



Paris 2016

ICGR

International Conference
on Geological Repositories

International Conference on Geological Repositories 2016

Continued Engagement and Safe Implementation

**6-9 December 2016
OECD Conference Centre
2, rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, France**

PROGRAMME

General information

Conference venue

Sessions and reception

OECD Conference Centre
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris, France

Conference dinner (Wednesday)

Musée des Arts Forains
53, avenue des Terroirs de France
75012 Paris, France

Transportation to dinner

The conference hosts have organised bus transportation to the conference dinner on Wednesday evening. There will be four buses departing from the OECD Conference Centre every seven minutes starting at 18:00. The pickup location for these buses is at the back of the OECD Conference Centre, so you must exit the conference hall through the main doors and walk around the building to Place de Colombie (please see map below).



You will be asked to show your OECD conference badge upon entering the bus and also when entering the museum. After dinner, starting from 22:00, buses will drop participants off at various major metro stations throughout the city for easy access to hotels by taxi or metro.

Registration

Registration will take place in the main lobby (galerie) of the OECD Conference Centre on Tuesday evening from 17:30-19:00 and on Wednesday morning from 08:30-09:30.

Note: Badges are to be worn at all times during the conference. A passport or another form of official photo identification is required to obtain a badge.

Background

Worldwide consensus exists within the international community that geological repositories provide the necessary long-term safety and security to isolate long-lived radioactive waste from the human environment over long timescales. It is also feasible to construct these repositories using current technologies. However, proving the technical merits and safety of repositories, while satisfying societal and political requirements, has been a challenge in many countries.

Building upon the success of previous conferences held in Denver (1999), Stockholm (2003), Berne (2007) and Toronto (2012), ICGR 2016 brings together high-level decision-makers from regulatory and local government bodies, waste management organisations and public stakeholder communities to review current perspectives of geological repository development. The 2016 conference on continued engagement and the safe implementation of geological repositories is designed to promote information and experience sharing, particularly in policy development, regulatory frameworks – in relation to repository safety, planning and the implementation of repository programmes with societal involvement – and ongoing work within different international organisations.

Objectives

- To take stock of progress since 2012 in developing and implementing geological repositories for long-lived radioactive waste, and to advance mutual learning through this international forum for the exchange of perspectives and experiences.
- To examine the latest issues and challenges encountered by various stakeholders in different developmental stages by sharing experiences among countries developing geological repositories.
- To consider the social, political, scientific and economic aspects of geological repositories so as to advance understanding of the complexity of implementing geological repositories.

Exhibits

Please stop by the exhibitor tables and talk to international colleagues and partners in radioactive waste management and geological repository development from Canada, France, Japan, Sweden and the Nuclear Energy Agency.

The exhibitor tables will remain open during all sessions and breaks.

Programme overview

Tuesday, 6 December

- **Registration and badge pick-up**
- **Welcome Reception – Salon du Parc (OECD Conference Centre)**

Wednesday, 7 December

- **Registration and badge pick-up**
- **Opening Session**
Keynote Addresses to open the Conference.
- **Session 1: National geological disposal projects**

Session 1a: The status of national geological repository projects

This session invites speakers from countries that are in different phases of development to give an overview of their current situation and of progress achieved since the last ICGR in 2012. The NEA Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC) issued a Collective Statement in 2008 regarding the suitability and the feasibility of implementing geological repositories for safe management of radioactive waste. This statement reflected the growing international consensus that geological repositories are the appropriate route for safely and responsibly managing long-lived high level radioactive waste. Developments within respective national programmes were presented at the Toronto ICGR 2012 conference. The purpose of this session is to showcase countries at different developmental stages, covering various processes from siting to licensing.

Session 1b: Panel debate on progress achieved

This panel session brings together representatives from countries at various stages of progress. With different programme statuses and backgrounds, panellists will highlight the conditions required for progress, from siting to commissioning, revealing relevant social, political, scientific, technical and economic aspects. This session aims to illustrate the complexity of the cases, to show how rigorous treatment and management can lead to relevant results when structured in a stepwise approach – an approach supported at all stakeholder levels – and to present general lessons learnt in achieving success.

