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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
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English - Or. English

NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY
RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RWMC Regulators' Forum (RWMC-RF)

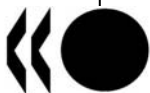
**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR ESTABLISHING A COMMON GROUND AMONGST REGULATORS ON
IMPORTANT RADIATION PROTECTION QUESTIONS**

This document supports Item 7 of the RF-13 agenda.

Please send any queries to claudio.pescatore@oecd.org

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INTRODUCTION

There is strong agreement within the RF as well as the RWMC as a whole, to engage in dialogue with the radiation protection profession, in general, and the ICRP, in particular.

A topical session is going to take place at RWMC-43, with the following tentative sequence of contributions:

- a. Issues/position paper by the RF
- b. Issues/position paper by the IGSC
- c. Presentation by ICRP,
- d. Presentation on current developments within the radiation protection world

All speakers are asked to address the 4 questions identified hereafter. It is thus important for the RF to consolidate a joint view or a range of positions on the 4 questions. The first step is to elicit written responses; the second step is to discuss those responses at the RF-13 meeting and reach an agreement.

THE 4 QUESTIONS

First question:

- Meaning of “dose”
- Connection to health detriment; does it matter that it is “potential dose”?
- Potential effective dose is a risk indicator. Do regulators make this distinction?

Second question:

- What defines the level of protection (redundancy and diversity, surveillance, controls, ...) achievable for the current generation.?
- Is the “same level of protection” for future generations an (unattainable) principle or a fact?

Third question:

- Optimization – what does the concept mean for the long term

Fourth question:

- Are criteria needed as part of the protection approach? Value of defining dose limits (or risk limits)?

WAY FORWARD

All RF colleagues are asked to provide written replies to the above questions in advance of the meeting by **26 February 2010**. This will allow two weeks for compilation and analysis of the answers to the reported to the RF-13 and support the discussion. The analysis would be distributed a few days in advance of the meeting.

Please send your responses to john.stein@oecd.org.