

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATIVE  
ARRANGEMENTS (MCA) FOR REGULATORS  
OF NUCLEAR AND RADIATION SAFETY IN  
SADC**

(Southern African Development Community)

**SADC Nuclear Regulatory Network (NRN)**

*A PLATFORM FOR EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE TO  
ADVANCE EXCELLENCE IN NUCLEAR REGULATORY SYSTEMS IN SADC*

# MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR REGULATORS OF NUCLEAR AND RADIATION SAFETY IN SADC

## Preamble

- I. WE, the representatives of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in SADC region, having met in Cape Town on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 and in Harare on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2011;
- II. RECOGNIZING that the nuclear regulatory framework includes nuclear safety and security; radiation protection, radiation safety (both ionizing and non- ionizing radiation) , waste and transport safety;
- III. RECALLING the Charter of the FORUM OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY BODIES IN AFRICA (FNRBA), signed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2009 in Pretoria;
- IV. RECALLING the African Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty) which came in to force in July 2009;
- V. COGNISANT of the Treaty establishing the Southern African Development Community (SADC) of 1992;
- VI. RECOGNISING the need to promote regional cooperation on matters related to radiation protection and nuclear safety and security;
- VII. RECOGNIZING the importance of adherence to nuclear safety and security internationally binding and non-binding legal instruments;
- VIII. RECOGNIZING the mutual interest in promoting cooperation and exchange of information on good regulatory practices;
- IX. RESPECTING also the principles of sovereignty, equality, mutual benefit, territorial integrity, and non-intervention in respective domestic affairs;
- X. WELCOMING the desire to foster cooperation of nuclear regulatory bodies in the SADC region for the attainment of the above principles;
- XI. HEREBY agree to create a voluntary Network to be called Southern African Development Community Nuclear Regulators Network (SADC NRN).

## I. ESTABLISHMENT AND NAME

An organization to be known as the **SADC Nuclear Regulators Network** (hereinafter referred to as “**SADC NRN**”) is hereby established.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of **SADC NRN** is to provide for:

1. the enhancement, strengthening and harmonisation of the nuclear safety and security; radiation protection, radiation safety ( both ionizing and non- ionizing radiation) , waste and transport safety regulatory infrastructure among the members of **SADC NRN**;
2. Cooperate closely in matters pertaining to nuclear regulation in the region;
3. an effective and efficient mechanism and network for the exchange of regulatory experiences and practices among the regulatory bodies in SADC.

## III. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of **SADC NRN** are to:

1. establish a network for sharing of information and the exchange of experiences on regulatory matters
2. facilitate training and exchange of technical expertise,
3. foster the harmonization of regulatory practices on nuclear safety and security; radiation protection, radiation safety ( both ionizing and non- ionizing radiation) , waste and transport safety;

## IV. SCOPE

1. The scope of the NRN includes activities intended to achieve and maintain a high level of safety and security in the use of radiation sources (ionizing and non-ionizing) in SADC region, such activities include but not limited to;
  - a. cooperation in the development of laws, regulations and codes of practices
  - b. harmonization of systems for notification, authorisation, inspection and enforcement
  - c. promoting the implementation and compliance with relevant international treaties and conventions relating to nuclear, radiation, waste and transport safety

2. The activities of the NRN do not apply to radioactive sources within military or defence programmes.

#### V. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the SADC NRN shall be open to all national nuclear and radiation regulatory bodies in the SADC region
2. Membership is by signing of this Memorandum
3. Non-signatories to the MCA shall be permitted to participate as observers

#### VI. ORGANS OF THE SADC NRN

The **SADC NRN** shall function through the following organs –

1. SADC NRN Assembly
2. SADC NRN Secretariat

#### VII. SADC NRN Assembly

##### **SADC NRN Assembly**

1. The SADC NRN Assembly shall be constituted by the heads of nuclear regulatory bodies in SADC or their designated proxies
2. The Assembly shall determine the strategic focus of SADC NRN
3. The Assembly shall review the effectiveness of the activities of the SADC NRN and approve its annual report on the activities for presentation to the FNRBA plenary.
4. The Assembly shall hold an annual meeting. Special meetings of the Assembly may be called by the chairman at any time when need arises and after consultation with at least to members of the network
5. Each Assembly session shall elect the chairperson who shall also chair the session
6. Decisions of the Assembly shall be adopted by consensus