- **Session 2: Cigéo, the French geological disposal**
This session reveals the details of the Cigéo Project including its history, current status, key components of the management programme and disposal system, as well as host territory development.
- **Conference Dinner – Musée des Arts Forains**
- **Session 3: Dialogue between stakeholders in advancing a geological repository project**

Session 3a: Role and involvement of various stakeholders at each stage of projects, from siting to licensing

The long timeframes over which geological repository programmes are implemented imply the involvement of stakeholders at different stages. The stakeholder role has progressively evolved from information receivers to engaged participants in the siting process. There has also been a long path of learning and experience, not only technically but also in the management of the relationship with other stakeholders (mutual understanding). The inter-generational aspect associated with such a long-term initiative also presents a challenge for building and sustaining societal support so as to proceed with the project.

Wednesday, 7 December (cont.)

This conference session invites speakers to share their experiences and learning. It will address how dialogue is organised between different categories of stakeholders, with the aim of illustrating how overall confidence can be reached and maintained. The session will begin by taking stock of important, recent contributions from the NEA Forum on Stakeholder Confidence (FSC) through its leadership in facilitating social research in areas of common interest, and a discussion on the importance of the regulator-implementer dialogue. Implementer and national-level involvement in both the dialogue and process will then be examined, noting that they each have a decisive impact on the development of such projects, especially where finances are considered.

Session 3b: Panel discussion on stakeholder relations and communications throughout the development of a geological repository

As discussed in Session 3a, implementation of national repository programmes involves stakeholders at many levels. This panel session invites perspectives from the viewpoint of the waste producer, local state representative, implementer, regulator and local community. Each will have the opportunity to present their perspectives regarding the development of a geological repository project, as well as their objectives and expectations at the different stages of advancement for a deep geological repository project. A question and answer session will follow.

Thursday, 8 December

- **Session 4: The added value of international co-operation (through international initiatives and organisations) for the safe implementation of geological repository projects**

This session invites speakers from international organisations to share their perspectives and observations on advances realised in recent years with plans for geological repositories and the outlook for continued progress.

International organisations play an important role with regard to the management of high-level radioactive waste by encouraging the development of national programmes that adopt safety standards and frameworks that are consistent with international standards. These organisations also lead peer reviews, and monitor and facilitate the exchange of good practices across countries. This session explains these roles and the added value of co-operating through international initiatives.

- **Session 5: Stocktaking**

The conference rapporteur will report on the key messages of the conference.

- **Session 6: Summary and closing session**

Final keynote addresses and closing of conference.

Friday, 9 December

- **Site visits for pre-registered participants**

Two separate study tours have been made available for pre-registered participants to either Bure or Centre de l'Aube.

More information is provided on the last page of this programme.

Conference programme

Tuesday, 6 December

- 17:30-20:00 **Registration and badge pick-up**
- 18:00-20:00 **Welcome reception**
OECD Conference Centre, Salon du Parc

Wednesday, 7 December

- 08:30-09:30 **Registration and badge pick-up**
- 09:30-10:15 **Opening session**
- **Fabrice Papillon**, Master of Ceremonies
- Welcome address and introductory remarks**
- **William D. Magwood, IV**, NEA Director-General
 - **Virginie Schwarz**, Director of Energy, Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Energy (France)
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- 10:15-10:35 **Coffee Break**
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- 10:35-12:30 **Session 1a**
- National geological disposal projects: Status of national geological repository projects.**
- Chair
- **Jean-Paul Minon**, NEA RWMC Chair
- Speakers
1. **Thomas Ernst**, CEO, Nagra, Switzerland – *Radioactive Waste Management in Switzerland: Progress since ICGR 2012*
 2. **Bruce McKirdy**, Managing Director and Executive Director, UK Radioactive Waste Management (UK RWM) – *Perspectives from the UK*
 3. **Christi Leigh**, Manager, US Sandia National Laboratories Repository Investigations – *Perspectives on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Site*
 4. **Christopher Eckerberg**, President, Svensk Kärnbränslehantering (SKB) – *Perspectives from Sweden*
- Co-ordinator
- **Mari Gillogly** (mari.gillogly@oecd.org)
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- 12:30-14:00 **Lunch Break**
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Wednesday, 7 December (cont.)

