

NEWSLETTER N° 1 of 2006

In the year 2006, the Executive Committee of the International Nuclear Energy Academy met twice. The first meeting was held on 24 July 2006 by teleconference attended by seven members, and the second one, in the margins of the Winter Meeting of the American Nuclear Society in Albuquerque , New Mexico , on 12 November last. As on other occasions, we invited any members of the Academy who happened to be in Albuquerque for the ANS meeting to join the Committee's deliberations. There were several present, and they made valuable contributions to the discussion. The Annual General Meeting took place in the Austria Center Vienna, on the occasion of the IAEA General Conference, on Monday 18 September 2006.

1. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The decline of the value of the US dollar has resulted in a decrease of the Academy's income in sterling terms (where most of the bills arise at present). Therefore, the Executive Committee approved to raise the subscription rate to US\$30 with effect from 2007.

It was also agreed to inform members who might fall more than two years behind with their subscriptions, that they will be automatically transferred to the Emeritus category.

2. STATUS OF PAPERS AND NEW PAPERS

Contentious papers appear on the INEA website as statements of "Members' Views". The Chamberlain/Meneley paper on "*Hazardous Radiotoxic Waste Disposal*" is now displayed there. The European Nuclear Society had sought permission to display this paper on its website. The paper on the "*The Transition to Large Scale Nuclear Energy Supply*" by Dan Meneley is also posted on the "Members' Views" of the INEA website.

Bertrand Barré's paper entitled "*HLW disposal: Status and Trends*" has been posted as an INEA Executive Statement.

Dave Rossin's paper on "*Nuclear Facilities and Terrorism*" had proved very useful, and is also on the European Nuclear Society's website.

As for new papers, their status is as follows:

Low Level Radiation. It was pointed out that the INEA paper needed to include the effects of background and the variations in it, as well as neutron and alpha radiation double chain damage in DNA, which was much less likely to be repaired naturally than single chain damage. This part of the paper should be written by an educated layman and then reviewed by professional scientists.

Uranium Resources. Arguments about U resources, price and exploration have been found as not entirely accurate when the U market is compared with the oil market, as oil is influenced by political factors which do not apply in the case of uranium. Before publication, INEA will ask Steve Kidd to write

supplementary considerations to those on Julian Stein's paper with further inferences regarding the Red Book figures.

Actions for producing papers on *Hydrogen economy*, and *Non-proliferation* will be pursued.

The subject of *Infrastructure needs for nuclear power programmes in newcomer countries* has been considered as a possible new issue leading to an INEA Statement.

3. CO-OPERATION WITH IAEA

Upon invitation of the NGO Section of the Agency's Secretariat, INEA proposed the following list of topics for discussion at the regular meeting of NGOs on the first day of the 2006 General Conference:

- NGOs role in re-establishing scientific, technological and engineering grounds for discussing Climate Change solutions.
- Use of technically competent NGOs for recommending Technical Assistance experts.
- Possibility of NGOs participation to carry out technical studies of common interest.
- Explanation and discussion of specific NGOs/IGOs Public Statements/Positions.

The IAEA accepted only one of these topics for inclusion in the meeting Agenda, namely: "Climate change – scientific, technological and engineering grounds for discussing climate change solutions". The result was to take note of the Academy proposal with no further action.

The International Atomic Energy Agency informed INEA they did not have funds to proceed with the Knowledge Preservation Project that would have the Academy as a collaborator. Actions taken in France regarding knowledge preservation related to the Super-Phénix Fast Breeder project might be useful for application in the IAEA Knowledge Preservation project. To restart the INEA-IAEA cooperation negotiations, INEA will bring up this new approach, based on the French experience, as a means for cooperation on this issue.

4. WORLD NUCLEAR UNIVERSITY PROJECT

The WNU idea for associating graduates of summer schools with INEA; as Associate Members with a fast track to eventual full membership, was considered implausible by the Executive Committee because such graduates were too young and inexperienced to become members of the Academy. The idea of "Associate Members" was worth pursuing but on the condition that an Associate Member should normally be older -about 45-50 years old- and nearing the top of his/her profession.

There was no progress in the area of recruiting mentors from INEA for the WNU summer schools. It was agreed that this proposal should be re-iterated.

5. PARTICIPATION IN G8 MEETINGS

INSC requested INEA to support its inclusion as an NGO to take part in Preparatory Meetings for the next G-8 Berlin Meeting. An NGO wanting to take part of such meetings has to approach the organizers and the G8 Research Group, Toronto, Canada, could be a good avenue to advice on how to set about it. We are awaiting a reply from this Group. In the meantime, it was decided to ask INEA members from

Canada to help contacting such Research Group to seek acknowledgment of the INEA and the INSC participation.

6. BYLAWS

The list of Charter Members was posted on the INEA webpage as an Attachment to the Charter.

In order to avoid that candidates having contributed or sponsored nuclear weapons proliferation become INEA members, the Executive Committee agreed to consider the possibility of an amendment to the Bylaws.

7. MEMBERSHIP

The implementation of the translation of dormant members into an “Emeritus” list, to give room for the recruitment of fresh blood, is being done.

Lists of Active and Emeritus Members were updated as of 1st August 2006 (see INEA webpage <www.INEA.org.br>). As of this date, the Academy has 96 Active Members and 15 Emeritus Members. The Secretary is stressing again to the Active Members that failure to pay the subscription, or to respond to messages from the Academy, would lead to removal to the Emeritus category for inactivity after two years.

A Form for applying to INEA Membership was developed to have a uniform information system for analyzing potential members. A request by the applicant for consideration to be accepted as member of INEA (that can be sent by e-mail) should be accompanied by a brief Curriculum Vitae, a full list of publications and a List of references.

In this period, the following applications were approved as INEA Active members: Jose Pablo Abriata - Argentina ; Roberto Hojman – Chile ; Nikolai Steinberg – Ukraine ; Ian Duncan – Australia ; Srikumar Banerjee – India , Harold McFarlane – USA and A Gopalakrishnan - India .

8. MEMBERSHIP DIPLOMAS

On August 1st, when INEA Membership Diplomas were sent to the newly appointed Members, it was realized that after Kun Mo Chung's chairmanship the practice to send such Diplomas had lapsed and many members did not have their Membership Diploma. To correct this, it was decided to send a Diploma to all members listed in the current Active Members List. This was done by means of Internet.

9. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Bertrand Barre's nomination to Chair INEA in the period 1st January 2007 – 31st December 2008 was approved at the 2006 AGM as well as those of Parvez Butt, Pakistan, and Jaime Pahissa-Campa, Argentina, to act as Vice-Chairmen respectively for the South-Central Asian region and for the Latin American region.

The Committee endorsed the proposal to invite Mr. Nicolai Ponomarev-Stepnoi to occupy the position of Vice-Chairman for the Eastern European region.

10. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is likely to take place in the last week of June 2007, again as a teleconference, and the next AGM should be held in the margins of the IAEA General Conference in September 2007 in Vienna .

11. RETIREMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Jorge Spitalnik will end his mandate as the chair of the Academy after two years service on 31st December 2006. He is thanking members for their unstinting support during that time. Bertrand Barré will take over from him as Chairman with effect from 1 January 2007.

Gerald Clark
Secretary INEA
November 2006