

## Summary

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During the five sessions of the workshop, much insight has been gained in a variety of issues and challenges that national programmes will encounter as they approach the construction phase of deep geologic repositories as well as their plans to address and resolve these issues. Due to the wide range of participating programmes and due to the different phases of repository development represented, the information presented at the workshop ranged from general and generic questions to specific technical, managerial, administrative, legal, regulatory and procedural issues. Although many issues still awaiting their resolutions, it can be observed that there were joint views amongst the participants with respect to the nature and specificities of these issues. These include:

- the need for flexibility (within a so-called safety envelope) when projects evolve over time,
- the need to address targets could be very difficult in nature and in some cases may compete with each other when developing and optimising repository systems,
- the central role of management with regard to developing adequate professional attitudes and an appropriate safety culture, taking into account the various professional disciplines involved,
- the need for integrating different legal and regulatory fields, often addressed by different authorities, and the question of a “leading regulator”
- the technical challenge of conceptualising parallel processes such as excavation in parts of a repository and emplacement in others and the need to fulfil related safety requirements (mining and occupational, radiation protection etc.),
- monitoring may have different roles in different phases of repository development, or
- the outstanding role of the safety case prepared in advance to operation (waste emplacement) compared to the cases prepared at other stages of repository development, and the need to act accordingly in the regulatory and licensing process.

This set of issues is by no means complete. For the Regulators’ Forum and the IGSC it is now necessary to identify those issues and approaches to their resolutions which are of joint interest in order to address them in their programmes of work.

The IGSC will, in accordance with its mandate, focus on topics related to safety case development and to the links to establish between different components of repository

development. Subjects which have to be discussed and perhaps addressed in the Programme of Work include:

- Operational safety: In the past, IGSC focussed on the relationship of operational and post-closure safety. A move towards questions specific for operational safety and in particular the potential for developing a list of events, incident causes etc. to be accounted for when assessing operational safety (“operational safety FEP list”) will be considered.
- Further attention will be devoted to establishing the linkage between the construction of engineered components and safety assessment, i.e. to the issue of feasibility to construct components according to the design specifications made by, or used in, safety assessments.
- The IGSC will contribute to the EU MoDerN project in order to address issues related to monitoring and its linkage to safety demonstration.
- IGSC also will further address organisational issues.