

Paris, December 22nd, 2017

Mr. Alexey ALESHIN
Chairman

ROSTECHNADZOR - Federal Environmental,
Industrial and Nuclear Supervision Service of Russia
Taganskaya, Str. 34
109147, Moscou
RU - RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Dear Mr. Aleshin,

I would like to thank you for the letters IBRAE has sent to several EU Member States and TSOs regarding the constitution of an Independent International Scientific Commission (IISC), which is proposed to be tasked with investigating the Ru-106 release detected in various EU Member States in late September and early October this year.

As you know, ENSREG represents those European regulators in EU Member States (MS) responsible for the regulation of nuclear safety and radiological protection and was established following the European Commission Decision (2007/530/Euratom) dated 17 July 2007. IBRAE's invitation to several ENSREG members to participate in this IISC was discussed during our plenary meeting on December 20th. ENSREG appreciates IBRAE's willingness to create such an IISC and to invite scientific experts from the EU.

The meeting unanimously agreed that a coordinated response to this invitation should be provided by ENSREG, complementary to the individual responses from those EU regulators and TSOs that received the initial invitation. ENSREG also agreed that IAEA should be involved, along those organizations already invited and interested in participating.

It is recognized that IAEA's IEC has also been looking into this incident. However, we noted with concern that no official notification of this event has yet taken place at an international level, either under or within the spirit of the 1986 Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident.

ENSREG members recognize the urgency to undertake an investigation on this issue. To ensure that the IISC is fully informed at the outset, we would ask that you and IBRAE swiftly provide additional information (beyond that contained in the original invitation) regarding the objectives and tasks of the proposed IISC, in particular:

- to confirm that the scope of the IISC will include an assessment of the safety and health risks to the local population;
- whether the IISC will have the mandate to undertake in-situ investigations;
- to clarify how the findings of the IISC will be communicated.

.../...

In our view, it is essential to identify conclusively the source of this incident and its causes in order to avoid a similar situation being repeated in the future. In addition, it is important that the details of the incident are established and communicated in an open and transparent manner that maintains public trust in our common efforts to ensure highest nuclear safety standards and in the international provisions and arrangements for emergency preparedness and response.

Yours sincerely,



Pierre-Franck CHEVET
ENSREG Chairman

Copies:

Mr. Juan-Carlos LENTIJO (DDG IAEA)

Mr. Gerassimos THOMAS (DDG DG-ENER - EC)

Mr. Leonid A. BOLSHOV (IBRAE)