

# Management Board meeting #43

12.02.2024 – 15:30 pm – 17:00 pm CEST

## 1°) Management issues

- **Membership**

- SSTC: application form received and supported by the MB. Valéry sent an email to SSTC mentioning that we wait EGA of 20/02 before giving a response (so we will be able to confirm membership + the possibility of a fee exemption).

MB agrees that a response will be given after the EGA, depending on the resolution that will be taken.

- BASE is interested in joining SITEX.Network and sent a letter on 29/01 asking practical questions about how to join. Key question is about the College: regulatory or expertise function (they have both functions)?

**Action 43.1:** Malcolm to prepare a response to BASE letter including the position that will be taken by the MB on the question about the College.

MB agrees that BASE should be registered as Regulator even if they can also involve their TSO department as well. A letter of response from SITEX will be sent with the statutes, application form and terms of reference (they will have to pay the maximum fees).

- **General Assemblies**

- Minutes of GA #7

MB members agree to send their possible comments on the minutes by 16/02. The minutes will be consolidated, approved by Valéry and sent by Malcom to the GA members.

**Action 41.3:** Valéry to review the draft minutes. Still to do.

- Extraordinary GAs in 2024 as agreed in GA #7:

- 20 February 2024 – Agenda & proposal of resolutions sent. A reminder will be sent for proxies. MB agrees that leaders will be identified during the EGA for each approved activity.

- June 2024 (Doodle ongoing) - Agenda to be specified: MB agrees that the foreseen time period is 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of June.

- Approval of the outputs of several activities:

- SITEX vision and articulation with EURAD.
- PEP update Terms of reference.
- **Financial aspects**
  - 3 k€ added for 3 activities in the 2024 budget (if travels / meetings necessary). See resolution #4 in agenda of EGA on 20/02/24. The Excel budget table is also adapted (see attached).

## 2°) Follow-up of the activity program

### #1 – Develop a 5-year vision document for SITEX.

The objective is to produce a short document presenting:

- The SITEX “DNA” (history, values, vision)
- The objectives of SITEX for the next 5 years
- How we will articulate SITEX with the other important networks (e.g., ETSON, ENSREG), associations (e.g., IAEA, NEA) and programs (e.g., EURAD)

Target finalization date: May 2024

#### Status

Valéry will prepare a draft document to circulate among the MB by the end of January 2024. Goal: make a first common discussion at GA in February and endorse a final document at GA in June.

**Action 41.8:** 1st draft of vision document for MB review to prepare (update).

*Status on 12/02/2024: no time in the 20/02/24 EGA to discuss this point. Exchanges will have to occur by emails before the June EGA. Valéry did not progress yet on the draft document.*

### #2 – Finalization of the Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) update.

Compile the following inputs in an updated SRA:

- Existing input: Updated research needs identified by SITEX and the EURAD TSO College in the EURAD SRA update process (TSO Position Paper from 2022).
- Existing input: Social Science SRA aspects identified by SITEX.Network (Report prepared by S. Lavelle)
- Input to gather current situation of national programs for RWM in SITEX.Network represented countries.

Target finalization date: May 2024

### **Status**

Gauthier (NTW) proposes his services for the edition of the updated SRA. He will work in connection with a group to be set up at GA in February.

**Action 41.9:** Malcolm to coordinate the preparation of a 15-days contract with Gauthier (update).

*Status on 12/02/2024: a kick-off meeting was organized between Valéry, Gauthier and Alexis. Gauthier and Alexis will propose a draft updated SRA in April 2024. Gauthier had still to prepare its proposal of contract.*

### **#3 – Benchmark of SC review approaches (Part 2/2)**

Not planed in 2024.

### **#4 – PEP Management & Development**

Participate in / provide support for the following tasks (which will be coordinated by Julien D.)

- Update the website to present in an attractive manner the PEP (what is it, where was it played, how to organize a PEP...)
- Develop a Terms & References document presenting what we want to further develop for the PEP (game boxes, online version...)
- Implement the developments, after validation by the GA

Target finalization date: May 2024 for the 2 first bullets and 2025 for the last remaining bullet.

