

PRESS RELEASE

WANO report looks back on 2011

London, 8 March 2012 – The World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO), has today released its Year-End Highlights Report for 2011, which looks back on one of the most challenging years in the history of the nuclear industry. The report, now in its third year, details the work undertaken by WANO on its four programmes* during the twelve months that shook the industry, and outlines the significant alterations to WANO post-Fukushima.

During 2011, the organisation conducted 39 peer reviews, helping members to assess their performance through an in-depth, objective review of their operations. Since 1992, nearly 500 peer reviews have taken place across the world. In addition, WANO produced four Significant Operating Experience Reports (SOERs), two Significant Event Reports (SERs) and one analysis of industry gaps, all of which provided essential and urgent lessons for the industry after Fukushima.

The organisation also conducted 161 Technical Support Missions (TSMs), during which peer teams help members to review various issues and identify potential solutions. Twenty-three workshops, seminars and training courses took place across the globe, helping nuclear industry staff to increase their skills and knowledge. Activities such as these enable plants to better deal with safety issues before they become major problems.

In April 2011 WANO also formed a high level Post-Fukushima Commission, which was charged with determining the changes WANO should implement to help prevent or mitigate a similar event in the future and to close the gaps in WANO's performance. The WANO Governing Board approved the Commission's recommendations in October prior to the 2011 Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in Shenzhen, China. Subsequently WANO's membership unanimously supported the proposed changes to the organisation. The 2011 report explains the next steps that WANO is taking to address these recommendations.

Laurent Stricker, Chairman of WANO, said:

This report provides a useful snapshot of the past year, which was an extraordinary one for both WANO and for the wider industry. The disaster obviously affected WANO normal activities, as we endeavoured to maintain business as usual while also offering additional support to our members during an extremely trying time. Looking ahead into 2012, I believe the changes taking place in WANO are fundamentally important for the global nuclear industry. We will not only focus on how to prevent an accident, but also how to mitigate the effects of one should the unthinkable occur. This shift in WANO focus is vital in the on-going pursuit of excellence in nuclear safety.

A full copy of the Year-End Highlights report is available on the WANO website -

<http://www.wano.info/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/High-Lights-Report-2012-w.pdf>.

*WANO work falls under four programme areas peer reviews, operating experience, technical support and exchange and professional and technical development.

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Notes to editors:

WANO is a non-profit member association established in 1989 by the World's nuclear power operators to exchange safety knowledge and operating experience amongst organisations operating commercial nuclear power reactors.

WANO members operate some 440 nuclear units in more than 30 countries around the world. WANO works with members in pursuit of its mission: to maximise the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants worldwide by working together to assess, benchmark and improve performance through mutual support, exchange of information and emulation of best practices.

WANO was modelled on the American organisation, INPO, which was formed after the Three Mile Island accident. INPO is a member of WANO and beyond that, the organisations work together to share programme resources and learnings.

For more information on WANO, visit www.wano.info.