

Proposal for a method for investigating Emergency Preparedness & Response issues

Nuclear Transparency Watch

1st meeting of the Emergency preparedness
& response working group
7th November 2013

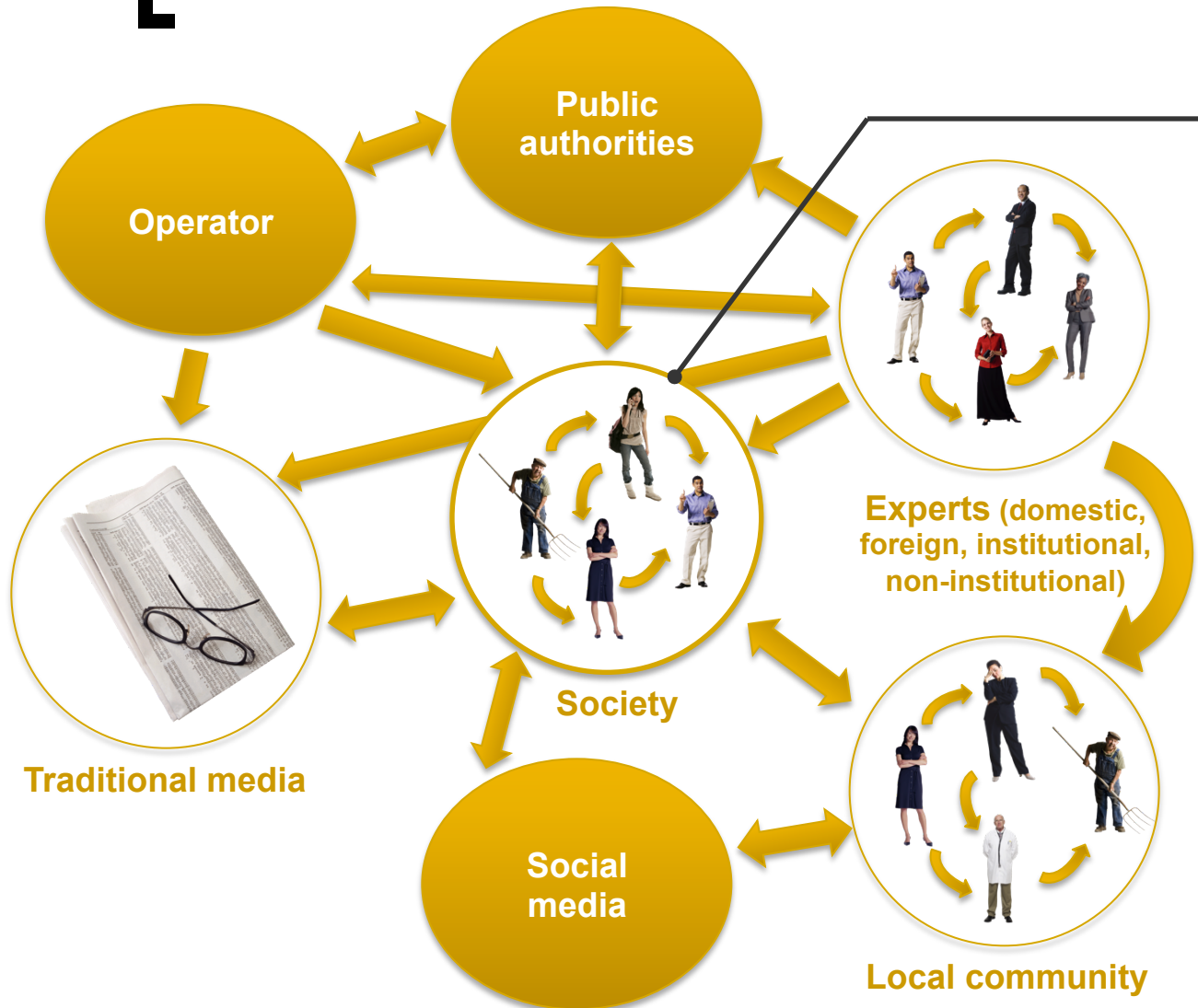
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Objectives of the EP&R Working group

■ Objectives:

- Identify key stakes regarding nuclear EP&R from the point of view of civil society
- Identify main needs for improvements of existing EP&R provisions in Europe at the local, national and European level
 - Concerning the content of EP&R arrangements (exposure standards, intervention levels, zoning, ...)
 - Concerning the decision-making processes for EP&R in the perspective of the Aarhus convention (in particular Article 5.1.c of the Convention)
- Identify strategic opportunities to push forward key changes in EP&R at the local, national and European level

Aarhus convention art. 5.1.c)



Aarhus Convention art. 5.1. c):

'In the event of any imminent threat to human health or the environment, whether caused by human activities or due to natural causes, **all information which could enable the public to take measures to prevent or mitigate harm arising from the threat**...**is disseminated immediately** and without delay to members of the public who may be affected'.