### **Status**

*Status on 12/02/2024: Julien had no time in January for SITEX. He starts working on activity #4 in February 2024.*

### **#5 – Training**

Not planed in 2024.

### **#6 – Study on the multiple “S” of Radioactive Waste Management (Safety, Security, Safeguards, Sustainability, Society)**

A SITEX point on view on the challenges associated with managing the interfaces between these 5 S.

Could take the form of a seminar organized in 2024, summarized in a SITEX paper.

This paper could be presented at the next IAEA TSO conference (2-6/12/2024).

Target finalization date: end of 2024? to be discussed.

**Status**

IAEA paper on sustainability presented in November.  
Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**#7 – Organization of a Topical Day**

A program committee should be formed to determine the topic and organize the annual SITEX topical day in 2024.

Target finalization date: end of 2024

**Status**

Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**#8 – Benchmark on modelling activities**

See separate document presenting the Benchmark activity (Benchmark of codes to model radionuclide migration in a repository crossed by a fault).

Target finalization date: end of 2024

**Status**

Activity description sent to members.  
Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**#9 – The rolling stewardship**

Finalized

**#10 – Bibliographic study about Deep Borehole Disposal**

**Action 42.4:** Nadja, Delphine and Malcolm to check what has to be done in the document to make it final + make it final and communicate about it.

*Status on 12/02/2024: Final report is published on the website in final version.*

## #11 – EURAD TSO College coordination

Organize the interactions with EURAD and in particular the facilitation / coordination of the TSO College.

Target finalization date: continuous activity (no deadline)

### Status

Lessons learned about EURAD-2 preparation

- What issues were done well during the EURAD-2 proposal preparation process?
- What issues should be improved or done differently from the EURAD-2 process?
- Issues to consider could be:
  - Activities of Core Group themselves
  - Engagement with Colleges
  - Engagement with external bodies/stakeholders
  - Development of scope
  - Interaction & activities with WP Preparations teams
  - Schedule
  - Communication

EURAD-1 lessons learned from the TSO College & SITEX

Identification of candidates for: Bureau TSO representatives, Chief Scientific Officer (CSO).

**Action 42.3:** Consolidate the TSO feedback to the survey about lessons learned on EURAD-1 and EURAD-2 preparation phase.

*Status on 12/02/2024: Still in consolidation – a priori no need to hurry up as will be needed first for EURAD EC review end of March 2024. During the upcoming EGA we need to stress that EURAD-2 Bureau & CSOff candidates have to be identified by the TSOs.*

## #12 Working group on Safety Case review & Evolution.

Form a group continuing the reflections started at the last topical day and addressing other topics (to be defined by the group) connected to safety case review.

Target finalization date: establish a work program (topics to be addressed by the group, planning) by mid-February 2024.

**Status**

Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**#13 Working group on SMRs waste management.**

Form a group of members gathering references on this topic and starting some exchanges.

Target finalization date: establish a work program (topics to be addressed by the group, planning) by mid-February 2024.

**Status**

Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**#14 New SITEX website**

Update the SITEX website (New structure, find a new tool for the file management system, better visibility of our reports & activities...).

Will have to work in connection with activity #4 on PEP.

Target finalization date: end of 2024.

**Status**

Next steps to be discussed once a group is identified.

*Status on 12/02/2024: no progress – we wait EGA on 20/02.*

**3°) Varia**

- Delphine P. has been approached by C. Serres for a possible SITEX side event at the IAEA TSO conference end of 2024. The MB finds the principle of such a side event interesting and agrees to see further what could be done.  
**Action 42.5:** defines what could be done as side event at IAEA TSO conference 2024 and see with IAEA what is feasible.
- It is asked to Malcolm to prepare an updated member list (representatives, organisations, college, email, proxy validity...).  
**Action 42.6:** update the SITEX contact list

- A (new) session on “Radioactive waste management and disposal” chaired by Joanne Brown (IAEA) and Julia Carpenter (ARPANSA) is foreseen at ICRER 2024. SITEX.Network could propose a topic to disseminate there. This possibility will be mentioned in the upcoming EGA.