14:00-15:30

Session 1b

National geological disposal projects: Panel debate on progress achieved

Chair

- **Pierre-Marie Abadie**, CEO, Andra

Panelists

1. **Robert Watts**, Associate Vice-President, Nuclear Waste Management Organisation (NWMO), Canada – *Addressing Social Considerations in Canada*
2. **Shunsuke Kondo**, President, Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan (NUMO) – *The Political Dimension of Radioactive Waste Disposal in Japan*
3. **Andrew Griffith**, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fuel Cycle Technologies, US Department of Energy – *Scientific and Technical Challenges in Preparing for Design*
4. **Olivier Giroud**, Head of High Level Waste Industrial Projects, France EDF DP2D – *Expectations of a Radioactive Waste Producer*
5. **Jussi Heinonen**, Director, Finland Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) – *The Regulator's Role in Different Stages of Repository Development*

Co-ordinator

- **Jelena Bolia** (Jelena.bolia@andra.fr)
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15:30-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-17:45

Session 2

Cigéo: The French Geological Disposal

Chair

- **Jean-Yves Le Déaut**, MP, Office parlementaire d'évaluation des choix scientifiques et technologiques (OPECST), France

Speakers

1. **Frédéric Plas**, Andra – *Overview of Cigéo, History and Current Status*
2. **Frédéric Launeau**, Andra – *Cigéo's Core Components*
3. **Marc Demulsant**, Préfecture de la Meuse – *Cigéo and the Host Territory Development*

Panelists

1. **Jean-Yves Le Déaut**, MP, OPECST
2. **Pierre-Frank Chevet**, Chair, ASN
3. **Marc Demulsant**, Préfecture de la Meuse
4. **Denis Stolf**, Chair, CLI
5. **Pierre-Marie Abadie**, CEO, Andra
6. **Jussi Heinonen**, STUK, Finland

Co-ordinator

- **Nicolas Solente** (Nicolas.Solente@andra.fr)
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17:45-18:00

Master of Ceremonies: End-of-day remarks

18:00-23:00

Dinner: Musée des Arts Forains

Thursday, 8 December

09:00-10:30

Session 3a

Dialogue between stakeholders in advancing a geological repository project: Role and involvement of various stakeholders at each stage of projects, from siting to licensing

Chair

- **Walter Blommaert**, Chair of Regulators Forum, NEA RWMC

Speakers:

1. **Jo-Ann Facella**, Vice-chair, Forum on Stakeholder Confidence – *Recent Learnings from the Nuclear Energy Agency's Forum on Stakeholder Confidence*
2. **Haidy Tadros**, Director-General, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission – *Stakeholder Involvement in Canadian Initiatives for Deep Geological Repositories for the Long-term Management of Radioactive Wastes*
3. **Gabriella Honti**, Head of the Communication Department, PURAM – *Implementer Perspectives in Hungary: Lessons Learnt from Stakeholder Involvement*
4. **Stéphane Martin**, Mayor, Gondrecourt-le-Château – *Local Dialogues concerning Cigéo*

Co-ordinators:

- **Mari Gillogly** (mari.gillogly@oecd.org) / **Shawn Smith** (shawn.smith@nrc.gov)

10:30-11:00

Coffee Break

11:00-12:30

Session 3b

Dialogue between stakeholders in advancing a geological repository project: Panel discussion on stakeholder relations and communications throughout the development of a geological repository

Chair

- **Elena Mantagaris**, Director, Government and External Relations, Nuclear Waste Management Organisation (NWMO), Canada

