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ESARDA - The European Safeguards Research and Development Association

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ESARDA, the European Safeguards Research and Development Association, is comprised of European organisations actively involved in the research and development (R&D) of nuclear safeguards. The control of civil nuclear material is mandatory within the EU territory in line with the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (“Euratom Treaty”, 1958) and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970). ESARDA was formed in 1969 with the purpose of facilitating collaboration in R&D in the field of safeguards and in the application of such R&D to the safeguarding of source and special fissile materials.

ESARDA includes regulatory authorities, facility operators, research centres and universities. The principal issues are co-ordination of research, frequent exchange of information and joint execution of R&D programmes. ESARDA also strives to fulfil an educational role and to reach the general public. To this end, the following activities take place: 1) Annual Meetings and Symposia, providing an opportunity for collaboration and information exchange. Alternating with open symposia, biennial internal meetings take place where all Working Groups (WGs) convene. 2) Dedicated WG activities. ESARDA consists of nine WGs, being the “backbone” of ESARDA, with active members and observers. 3) The one-week ESARDA Course, complementing nuclear engineering studies by including nuclear safeguards in the academic curriculum. 4) Technical publications. The ESARDA Bulletin contains scientific and technical articles relating to safeguards and verification. The ESARDA website features, inter alia, the latest issues of the Bulletin, the symposia proceedings, as well as information about WGs, symposia and other relevant events.

Today, ESARDA is more active than ever, due to lively cooperation among its members and strong linkages to other safeguards-related organisations, such as the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM), and the pro-active tackling of new emerging issues through its diverse WGs.

Country or International Organization

European Safeguards Research and Development Association (ESARDA)

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