



International workshop on environmental and health impacts of lifetime extension of nuclear power plants

5th June, 2019

Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal
Anfiteatro Abreu Faro

An initiative of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)
co-organized with the UNECE Secretariat of the Espoo Convention and the Protocol
on SEA, and the Portuguese Association for Impact Assessment (APAI)

with the support of Instituto Superior Técnico



Background

Over the last few years nuclear power and related activities have been an issue of debate under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), and in particular the applicability of the Espoo Convention concerning the life time extension of nuclear power plants (LTE of NPP). At its 7th session (Minsk, June 2017), the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention established an intergovernmental ad hoc working group to analyze the issue and develop guidance on how to apply the Espoo Convention to the LTE of NPP.

In January 2018, IAIA proposed to organize a workshop to discuss this sensitive matter on scientific and technical grounds to support the political debate. Outcomes of the workshop would inform the work of the ad hoc working group with substantive aspects concerning the environmental and health impacts of LTE of NPP. In essence the workshop intends to address how decisions on the LTE of NPP could be made in an informed and transparent way, using the transboundary procedure set by the Espoo Convention to the extent relevant.

In a dedicated workshop held in Geneva in May 2018, IAIA initially presented a preliminary schedule for a two days' event to take place in Lisbon in November 2018, but difficulties with financing of the event required its postponement. A meeting of the ad hoc working group on LTE of NPP to be held in Lisbon on June 3-4, 2019, provides an ideal opportunity to reschedule this event for 5 June 2019, as a one day workshop back to back with the ad hoc working group's meeting.

Aim of the workshop

This workshop aims to create space for an open discussion regarding the LTE NPP from a technical and scientific perspective, looking particularly into environmental and health impacts, acknowledging and sharing various perspectives of different stakeholders. The running question of the workshop is: could the extension of the lifetime of nuclear power plants cause adverse environmental and health impacts, including in a transboundary context?

Final Programme

09:00 Registration

09:30 **Opening session**

José Marques, Vice-President IST

Júlio Jesus, President APAI

Tea Aulavuo, Secretary Espoo Convention

Ben Cave, President-Elect IAIA

Session 1: Environmental and health impacts

Chair: Júlio Jesus

10:00 **The Espoo Convention and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment: transboundary impacts of nuclear energy-related activities and the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants**, Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and the Protocol on SEA

10:30 **Environmental impacts of nuclear power plants and case-study**, Satu Lyyra, Department Manager, Environmental Consulting, Pöyry Finland Oy

11:00 Break

11:30 **Health impacts of nuclear power plants and case-study**, Ben Cave, Ben Cave Associates (UK), IAIA Health Section Co-Chair, President-Elect IAIA

12:00 Discussion

13:00 Lunch

Session 2: Public participation and stakeholder engagement

Chair: José Marques

14:00 **The Aarhus Convention and the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants**, Fiona Marshall, Secretary to the Compliance Committee of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention).

14:30 **Public Participation and stakeholder engagement in decision-making processes**, Maria Partidário, IST, IAIA Past-President, and IAIA representative near the Espoo Convention

15:00 **Case-Study: The Problems and Challenges for "Voluntary Evacuees" regarding Fukushima TEPCO Radiation Disaster and Its Long-Term Impact**, Kunihiko Yoshida, Professor of Law, Hokkaido University/Univ. of Colorado.

15:30 Discussion

16:00 Break

Session 3: Reflecting on the scientific and technical aspects of the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants

Chair: Maria Partidário

16:30 **Panel discussion: Do environmental and health issues in the extension of the lifetime of nuclear power plants justify impact assessment, including in transboundary contexts?**

Jan Haverkamp, Nuclear Transparency Watch (via skype)

Júlio Jesus, President APAI, Julio Jesus Consultores

João Oliveira Martins, Portuguese Environment Agency (Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente)

Marc Deffrennes, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency,

18:00 **Concluding remarks**, Miguel Coutinho, IDAD (University of Aveiro, Portugal), and IAIA Past-President

18:30 Closing