



SNETP FORWARD

D1.1. Terms of Reference for the SNETP GB Committees

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1. Introduction

The Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP) was launched in 2007 and is recognised by the European Commission as an ETIP within the SET Plan (European Technology and Innovation Platform). With the objective to represent the nuclear fission related technologies under a unique legal entity, the SNETP Association gathers today 3 pillars, NUGENIA (Nuclear Generation II & III technologies), ESNII (European Sustainable Nuclear Industry Initiative) and NC2I (Nuclear Cogeneration Initiative).

The year 2019 was an important year for SNETP. Following the previous discussions and negotiations, it was finally agreed to formally transform the NUGENIA international association into SNETP International Association that will integrate the 3 technical pillars – NUGENIA, ESNII and NC2I. The legal structure remains the same: AISBL (Association internationale sans but lucratif) which is the main legal vehicle for international non-profit associations under the Belgium law. This was ratified by the royal decree WL22/16.102 on September 2019 and seated in Brussels, 53 avenue des Arts (where previously NUGENIA was hosted as well).

According to the new Association Statutes, the Governing Board is chaired by a President and a Vice President composed of 16 elected representatives (8 from private sector and 8 from R&D centres including TSOs) and 3 representatives appointed by every pillar. The Governing Board assures the implementation of the strategy and decisions of the General Assembly with the support of the general secretariat.

Under the new governance structure, SNETP pillars keep working as they used to in the last years. ESNII and NC2I, which represent the research communities related to Generation IV technologies and nuclear cogeneration respectively, maintain their two-level governance with their Task Force and Coordination Board (previously Executive Board). NUGENIA, dedicated to the GEN II & III reactor community, also keeps its Coordination Board (previously ExCom) and technical areas.

The present document provides an historic perspective and guidance on the purpose, functioning and composition of the committees that were created to structure and organise the work of the association.

2. SNETP Committees

In 2020, the SNETP governance decided to create nine Governing Board Committees, in order to structure its activities. For each of these committees, objectives and actions were defined by involved GB members. However, the implementation and follow-up of the activities was not satisfactory, and in the end, there were important discrepancies from one GB committee to another. At the occasion of the SNETP GB meeting n°8 in July, the newly elected SNETP Governing Board decided to rationalize the previous structure and concentrate on three committees, each one focused on one high-level priority. These 3 SNETP Committees have various working groups, including priority actions that are reviewed at the occasion of regular SNETP governance meetings (e.g. GB, GA, Secretariat, etc.).

The SNETP Committees are consultative bodies of SNETP (**art. 2 of the internal rules**). They are composed of experts representing different technical domains (technical area leaders, technical subarea leaders, technology representatives, etc.).

2.1. Scientific and industrial Innovation Committee (SIIC)

2.1.1. Context

The Scientific and industrial innovation Committee is a synthesis of the former Scientific Committee, Innovation Committee and Industry Committee.

Among the full members of the association, 40% represent the private sector (~20% from the industry & ~20% from SMEs), therefore a particular attention shall be paid to include more industrial partners.

At the European level, Nuclear Europe which is an observer in SNETP (and contribute to the support office), has a key role to play in that regard as it gathers almost all big industries in Europe. It is imperative to strengthen the collaboration between SNETP and Nuclear Europe in various activities.

The high-level priority of SIIC is to maintain and reinforce the scientific and technical programming / roadmapping of SNETP, to facilitate innovation in nuclear research.

2.1.2. Composition

One Governing Board member is chairing the work of the SIIC, with the support of the SNETP Secretariat. Each pillar should appoint at least one representative to participate in the SIIC meetings. In addition, the SIIC should be ideally composed of at least four elected members of the SNETP GB in addition to the chair. Participation of other GB members is welcome.

2.1.3. General activities

The SIIC contributes to the technical activities of the Association:

Scientific Programming

- Regularly update the scientific roadmap of the association and its pillars
- Prepare the technical programme of SNETP events
- Contribute to the European SMR Partnership creation

Scientific dissemination & feedback

- Draft technical/scientific documents such as position papers, state-of-the-art documents, etc.
- Provide feedback on external consultations (e.g. organised by the European Commission) on scientific topics, in collaboration, where relevant, with the two other Committees
- Identify elements for public dissemination, e.g. via SNETP newsletters
- Facilitate the promotion of innovations created by the association members

SNETP projects lifecycle (from creation to monitoring)

- Identify, review and label of collaborative project ideas
- Support the monitoring of project portfolio and “associated projects”, together with SNETP pillars
- Review technical publications generated by the SNETP labelled projects
- Launch SNETP Innovation Booster
- Help SMEs be more engaged in collaborative projects

2.2. International and European Affairs Committee (IEAC)

2.2.1. Context

The International and European Affairs Committee (IEAC) is a synthesis of two former ones which are: the European Affairs Committee and the International Organisations Committee.

