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WORKING GROUP AGREES ON FORMATION OF INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR REGULATORS ASSOCIATION

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson and senior regulators from six other countries have agreed to formally create a new International Nuclear Regulators Assocation later this year.

Agreement was reached during meetings this week at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. Participating with Chairman Jackson in the sessions were senior nuclear regulators from Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Spain and the United Kingdom.

The international working group also achieved consensus on a terms-of-reference document which describes how the Association should operate. This document identifies countries which initially should be members of the Association, how the organization should be structured, and how membership will expand. The document also describes how the Association will develop its relationships with other national and international nuclear safety and regulatory bodies.

The terms-of-reference document will be presented for formal adoption by all the initial members of the Assocation at a meeting to be convened in May in Paris, France.

Those who participated in the working group meeting were:

 ${\tt CANADA-Dr. Agnes\ Bishop,\ President\ and\ Chief\ Executive\ Officer,\ Atomic\ Energy\ Control\ Board\ of\ Canada.}$

 ${\tt FRANCE-Mr.}$ Andre-Claude Lacoste, Director, Directorate for the Safety of Nuclear Installations.

GERMANY — Mr. G. Hennenhofer, Director General for Nuclear Safety, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety.

JAPAN — Mr. Yasumasa Togo, Chairman, Nuclear Safety Commission; and Mr. Tomihiro Taniguchi, Deputy Director General, Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

 ${\tt SPAIN-Dr. Juan\ Manuel\ Kindelan,\ President,\ Consejo\ de\ Seguridad\ Nuclear.}$

UNITED KINGDOM — Dr. Sam A. Harbison, Director and Chief Inspector, Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) Health and Safety Executive, Nuclear Safety Directorate.