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**NEA/RWM/IGSC(2013)2/PROV**

Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**27-Jun-2013**

**English - Or. English**

**NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY  
RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Integration Group for the Safety Case (IGSC)**

**Expert Group on Operational Safety**

**Programme of Work**

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**EXPERT GROUP ON OPERATIONAL SAFETY (EG-OS)****PROGRAMME OF WORK****(DRAFT)**

This document describes the Programme of Work (PoW) of the Expert Group on Operational Safety in 2013 to 2014. Work activities described in this PoW will be approved by the EG-OS in their kick-off meeting on June 24, 2013, Paris.

**EG-OS Programme of Work**

Geological disposal of high-level waste or spent nuclear fuel is a strategic area in the work program of the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency Radioactive Waste Management Committee (NEA RWMC). The Integration Group for the Safety Case (IGSC), the main technical advisory body to the RWMC, has endorsed the foundation of the EG-OS and approved the proposed working approach, work topics, and trial duration at the 14<sup>th</sup> IGSC annual meeting in 2012. The key objective of the EG-OS is to identify, evaluate and help define international best practice in safely operating geological repository for radioactive waste.

**Work Activities**

1. Fire assessment
  - Arrange meetings with fire and safety experts (from within and outside the nuclear industry) to exchange experience and knowledge.
2. An NEA “hazard” database
  - Based on existing hazard databases developed for nuclear facilities and/or mines, develop a database to collect and organize operational safety hazards in a geological repository.
3. Ventilation in underground facilities
  - Arrange meetings with ventilation experts to discuss ventilation design and operational strategies including maintenance and replacement of HEPA filters.
4. Operational hazards
  - Arrange meetings with facility operation experts to evaluate operational hazards that may arise in a repository with both construction work and waste placement activities ongoing.
5. Waste acceptance criteria
  - Arrange meetings with nuclear operators, waste managers and safety experts to discuss criteria required to address operational safety aspects (e.g. radiological protection and limits, waste packaging design and specifications, etc).