The high-level priority of the IEAC is to maintain, reinforce and enlarge the SNETP role in the European and international institutional nuclear R&D&I ecosystem.

2.2.1.1. EU institutions

The three DGs (R&I, JRC, ENER) are invited to all SNETP-GB meetings and also to the annual SNETP Forum. In addition, DG-JRC contributes substantially to the activities of the Support Office (30d/year cost-free basis). The European Commission regularly invites SNETP representatives to consultations on the SET Plan, energy R&D and more specifically on Euratom. The engagement of SNETP in the SET-Plan should continue and be further developed.

It is imperative to initiate dialogue and interactions with the European Economic and Social Committee as well as with other services with the potential to create synergies between nuclear and other sectors.

2.2.1.2. International institutional organisations

The international collaboration allows showcasing the R&D results from the collaborative projects co-funded by the EC but also to build consensus and collaboration on joint topics of interest. Current international interactions include the following:

- **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

A participation agreement with the agency has been signed by NUGENIA (mandated by SNETP) back in 2015. Contributions were provided at technical level by different SNETP representatives to IAEA organised workshops and seminars (e.g. PLiM). More collaborative work is ongoing in various areas of interest (SMR, safety, GEN IV, etc.). Some officers from the agency are willing to contribute to several activities of the association and close personal contacts are well established.

The next step is to renew the agreement to enlarge its scope.

- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development / Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD / NEA)**

SNETP with all its pillars contributed to the [NI2050 roadmap](#) aiming at paving the way for a Carbon-free Energy Future. Some of the NUGENIA ExCom members were part of NEA's committees, which bring together top government officials and technical specialists from NEA member countries to suggest best practices and to promote further international collaboration.

A formalisation of the collaboration between the 2 parties would help strengthening the collaboration.

- **Generation IV International Forum (GIF)**

While DG-JRC is the official representative of the EU in this organisation, few other European countries have also their own seat. The work done within GIF is of high interest to ESNII and NC2I and therefore it would be important to negotiate a special position.

Other international organisations should also be considered such as IEA, WNA, etc.

2.2.2. Composition

One Governing Board member is chairing the work of the IEAC, with the support of the SNETP Secretariat. The IEAC should be ideally composed of at least two elected members of the SNETP GB in addition to the chair. Participation of other GB members is welcome.

2.2.3. General Activities

The IEAC contributes to the following activities of the Association:

European institutional interactions

- Establish and maintain continuous dialogue with European Commission services in order to:
 - o Contribute to the design of the future EU programmes
 - o Promote the role R&D for competitive nuclear energy within the European energy mix
- Align priorities with Euratom Programme and SET-Plan

International institutional interactions

- Establish and maintain continuous dialogue with international organisations (GIF, OECD/NEA, IAEA, etc.) in order to:
 - o Ensure consistency with roadmaps, initiatives, projects, programmes and activities
 - o Identify protocols of collaboration with mutual benefit (e.g. MoU, cooperation agreements, etc.)
 - o Promote dissemination of the SNETP portfolio projects, in collaboration with the SIIC.

2.3. Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC)

2.3.1. Context

This committee focuses on interactions with European stakeholders in the nuclear and non-nuclear sector. These may include industry, regulators, associations, civil society, etc.

The high-level priority of the SEC is to maintain, reinforce and enlarge SNETP interactions with multidimensional European actors and sectors.

SNETP has a background of collaboration with the following European associations:

- **EERA-JPNM**

In 2017, an MoU was signed between EERA-JPNM and SNETP. The MoU sets out the framework for a formal coordination between SNETP and EERA JPNM on research strategies and activities mainly on the topic of nuclear materials. The technical scope of this agreement encompasses research and innovation activities on structural materials and nuclear fuel for fission reactors of generations II to IV. NUGENIA TA4 to TA6 are identified in the annexes of the MoU. EERA-JPNM was also actively involved in the organisation of SNETP Forum 2020.

- **European Radiation Protection Research Platforms (MELODI, EURADOS, EURAMED, NERIS, ALLIANCE, SHARE: MEENAS)**

In 2017, a MoU was signed between NUGENIA and MENA. It needs to be renewed with MEENAS. Exchanges are maintained between the SNETP and European Radiation Protection Platforms with the involvement of IRSN and EDF.

- **ENEN**

ENEN is a permanent member of SNETP. Relations have to be strengthened for the mutual benefit for both associations. The EU-funded OFFERR project lasting until 2025 will support the intensification of interactions.

