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| Agenda Item 12 | RSC 24/12/01-Annex 11  Original: English |
| OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic | |
| Meeting of the Radioactive Substances Committee (RSC)  Lisbon, Portugal: 6–9 February 2024 | |

Terms of Reference for an Intersessional Correspondence Group to consider the types and losses of radioactive substances (ICG-Loss) 2024-2025

**Introduction**

1. RSC 2023 agreed to establish an intersessional correspondence group ICG-Loss to contribute to task S3.O3.T1 of the NEAES Implementation Plan to fulfil NEAES 2030 operational objective S3.03:

*S3.O3: By 2025 OSPAR will identify the different types of loss of radioactive substances that may contribute to pollution of the marine environment: By 2027 OSPAR will determine if any additional measures are required to prevent such pollution, to the extent that such pollution is not already the subject of effective measures agreed by other international organisations or prescribed by other international conventions.*

1. RSC 2024 agreed the comprehensive list of the type of unplanned event that could result in radioactive substances being introduced into the marine environment and to reconvene ICG-Loss to continue the work.

**Objectives**

1. To prepare a report reflecting the information gathered.
2. To inform future consideration of whether OSPAR measures may be necessary to address these gaps.
3. To identify the hazards and mechanisms that contribute to the prevention of losses and potential pollution and identify further work.
4. Identify possible interactions with any other OSPAR committees and identify any issues and queries that may be or interest or relevance.
5. Report back to RSC 2025.

**Scope of work**

1. To prepare a report on the potential losses identified and the current international mechanisms that aim to prevent such losses, in order to inform future consideration of whether any additional measures are required to prevent pollution in the OSPAR Maritime Area.

**Participants and mode of work**

1. The ICG will be convened by Norway (Carol Robinson) and Sweden (Karin Aquilonius), with participation from Belgium, France, Portugal, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany, The International Atomic Energy Authority and World Nuclear Association; and in correspondence with ICG RSC-OIC and with support from the Secretariat.
2. The leads for the different categories were identified as:
   1. Practices (Norway: Carol Robinson);
   2. Legacy (Belgium: Jurgen Claes, Geert Biermans);
   3. Transport (The Netherlands: Patrick Arends);
   4. Sources (Sweden: Karin Aquilonius).

**Timetable**

1. To be considered intersessionally.