# MDEP
# CSWG
# Programme Plan
# 2012 - 2013

Related to: Codes and Standards Working Group Activities

## CSWG Programme Plan for 2012 and 2013

***Multi-National Design Evaluation Programme***

***Codes and Standards Working Group (CSWG)***

## 1) CSWG Long-Term Goals

CSWG ultimate goal is harmonization of code requirements for design and construction of pressure-retaining components in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the regulatory design reviews, increase quality of safety assessments, and make each regulator stronger in its ability to make sovereign safety decisions.

## 2) Definitions

Harmonization is defined as establishing a framework for convergence and for reconciliation of differences in code requirements. Where, convergence refers to increasing the areas identified as same or equivalent while reducing the areas of difference in codes; reconciliation refers to developing MDEP positions for mutual recognition of code differences.

## 3) Intermediate Objectives

- Conduct code comparison, study the similarities and differences between codes, and develop a strategy and process for achieving code harmonization
- Follow the developed strategy or process, work closely with Standards Development Organisations (SDOs) and the World Nuclear Association's Working Group on the Cooperation in Reactor Design Evaluation and Licensing (CORDEL) to converge code requirements, reconcile code differences, and prevent further code divergence.
- Improve the developed strategy and process of code harmonization based on improved understanding in codes and regulatory practices in different countries
- Study the effect of differences in code application on the quality and safety of nuclear power plants.

## 4) 2011/2012 MDEP CSWG Work Plan

- Encourage SDOs to finalize Class 1 Code Comparison Report (including Phase I and Phase II code comparison work); expected by in early 2012
- Review and issue MDEP document on the regulatory practices in using codes; expected by May 2012
- Complete Fundamental Attributes, seek SDOs comments, and then issue the document; expected by May 2012
- Review and discuss Essential Performance Guidelines with SDOs, finalize and issue this document; expected by the end of 2012
- Work with SDOs and encourage them to develop a strategy or plan to minimize further code divergence. After the Fukishma accident, some SDOs may modify their code (for example, adding provisions to address beyond design-based-accidents). CSWG will encourage these SDOs to work together and make harmonized revisions to their code.
- Interact with Chinese SDO, and encourage them to minimize the difference of Chinese future code with the existing codes

- Provide suggestions and comments to WNA CORDEL group on their code convergence – pilot project; encourage SDOs to closely work with CORDEL group and to discuss any potential issue that comes up in the pilot project.
- Continue inviting more experts to introduce how they use foreign code in their regulation with a purpose of developing a MDEP position for code reconciliation.
- Discuss whether and when do we need to extend the code comparison work to Class 2 and Class 3 components.
- Study the issue of different approaches in code application, and evaluate its affect on the quality and safety of nuclear power plants.

**Outputs of the CSWG during 2012/2013**

- MDEP document to describe the regulatory practices in using codes
- Fundamental Attributes to provide overarching requirements for designing and constructing pressure-retaining components in nuclear power plants
- Essential Performance Guidelines to identify the common code aspects
- Code Comparison Report for Class I Components

**Key Stakeholders with whom the CSWG members will interact**

- The Standard Development Organizations (SDOs): ASME, JSME, KEA, CSA, AFCEN, and NIKIET; CSWG may also interact with Chinese SDO who will develop Chinese nuclear code.
- Cooperation in Reactor Design Evaluation & Licensing (CORDEL) group of World Nuclear Association (WNA)
- International Atomic Energy Agency