Principle of the proposed process

- The proposed process will rely on interactions between
 - National investigations led by EP&R WG members (in cooperation with other civil society organisations?) at the national and/or local levels notably through national or regional Aarhus Convention & Nuclear (ACN) roundtables (when appropriate)
 - Investigations at the European level (seminar, meetings, hearings, ...) by NTW, integrating national views
 - Support from EP&R WG: inception seminar, methodological and strategic advice, issuing of guidelines for national investigations, participation of NTW members to ACN roundtables.
- The proposed process will identify
 - Country-specific or site-specific issues (identified and addressed by national investigations)
 - Issues of European relevance for the viewpoint of civil society
 - Concrete conclusions & recommendations at the European and national level

Structure of the proposed process (January – October 2014)

European level

Inception seminar organised by EP&R WG

Targeted investigations by EP&R WG at the European level

Possible missions of NTW members at the occasion of ACN national or regional roundtables

Cross-analysis of national conclusions and European level analysis

NTW meetings: drafting of conclusions of European investigations & proposal of ACN European roundtable (if appropriate)

National level

National investigations: examination of documents, hearings, cooperation with other CSOs

Preparing national or regional ACN Roundtable if appropriate

National or regional ACN roundtable (if appropriate)

Issuing of conclusions of national investigations (national case studies)

The inception seminar (January 2014)

- A non-public event (2 days) with the objectives of
 - Training NTW EP&R WG members in EP&R issues through
 - Presenting a mapping of EP&R issues prepared by the WG on the basis of the available documents at the European level
 - Hearings of key actors (e.g. independent CSO experts, public authorities (HERCA, ENSREG, national authorities, DG ENER, international organisations...))
 - Framing the EP&R WG investigations at the European level
 - Selecting key issues of European relevance, depending on the interest of EP&R WG members and on strategic opportunities
 - Identifying a reduced set of issues that NTW will ask national investigations to address (to enable comparative analysis)
 - Prepare guidelines for the national investigations
 - Identifying countries where the processes of national investigations could be initiated rapidly

The national investigations (January – June 2014)

- Objectives:
 - Identify and investigate “hot issues” in the national context
 - Identify strategic opportunities of influence of civil society over EP&R in the national context
 - Provide material for the European level investigations
- Method and format of national investigations are freely chosen by the concerned EP&R WG members. NTW will provide (optional) guidelines to facilitate the organisation of national investigations
- Members of the European Parliament engaged in NTW will support national investigations in their country
- The concerned EP&R members may decide to carry out national investigations in cooperation with other civil society actors
- These civil society actors will choose a set of issues of interest (depending on national context & on issues identified by NTW)
- If appropriate, a national or regional ACN roundtable can be organised in link with the national investigations. A delegation of NTW members can take part to the national roundtable

The European level investigations (January – September 2014)

- Objectives:
 - Identify and investigate “hot issues” at the European level
 - Identify strategic opportunities of influence of civil society over EP&R at the European level
- The method for the European level investigations will rely on
 - Desk studies and analysis of the available documentation: European law, regulations and standards, International standards and recommendations (e.g. IAEA, ICRP), reports, documentation issued by European or international networks (e.g. HERCA) ...
 - Hearings of personalities: European Commission, institutional actors playing a role in EP&R at the European level, civil society organisations ...
 - Analysis of the return of experience of accidents (e.g. Fukushima)
 - Outcomes of the national investigations (national case studies)
- NTW Management Board will be involved in the investigations

The final NTW EP&R WG meetings (July - September 2014)

- After the national investigations, 1 or 2 meetings of the EP&R WG will be organised in order to prepare the conclusions of European investigations
- The available materials will include
 - Outcomes of the national investigations (and possibly of some national or regional ACN roundtable)
 - Outcomes of targeted investigations by EP&R WG at the European level in parallel to the process of national investigations
- Objectives:
 - Highlight key needs for EP&R improvement at the European level
 - Propose concrete actions to be taken by civil society, local actors, experts and regulators in order to facilitate the implementation of these improvements
 - Make proposals for the development of cooperation between civil society and technical support organisations (TSOs) at a European and national level

Proposal for an ACN European roundtable on EP&R (if appropriate) in September or October 2014

- If appropriate, the initiatives to be proposed by NTW as a result of this process may include a proposal to organise an ACN European roundtable on EP&R
- The contribution of NTW to this European roundtable may notably include:
 - Presentation of the cross-cutting analysis of outcomes of national investigations and European conclusions
 - Proposals of case studies identified by the national investigations in order to provide concrete illustration
 - Presentation of action proposals resulting from the work of the NTW EP&R WTG