

## **EB131 (27-8 May, 2012). Radiation protection and safety of radiation sources: International Basic Safety Standards**

### **Item 1. Opening of session and adoption of agenda**

*The session was opened by the previous EB Chair.*

*There was a brief conversation regarding [EB131/1 Add.1](#) which proposed a supplementary agenda item under which the Board would be invited to note the Revised International Basic Safety Standards for radiation protection and safety.*

*The first debate was therefore around whether or not this supplementary item would or would not be added to the agenda for consideration.*

Norway: brief reference to radiation protection and radiation safety; can you explain if there will be more docs?

Cuba: are you including this issue also in the next WHA?

Secretariat: The request is for the board to note this report; it is a big document; if you note the report now there will be no need to have further discussions.

Norway: an agenda item of 300 pages in English only presented only today will be difficult to consume

Nigeria: Also wants to know more about it before noting it

China: it is a very important and very long document. It is a difficult document and we need experts

Malaysia: fully support China. WHO should play a leadership role in this respect.

Australia: I wonder if secretariat could clarify for us. I think these standards have already been approved. IAEA governing body has already adopted this document. The question is whether WHO is going to associate itself with these standards and what is the time table for doing so.

Morocco: support the suggestion that Australia has made.

Swiss: it arrived too late and only in English, our organization is criticized because of our interaction with the IAEA, this organisation needs to take very seriously this issue

Barbados: if we delay this until the next EB, what will be the implications?

Iran: Importance all his aspects need to be studied by our experts

DG: let me provide a background. This is a co-sponsored document , co-sponsored by eight agencies and the EU. The revision of these international safety standards has gone through a robust process. The document has been approved by many experts. We present it to you in order you to note this report. If you want to wait until January 2013, this is your prerogative. To answer to Barbados on the implications of not noting it, the document has already been approved by 6 agencies out of the 8. So your experts will question: what is the problem? I leave it in your good hands.

Norway: after the explanation, I think we can note this report.

China: Thank DG for clarification. Why is the EB required only to note it and not to approve it.

Swiss: Whether we take it on the agenda, the report's date 2011, why the morning of the board we receive English only?

Barbados: I also would like this item to be put on the agenda

Chair: the agenda is adopted as amended.

## 6.2. Radiation Protection

*The context and purpose of this item is explained in Secretariat report [EB131/11](#).*

*The 1996 edition of these standards can be found [here](#). The IAEA page describing the development of the 2011 revision is [here](#).*

Nigeria: not ready yet with suggested text on decision therefore move to next item

USA: Fortunately only 67 pages of text. Noted copyright of 2011 so we should have received this earlier. It is sloppy of staff but there is nothing objectionable so we can note the report.

Panama: Despite that the process wasn't quite clear, we are taking note of the report.

Secretariat's response (ADG, Dr. Fakuda): I want to first apologise for this item coming up late. Questions raised by Lithuania and Switzerland are the key; why has it been posted late? IAEA has already posted it on their website. We were late in our internal process. Not a good excuse so again we apologise. If the EB does not note the report, it will be put out with the names and logos of 6 co-sponsors, except WHO and PAHO. The guidelines are already out there. There has been extensive collaboration with your technical staff.

Australia: more than happy to note this report. Better to have WHO associated to it, we notice the report.

Lithuania for EU: reluctantly but in the interest of making progress agree to note the report

Libya: appropriate to take note immediately

Chair: No objection, therefore report is noted.