## Action list

### New actions

#	What	Who	When	Status
43.1	Prepare a response to BASE letter including the position that will be taken by the MB on the question about the College.	Malcolm	20/02/2024	

### Previously open actions

(in green actions that we close at the present MBM)

#	What	Who	When	Status
41.3	Review the draft minutes of GA7 prepared by Malcolm.	Valéry	January 24	Review by Valéry Done. To be edited by Malcolm and shared with MB for review by 19/02.
41.4	Send doodles to fix the dates of the 2 extraordinary GAs: 20 February 2024 & June 2024 (planned)	Malcolm	December 23	Ongoing Malcolm still need to send a Doodle for June 2024.
41.5	Prepare the agenda of the GA in February & its related material (activity program from 41.6, a resolution will be included in the agenda for allowing SSTC not to pay fees – see 41.1, financial aspects 41.7).	Malcolm, Valéry	January 24 To be sent to GA 21 days before the GA (thus not later than 30/1/24).	Done and sent to GA.  Closed at MBM #43.
41.8	Prepare a first draft of vision document for MB review.	Valéry	January 24	Ongoing

41.9	15-days contract of Gauthier for SRA update.	Malcolm	January 24	Ongoing
42.1	Define the MB position on a SITEX.Network loan to NTW (see explanation attached).	MB	12/01/2024	<p>Agreed at MB 42.</p> <p>Loan was done and corresponding letter signed. According to Nadja, reimbursement should occur by the end of February 24. Action will be closed after reimbursement of the loan.</p>
42.2	EURAD-1 annual event: Identify a TSO speaker for plenary strategic session planned on Tuesday 22 April from 9.30am to 12.00pm.	MB	19/01/2024	<p>To be discussed: (IRSN, Bel V, SSTC, VTT...) – Proposal of a collaborative contribution in addition to SITEX’s position (Valery will see if there could several speakers).</p> <p>Update: only 1 speaker with 5min presentation then Round Table. Valéry will then be the representative. Valery will ask EURAD coordination about the list of speakers and the organization.</p>



42.3	Consolidate the TSO feedback to the survey about lessons learned on EURAD-1 and EURAD-2 preparation phase.	Valéry & Malcolm	By the end of the month. Answers to the survey are due before 20/01/24.	Ongoing
42.4	Deep Bore Hole report: finalise the document and publish it.	Malcolm, Nadja, Delphine		Done & Published on the website.  Closed at MBM #43.
42.5	TSO conference IAEA end of 2024: SITEX side event			Feasibility check & define further the side event (see if some links with Topical Day are possible).  Contact foreseen on Wednesday 14/02 between Valéry, Delphine and Christophe Serres.
42.6	Contact list update	Malcolm		Ongoing Should be included: name, organization, college, contact, validity of the proxy, member of EURAD or not. This file should be internal to the Management Board.
43.1	Prepare a response to BASE letter including the position that will be taken by the MB on the question about the College.	Malcolm	20/02/2024	

### Previously closed actions

#	What	Who	When	Status
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41.1	send an application form to SSTC (contact = XXX ?) and explain that we will confirm after next GA that they can join without paying a fee as long as their national situation does not allow them to do so.	Valéry	December 23	Done
41.2	send an application form to Cambria Trust	Malcolm	December 23	Done
41.6	Prepare & send a form to “subscribe” to 2024 activities identified at GA 7	Malcolm, Valéry	December 23	Done
41.7	Finalize 2023 accounts and 2024 budget.	Nadja	January 24	Done
41.10	Check with Louise if deadline (15/12/23 !) for EURAD-2 preparation process lessons learned could be postponed and prepare a draft to be validated by the MB.		ASAP	Done
4.11	Prepare a form to be sent to all members + TSO College to provide input about: EURAD-1 lessons learned, EURAD-2 TSO Bureau members and suggestion of candidates for Chief Scientific Officer		December 23	Done