#### VIII. SADC NRN Secretariat

##### **SADC NRN Secretariat**

1. The Secretariat of the SADC NRN shall consist of the following: Chairperson, and Secretary, who shall be elected by SADC NRN Assembly

2. The chairperson of SADC NRN shall be the representative of SADC on the FNRBA Steering Committee.
3. The chairperson shall present the annual report on the SADC activities to the FNRBA plenary.
4. FNRBA TWG coordinators from SADC region shall be Ex-officio members of SADC NRN Secretariat
5. Membership of the SADC NRN Secretariat shall be for a period of three (3) years renewable once for the second term
6. Any member may withdraw from the secretariat by written notification to the chairperson.

#### IX. Activities of the SADC NRN Assembly

The activities of the assembly shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Identification of technical areas of cooperation;
2. Establishment of the Networking groups;
3. Amendment of this Memorandum of cooperative arrangements;
4. Nomination and election of the Secretariat of the SADC NRN;

#### X. RESOURCES

Resources associated with the hosting of meetings for the SADC NRN Assembly and the Secretariat shall be from the following sources:

1. Regulatory bodies from the region
  - I. The hosting Regulatory Body shall bear the cost of organizing the meeting unless other alternative sources are realized
  - II. Resources mobilized through the network or SADC for the purpose of the network which shall be maintained within the SADC basket
  - III. Travelling expenses and any other living costs shall be borne by the participants
  - IV. Bilateral and multilateral financing mechanisms
2. International, Regional and National partners
3. FNRBA

#### XI. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Memorandum of cooperative arrangements shall take effect on the date of signature by at least five regulatory bodies in the SADC Region

## **ANNEXURE I:**

### **Role and Functions of the Secretariat of the NRN**

#### **1. Secretariat**

The primary function of the Secretariat is to set the agenda and schedules of activities of the SADC NRN as formulated in its MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (MCA). In pursuance of the objectives of the SADC NRN, the Secretariat takes full charge of the business of the SADC NRN through the delegation of the following tasks to the members of the Secretariat

#### **2. Role of the Chairperson**

The role of the Chairperson is to ensure that the Secretariat develops a common view of its purpose and share responsibility for leadership.

General duties of the Chairperson shall be

- to be the public representative of the Secretariat
- be aware of and sign all documents that set out policy or have implications for the Network
- consult and prepare, in consultation with the Secretary, Agenda items to be discussed at meetings
- ascertain the accuracy of reports
- authorise circulation of minutes
- be acquainted with any reports, correspondence, business etc, to be presented in meetings
- work with the Secretary to ensure timely accomplishment of tasks by members

#### **3. The Role of the Secretary**

The Secretary works closely with the Chairperson and members of the Secretariat to facilitate the business of the SADC NRN.

Duties of the Secretary

- prepare the Agenda and send notices of meetings in consultation with the Chairperson
- circulate minutes to all members within three weeks after the meeting
- ensure reports are ready for discussion
- draft letters and secure any information or take any other action as directed by the Secretariat
- contact members to follow-up on assigned tasks
- custodian of all records of the Network

No	Representative	Name	Signature	Date
1	Angola			
2	Botswana			
3	Democratic Rep. of the Congo			
4	Lesotho	<i>M. M. M. M. M.</i>	<i>P.P. M. M. M. M. M.</i>	<i>22/09/2011</i>
5	Madagascar			
6	Malawi			
7	Mauritius			
8	Mozambique	<i>Carlos Machil</i>	<i>Machi</i>	<i>21.09.11</i>
9	Namibia	<i>A. T. binyane</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>21/09/11</i>
10	Seychelles			
11	South Africa	<i>Atu. Boyce Mkhize</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>22/09/11</i>
12	Swaziland			
13	United Republic of Tanzania	<i>Prof. Iddi S.N. Mbeilala</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>21/09/2011</i>
14	Zambia			
15	Zimbabwe	<i>R. SEVERA</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>21/09/2011</i>