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Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites

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Background and Rationale

IAEA recognised a need to focus on legacy site issues as they present a unique set of challenges

- Typically no responsible owner
- Abandoned and uncontrolled
- Lack of a regulatory regime
- Inadequate resources to address issues



International Forum on Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites (RSLS)

The IAEA General Conference adopted a safety resolution GC(53)/RES/10, 18 September 2009

“Encourages relevant Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate the uranium mining legacy sites in Central Asia, supports the Agency’s involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator and requests the Secretariat to report on further developments; notes the conclusions of the International Conference on Remediation of Land Contaminated by Radioactive Material Residues in Kazakhstan in May 2009, and supports, as recommended by the conference, the development of an international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy sites.”



International Forum on Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites (RSLS)

To promote high standards of regulatory supervision for the management of legacy sites, in line with the IAEA Safety Standards and good international practices

To be achieved through

- collection and collation of information on nuclear legacy sites, the historical experience of legacy supervision
- exchange of information on nuclear legacy site restoration plans, and the role of regulatory supervision in planning activities
- the generation of mutual support through presentation and discussion on how regulatory supervision can be made effective and efficient



Scope of work

- All types of nuclear legacy sites
- Provide support in development of effective and efficient regulatory processes
 - regulatory requirements and guidance
 - licensing and authorisation
 - inspection, compliance monitoring, and enforcement

Working mechanisms

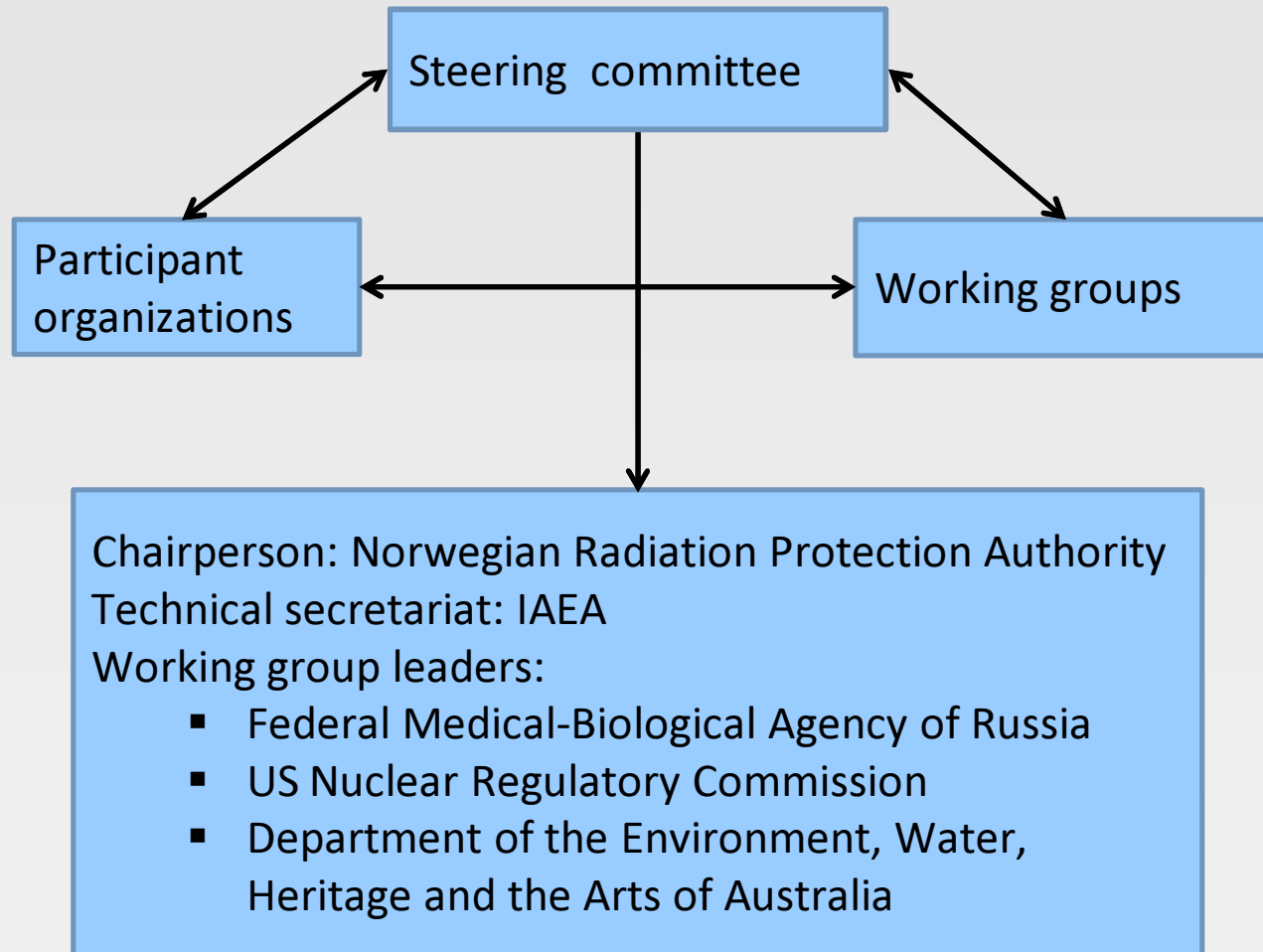
- Top-down review of the applicability and effectiveness of existing international guidance
- Bottom-up site specific examination of needs for appropriate regulatory supervision

Activities to deliver objectives

- Support development of regulations and guidance
- Environmental Impact Assessment/Risk Assessment
- Professional development of regulatory staff
- Development and links to national strategies
- Peer reviews
- Scientific visits
- Workshops



RSLS organization



Three working groups

1. Enhancing regulatory infrastructure
2. Safety assessment methods and environmental impact assessment
3. Professional development for regulators

Topical areas

- Radiation protection of workers, the public and the environment
- Environmental and source monitoring
- Control of discharges
- Clearance of radioactive materials
- Radioactive waste
- Waste acceptance criteria for disposal
- Presence of non-radioactive pollutants
- Remediation
- Criteria for site release and termination of activities

RSLs participants

Principal members

- Authorities responsible for nuclear, radiation and environmental safety at nuclear legacy sites

Supporting members

- Stakeholders in legacy site management (international organizations, operators, TSO)



Examples of activities

- Scientific Visit to USA Moab /White Mesa Mill/ LM UMTRA Sites
- International Legacy Management WS in Grand Junction, Colorado
- Technical Meeting on former Weapons Test Sites – Algeria (proposed)
- Technical Meeting on Remediation of Former Military Sites –Russia (proposed)



Visit RSLs web site

www-ns.iaea.org/projects/rsls

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the IAEA website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www-ns.iaea.org/projects/rsls/>. The page header includes the IAEA logo and navigation links such as 'About Us', 'Our Work', 'News Center', 'Publications', and 'Nucleus'. The main content area is titled 'Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites' and features a photograph of a landscape. Below the photo, there is a section titled 'The RSLs Project' with a 'Background' section and an 'Objective' section. The 'Background' section discusses the development of commercial and military uses of radioactive material and the need for regulatory oversight. The 'Objective' section states that the overall objective of the RSLs is to promote effective and efficient regulatory supervision of legacy sites, consistent with the IAEA's mission.

