

Introduction to Working Groups

14th EAN Workshop

"ALARA in Existing Exposure Situations"

Dublin, Ireland 4-6 September 2012



Working Group Topics

- ALARA challenges and practicalities at the national and regional level
- 2. Considerations in choosing reference levels
- Economic and technical factors, and endpoints of optimisation
- 4. Societal factors and stakeholder engagement



WG1: ALARA at the national and regional level

- How can a system of protection be applied to situations that are not normally subject to regulatory control, eg Rn in homes? Who should be responsible for implementing this?
- Who decides when an emergency ES becomes an existing ES?
 What criteria are used to make this decision?
- When is it appropriate to set national reference levels, and when should regional (or even site-specific) levels be used?
- What can be done when protection is not achieved, eg where doses are not reduced below the agreed reference levels?



WG2: Choosing reference levels

- What are the most important factors to consider when setting RLs?
- Should RLs always be set in terms of annual effective dose?
 What about potential or probabilistic exposures?
- What would be suitable DRLs?
 - for a legacy NORM site
 - for a post-nuclear emergency scenario
 - for air crew? Etc.
- To encourage ALARA, do we need also need to establish a "target DRL", ie to indicate when ALARA is achieved?

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WG3: Economic and technical factors. Endpoints of optimisation

- How should the "ALARA process" work in practice?
 - a selection from several options based on predicted residual dose?
 - A single or repeated process?
- How practical is this for Rn in homes, or cosmic rays?
- Is there a role for CBA? If so, what is the cost of the man-Sv? And should this be adjusted, eg for different stakeholders such as home owners?
- How do you determine that exposures are ALARA, ie when do you stop? Is this limited by the practicalities of measurement and dose assessment?



WG4: Societal factors and stakeholder engagement

- Existing ES are often public exposure situations what role do the public have in determining the system of protection?
- How can the use of different dose criteria for different ES be explained, eg to the public and the media?
- If the public have much greater concerns over (say) postemergency exposures than from natural sources, how much should this be taken into account in the optimisation process?
- What should be done if there is a fundamental disagreement between different stakeholders?

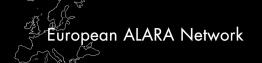
Working Group Timetable

- Tuesday 15:15-17:30
 - Introductions
 - Preliminary discussions
 - Post-session meeting with WG representatives?
- Wednesday 14:45-17:00
 - Final discussions
 - Preparation of recommendations (PowerPoint)
 - Final meeting with WG representatives?
- Thursday
 - 9:30-10:30 WG report back
 - Long coffee break!
 - 11:30-12:30 Conclusions and recommendations



Working Group Notes

- Representatives from each group
 - Chairperson
 - Rapporteur
- Topics
 - Do not limit yourselves!
- Recommendations (3 4 per group)
 - By end of Day 2 copy to Peter Shaw
 - PowerPoint (few slides)
 - Recommendation and stakeholder(s)



Working Group Chairpersons

1: J Brown

2: P P Haridasan

3: J F Lecomte

4: T Kenny

Good luck!

- To consider how the ALARA principle can be applied to the whole range of existing exposure situations, including
 - the wider principles and strategies that might be adopted
 - specific methods for implementing ALARA in practice
- To bring together stakeholders
 - to exchange practical ideas and experience
 - to identify further improvements
 - to produce recommendations