

# Information and Communications

Nuclear energy decision making and stakeholder participation need to be based on knowledge and understanding. The NEA seeks to provide member governments and other interested parties with a large array of information resulting from the Agency's activities, thereby enhancing awareness and understanding of the scientific, technical and economic aspects of the nuclear option.

## Highlights

- A Statement by the NEA Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy regarding a government role in ensuring qualified human resources in the nuclear field was widely communicated, including to ministers in all member countries.
- The Agency produced 61 publications, of which 19 were put on sale and 42 were distributed free of charge.
- Contacts with the media continued at a steady pace, and a press briefing was organised in conjunction with the publication of *Risks and Benefits of Nuclear Energy*.
- NEA information and publications stands were organised at 11 international conferences.

The NEA is an intergovernmental agency specialised in studying the scientific, technical and economic aspects of nuclear energy. It strives to provide high-quality, factual information in a timely manner to member countries, as a complement to national energy analyses. Through a varied information and communications programme, this information is also made available to other interested parties wishing to learn about nuclear energy's multiple aspects and the results of the Agency's work. NEA activities cover the full range of the fuel cycle and consider future technological developments. All these activities are reflected in the Agency's large selection of publications and reports.

## Public affairs and relations with the press

A Statement by the NEA Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy regarding a government role in ensuring qualified human resources in the nuclear field was adopted in October. This statement was subsequently disseminated to a very wide and high-level audience, including ministers in all member countries. The Statement generated considerable interest and is being followed up with a number of practical measures. Further information is available in the Press Room of the NEA website.

The Agency responded to a steady volume of media inquiries and organised a number of interviews. Journalists'

subjects of interest included the future of nuclear energy, uranium resources, costs, safety, the impact of the UK decision on nuclear energy and qualified human resources. In addition to these regular contacts with the press, the Agency organised a press briefing in conjunction with the publication of *Risks and Benefits of Nuclear Energy*. Several press releases were also issued on important aspects of the Agency's work. A particularly significant development concerned the signing of a Joint Declaration on Co-operation between the NEA and the Russian Federation in March. The joint declaration has opened the way for the Russian Federation to participate as an observer in all the Agency's standing technical committees and their working groups.



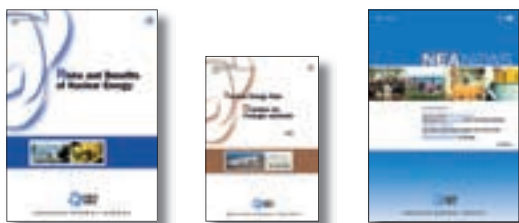
Signature of the Joint Declaration by K. Pulikovskiy, Russian Federation, and L. Echávarri, OECD/NEA.

The NEA Director-General, Luis Echávarri, presented the work of the Agency, including highlights of *Risks and Benefits of Nuclear Energy*, in various fora. His paper on "What Role for Nuclear Energy?" was published as part of the Heiligendamm G8 summit documentation.

## Publications

In 2007, the Agency produced 61 publications, of which 19 were put on sale and 42 were distributed free of charge. The list of these publications is provided on page 44. Best sellers included *Nuclear Energy Data 2007* and *Risks and Benefits of Nuclear Energy*. All free reports published by the NEA are made available in pdf format on the NEA website.

In order to keep NEA correspondents and other interested professionals abreast of significant findings and advances in the Agency's programme of work, *NEA News* continues to be published twice a year in English and French. It provides feature articles on the latest developments in the nuclear energy field, as well as updates on NEA work, news briefs, and information about NEA publications and forthcoming events. *NEA News* is also available free of charge on the Agency's website at [www.nea.fr/html/pub](http://www.nea.fr/html/pub).



### Internet-based communication

The NEA website is an important part of the Agency's information programme and has proved effective in raising the profile of the Agency's work. Website traffic was brisk during 2007 with, on average, over 3 000 people using the site's services each day. The content areas that attracted the most visitors were the Data Bank, nuclear science and nuclear safety sections. The most accessed reports in the course of 2007 concerned Chernobyl, with the three NEA reports published on the subject accounting for well over 27 000 downloads among them.

Online interaction with NEA delegates continues to grow. Most NEA committees and their working groups use some form of electronic communication, such as dedicated download areas, e-mail discussion lists or online collaborative work spaces ("wikis") to support their work; many now use several. The streamlining of NEA internal procedures to support these activities during 2007 brought increased efficiency and higher traffic to these parts of the website.

The number of individual subscriptions to the Agency's monthly electronic bulletin continued its ascent in 2007, topping 7 500 subscribers by year end. Distributed free of charge, the bulletin includes monthly updates on important NEA activities and newly released reports. Subscription requests can be made at [www.nea.fr/html/signon.html](http://www.nea.fr/html/signon.html).

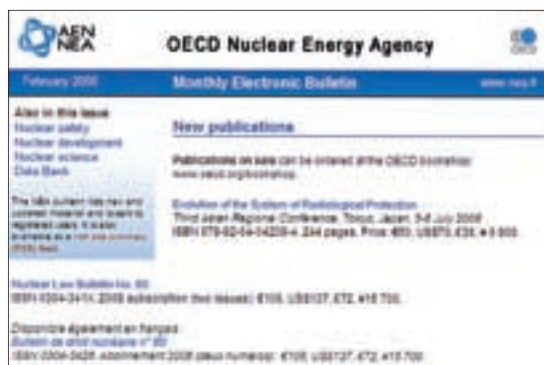
The Delegates' Area on the NEA website also continues to provide an important service for many NEA committees and working groups. This section of the website provides authorised users with OECD official documents, information on forthcoming NEA meetings, contact details for other committee members, as well as access to the presentations and background notes prepared for the Steering Committee policy debates.

### NEA visibility in international fora

NEA information and publications stands were organised at 11 international conferences in 2007. These included:

- PIME 2007 (February, Milan, Italy);
- International Conference on Nuclear Data for Science and Technology, ND-2007 (April, Nice, France);
- 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (April-May, New York, NY, USA);
- International Congress on Advances in Nuclear Power Plants – ICAPP (May, Nice, France);
- 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environmental Remediation and Radioactive Waste Management – ICEM'07 (September, Bruges, Belgium);
- European Nuclear Congress – ENC (September, Brussels, Belgium);
- American Nuclear Society (ANS) Winter Meeting (November, Washington DC, USA);
- 20<sup>th</sup> World Energy Congress (November, Rome, Italy);
- International Conference on Geological Repositories: A Common Goal, A Variety of Paths (October, Berne, Switzerland);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Nuclear Power Plant Life Management (October, Shanghai, China);
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (December, Bali, Indonesia; displays in co-operation with the International Energy Agency).

Some 2 500 reports were distributed in conjunction with these events. The NEA has also been active in co-sponsoring a number of international conferences. Of particular note were the International Conference on Nuclear Data for Science and Technology, ND-2007, held in April in France and the International Conference on Geological Repositories: A Common Goal, A Variety of Paths, held in October in Switzerland.



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