the lessons learnt from the Fukushima accident, it may be necessary to complement the proposal for a Nuclear Safety Directive by other legal initiatives.

It was emphasised that the competence of the Group of Experts lies mainly in the area of public health and radiation protection.

In addition, Experts noted the need for further clarification to understand
 − the link between safety and security;
 − the impact of the proposed Nuclear Safety Directive, and
 − the relation between the licensing procedure mentioned in the nuclear safety Directive and licensing required under the basic safety standards Directive.

The Group of Experts adopted its Opinion on the draft *Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations (Version 28.12.2012)*, which, together with the draft proposal, is available on the Europa website[2].

4. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

5. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Group of Experts will be held on **19 – 20 November 2013,** in meeting room M6, **European Commission – Jean Monnet Building, rue Alcide de Gasperi – L-2920 Luxembourg – Kirchberg.**

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[2] http://ec.europa.eu/energy/nuclear/radiation_protection/doc/art31/2013_04_opinion_nuclear_safety.pdf