- **FinNuclear:**

FinNuclear was an honorary member of NUGENIA and close collaboration should be re-established with SNETP especially given that Finland has a multiannual R&D programme called SAPHIR with which NUGENIA had a collaboration agreement.

- **CEIDEN**

CEIDEN is a permanent observer of SNETP. CIEMAT is assuring the link between SNETP and CEIDEN activities.

- **CIRTEN**

CIRTEN is still officially a permanent observer of SNETP. Interactions should be strengthened.

- **National nuclear associations**

National nuclear associations are very beneficial for the dialogue between SNETP and member states and also to gather the national support on the SNETP agenda.

- **Regulatory bodies**

Having a close look at the regulation, SNETP is conducting R&D in various areas that are of interest to the regulatory bodies (WENRA, ENSREG, ETSO, CENELEC, AFNOR, etc.).

- **ETSON**

All 13 members of ETSO are members of SNETP but further interactions shall reinforce cooperation between SNETP and the different regulatory and standardization bodies.

Activities of this Committee will be supported by the 3-year EU-funded SNETPFORWARD project. More interactions are expected in the coming years, especially with other European Technology and Innovation Platforms (ETIPs) involved in the SET-Plan and Horizon Europe partnerships.

More involvement of the civil society is needed both to inform the general public and to enhance the acceptability of our industry.

2.3.2. Composition

One Governing Board member is chairing the work of the SEC, with the support of the SNETP Secretariat. The SEC should be ideally composed of at least two elected members of the SNETP GB in addition to the chair. Participation of other GB members is welcome.

SNETP GB members involved in the SNETPFORWARD project (TRACTEBEL, IRSN, NRG) are also involved in the activities of this committee together with the coordinator of the project (EDF).

2.3.3. General Activities

Interactions with European nuclear stakeholders

- Interact with regulatory and standardisation bodies
- Reinforce dialogue and cooperation with nuclear R&D infrastructures
 - o Verify availability, receive information on future plans
 - o Availability to share
 - o Consistency between SRAs and in general infrastructure features and perspectives
- Establish and maintain interactions with European associations

Interactions with non-nuclear stakeholders

- Monitor and foster interactions with non-nuclear European associations (ETIPs, EERA, etc.)
- Maintain and reinforce interactions with regulators
- Support activities and actors engaging with civil society and young generation

2.4. Financial & Administrative affairs Board

2.4.1. Context

The annual budget preparation exercise is a mandatory activity performed by the Support Office well in advance of the General Assembly. The annual budget is pre-approved by the Governing Board and presented to the General Assembly for final approval.

The construction of the budget is mainly based on a bottom-up approach reflecting different requests expressed by the pillars and the Support Office. The budget is also based on the expenses of previous years and adjusted taking into account the expenses occurred.

The costs follow-up is a continuous activity assured by the Support Office. A comprehensive table with the budgetary items structure is updated continuously upon reception of any invoice or payment.

The costs follow-up is provided regularly by the Support Office to the Treasurer in order to inform the Governing Board on the status of the use of resources.

2.4.2. Composition

The Governing Board shall liaise with the Financial and Administrative Affairs Board (FAAB) through the Vice President

2.4.3. Role of F&A Board

The Board shall have the responsibility to approve the financial and administration documents provided by the General Secretariat.

2.4.4. Priority actions

- Update of the Moniteur Belge regarding the the SNETP governance
- Proceed with relevant changes in the SNETP Bank account management
- Consolidate procedure to coordinate formal actions with the Support Office

3. Conclusion

The new SNETP governance in close cooperation with the Support Office shall continue, enlarged and reinforced activities assured by SNETP Association since 2019 and its predecessor, in terms of external interactions, formal engagements and public communication.

The SNETP Committees shall be regularly monitoring the actions prioritised and report to the Governing Board and the President on the progresses.

Annex 1: Composition of the SNETP SIIC, IEAC and SEC committees

	SIIC	IEAC	SEC
Dr. Sanjeev Gupta	x	x	
Kral Pavel	X		
Petri Kinnunen	x		
Stephane Sarrade	x		
Marc Schyns	x		
Ales Laciok	x	x	
Petr Kadecka	x		
Adinolfi Roberto		x	
John STAIRMAND	x	x	
Elisabeth GUILHAUT	x		x
John Dhers	x		
Andrei Goicea			
Leon Cizelj		x	
Noel Camarat	X		
Marco Cherubini	x		x
Rob Whittleston		x	
Bertrand Morel			x
François Barre - Chairperson		X	
Ferry Roelofs - Chairperson	X		
Christophe SCHNEIDESCH - Chairperson			x