

Meeting notes from the TKM Working Group meeting in Manchester, 2015-05-18:

Participants:

Sophie Grape, UU
Erik Andersson Sundén, UU
Paolo Peerani, JRC
Veronique Berthou, JRC
Willem Janssens, JRC
Mariia Perminova, Tomsk
Oscar Alique, EC
Riccardo Rossa, SCK CEN
Natacha Peter-Stein, UT Institute for Nuclear Security
Odilon Marcuzzo Do Canto, ABACC

1. Opening of the meeting. Vote on secretary.
Sophie Grape will start writing notes, until we have a new vice chair of TKM WG.
2. New WG TKM Members
All participants present themselves since everyone is new to the TKM WG except Sophie, Paolo and Willem.
3. Appointment of a new Vice Chair of the WG TKM.
Veronique Berthou is selected as the new vice chair.
4. Evaluation of the 14th ESARDA course
The course took place in March in Ispra and ran well and smoothly. 52 participants, but only a few hand in the essay. Feedback from participants was positive. According to questionnaire, lecturers get 3,6 points out of 5 on the average. The depth of the material is rated to be 3,1 (3 is the best). Free-text comments reveal that it is too demanding to have 8h working day with presentations, sometimes also in the evening. It appears difficult for the participants to keep the attention for this long time. Lab visits are appreciated.

Suggested improvements concerning the course are to e.g. introduce hands-on exercises (although other material would then need to be removed). As an alternative to this, participants could do data analysis from collected spectra. Selections of the course evaluations could be posted on the course home page for information purposes of future participants (good course evaluations is good advertisement).

It is in general positive to have groups consisting of both technical as well as non-technical participants but it is difficult to have a course material on the right level for everyone, considering their varying backgrounds. Material is sent out beforehand, but participants seldom read it in advance.
5. Revision of the syllabus
Update of the ESARDA course book needed since it was created over 10 years ago. New technologies are available now and some topics are missing. The authors have been contacted and most seem positive to updating their texts.

In addition to already notes topics which are not included are e.g. proliferation resistance

and Safeguards-by-Design. Perhaps apply SbD to geological repositories? We could also include disarmament verification. Sophie will contact people in order to see who is able to contribute to writing a chapter on SbD and geological repositories.

Tentative schedule: new chapters should be available by the end of 2015. WG approval in mid-2016, formatting etc in late 2016 and issue of second edition in 2017.

6. Presentation of Building an ESARDA Strategy on Education, Training and Knowledge management

Sophie gives a presentation on the new strategy, it has already been given to the Steering Committee and will as well be given in the TKM session later during the symposium. A report on the strategy is available on the TKM homepage, and will as well be part of the conference proceedings.

The general response to the new strategy is positive. The TKM WG agrees that the task force should preferably include one representative from the four discipline oriented WGs (NA/NT, C&S, NDA, DA), one from each of the three horizontally oriented WGs (EXP, VTM, IS) and two other representatives from the ESARDA management. This makes the task force consist of 9 external members, and with one representative from the TKM WG we become 10. Sophie will contact the ESARDA president and vice president and to see how they could help in the process of engaging this group. We should however first concretize the tasks which we would like the task force to work with. Sophie will (together with Erik Andersson Sundén and Karin Persson, both at UU) get back to the TKM WG and the SC with a new document that in more detail lists important topics to be solved. Here we should explain more concretely e.g. what the objective of the modules are (what do we have in mind), what target audience do we have in mind, what material is existing and how do we incorporate this.

Natasha mentions INSEN – The IAEA nuclear security course work, which is arranged already now in modules. Perhaps we could be inspired by what they have done, and in the end exchange information on different modules. The content of their modules has been peer reviewed and is available to all INSEN members. Modules contain ppt, videos, syllabus, exercises, references etc.

We should further investigate what funding from JRC and the existing ESARDA course that we could "piggyback" on.

Perhaps we could arrange a special session dedicated to this in the 2016 annual meeting in Luxemburg? We could have a session on Thursday before lunch, not in parallel to other events, and invite everyone there (but try to have at least one person per WG present).

7. News on NuSaSET

Now 450 members. Most have become members to be able to download the ESARDA course information. A newsletter is sent out once per month. NuSaSET is promoting the launch of the "The Strategic Trade Review Journal". Some INMM student chapters are now on NuSaSET.

It still seems that the portal is not actively used by members (often members use it only once for a specific purpose), perhaps the new strategy could improve that.

8. The TKM Homepage

Sophie is updating the homepage. Already, the objective of the WG, activities, the new strategy and ESARDA Young Generation is available on the TKM homepage. In addition, it would be valuable to have information on who are the members of the group, minutes from the meetings as well as presentations, and upcoming events and conferences relating to E, T & KM. Sophie will make sure this information becomes available as well.

9. Planned course activities during 2016

Dates are not fixed yet, but should be before summer (registration in September) and course start in March/April. Vietnamese and then South African (early and end of the year) editions are expected next year. JRC has a 3-4 year implementation plan, and will give at least five courses outside Europe.

10. Joint INMM/ESARDA workshop, Oct 4-7 2015

A joint INMM/ESARDA workshop is organized every four years. Now in Wyoming. There is always a working group on TKM. They sit together 1,5 days and discuss a number of problems about implementation etc. On the third day a report is presented in plenary. This year

This year the E&T session will focus on three topics: “Educational infrastructure and centers of excellence”, “Interdisciplinary requirements for nonproliferation education” and “Innovative technologies for education and training”. 7-8 contributions are foreseen per topic. Information on this has been distributed by Willem via Sophie to the ESARDA TKM WG.

11. Miscellaneous

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12. Next meeting

Will be a telephone meeting in October in conjunction to the INMM/ESARDA workshop. Preferably 8-10 US time and 16-18 central Europe time. We will get back with more information later.