

**ASEM SEMINAR ON NUCLEAR SAFETY:  
NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

**SINGAPORE, 13-15 JUNE 2012**

**SUMMARY OF WORKING GROUP 2**  
**ESTABLISHING AND STRENGTHENING REGIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE**  
**MECHANISMS**

- In Europe and Asia, there are already certain organisations in existence covering partly the subjects discussed.
  - There were various opinions whether these organisations are sufficient, so that they could be **strengthened**, or whether we are talking about the **establishing** a regional mechanism from scratch.
- There was consensus that any regional approach on emergency preparedness and response has its limits.
- However, a regional approach is useful to ensure consistent level of countermeasures in neighbouring countries and to enhance the confidence of the local population.
- There was consensus that a technical approach in regional cooperation in emergency preparedness would be useful to improve the system, and to buy extra time for emergency reaction. A view was also expressed that a gradual approach towards regional cooperation is preferable, while concentrating efforts to establish a proper national capacity.
- There was a large majority opinion that final decisions on emergency management and evacuation should be kept at the national level, and that any regional activities should be compatible with international norms.
- There were areas where it would be useful to involve the local and international dimensions.
- The brainstorming exercise resulted in the following conclusions:
  - This seminar was extremely useful. There was agreement that we should continue to convene ASEM seminars on nuclear safety.
  - Practical improvement for collaboration can be achieved by inviting nuclear regulators from the Asian region to the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) meeting.

- The workshop would welcome assistance from the European Commission in financing a feasibility study in the setting up of a regional framework in Asia and what the limits might be.

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15 June 2012