Panelists

1. **Ladislav Havlíček**, Head, Fuel Cycle Strategy and Services, ČEZ (Waste Producer) – *The Viewpoint and Experience of the Waste Producer*
2. **Lisa Thompson**, Member of Provincial Parliament for Huron-Bruce (Government representative) – *Engaging communities – Why It Is a Must*
3. **Janne Mokka**, President, Posiva (Implementer) – *Spent Fuel Final Disposal Program from Planning to Closure of the Repository: Long-term Commitment from All the Stakeholders*
4. **Scott Moore**, Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Regulator) – *Stakeholder Communications During Pre-Licensing: US Perspectives*
5. **Jacob Spangenberg**, Mayor, Chairman of the Executive Board of Östhammar Municipality (Local community representative) – *Empowerment of Local Government – A Precondition for a Successful Siting Process*

Co-ordinator

- **Elena Mantagaris** (emantagaris@nwmo.ca)

12:30-14:00

Lunch Break

Thursday, 8 December (cont.)

14:00-16:00 **Session 4**

The added value of international co-operation (through international initiatives and organisations) for the safe implementation of geological repository projects

Chair

- **Michael Siemann**, Head of the NEA Division of Radiological Protection and Radioactive Waste (RAD)

Speakers

1. **Gloria Kwong**, NEA Radioactive Waste Technical Specialist – *NEA Work of the IGSC, Records, Knowledge and Memory (RK&M), Reversibility and Retrievability Project*
2. **Wolfgang Weiss**, International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) – *Defining/Discussing Radiation Safety Criteria*
3. **Andrew Orrell**, Section Head at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Waste and Environmental Safety – *IAEA Safety Standards*
4. **Christophe Davies**, European Commission – *Overview of EC Activities*
5. **Monica Hammarström**, IGD-TP – *Activities Supporting Safety Demonstration*
6. **Thomas Ernst**, Chair, EDRAM – *The Added Value of Co-operation: International Association for Environmentally Safe Disposal of Radioactive Materials (EDRAM)*

Co-ordinators

- **Gloria Kwong** (gloria.kwong@oecd.org) / **Stefan Mayer** (s.j.meyer@iaea.org)

16:15-16:45 **Coffee Break**

16:45-17:15 **Session 5**

Stocktaking

Rapporteur

- **Patrick Landais**, Andra

Co-ordinators

- **Elena Mantagaris** (emantagaris@nwmco.ca) / **Monica Hammerström** (monica.hammarstrom@skb.se)

17:15-17:45 **Session 6**

Summary and closing session

Closing addresses

- **William D. Magwood, IV**, NEA Director-General
- **Pierre-Marie Abadie**, CEO, Andra

Friday, 9 December

Site visits to Bure or Centre de l'Aube

Visit of the French underground research laboratory – Bure

The Centre de Meuse-Haute Marne (CMHM), located 300 km from Paris in the Meuse and Haute Marne districts, is a research centre operated by Andra that hosts the R&D activities needed to confirm the feasibility of a deep geological repository (DGR) for high-level waste in a claystone formation.

06:00	Departure from the RER station Denfert Rochereau to Bure (Two engineers from the International Division of Andra will be with you in the bus)
10:00	Welcome coffee and registration formalities (passport required)
10:15	Presentation of Cigéo, a deep geological disposal facility project
11:45	Safety information
12:45	Lunch hosted by Andra
14:00	Visit of the Underground Research Laboratory (Surface and Underground installation and the Technological Exhibition Facility)
17:30	End of the visits and travel back to Paris
21:30	Arrival in Paris (access maps: www.andra.fr)

Visit of the French disposal facilities CSA and Cires – Aube

07:00	Departure from the Railway station Denfert Rochereau to the Centre de l'Aube (Two engineers from the International Division of Andra will be with you in the bus)
10:00	Welcome coffee at the CSA and registration formalities (passport required)
10:30	General presentation of the two disposal facilities (CSA and Cires)
11:15	CSA visit
13:00	Lunch on-site or close to the site
14:00	Cires visit
16:30	End of the visits and travel back to Paris
20:00	Arrival in Paris (access maps: www.andra.fr)



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