Report on Session 4
Time frames and public acceptance

INPRO Dialogue Forum on Cooperative Approaches to the Back End of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle: drivers and legal, institutional and financial impediments

IAEA HQ, Vienna
Session 4 of the Dialog Forum mainly covered:

- Overview of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste management programmes in different countries and at different stages
- Public participation in these programmes, in particular during the repository siting process
- Time frames related with R&D, repository siting, operation and closure, and long-term planning and scenarios
- Role of international cooperation in these topics
Report on Session 4
Common findings

• Uncertainty: scenarios, costs, technical, political
  “We live in an ever-changing environment”

• Time frames: R&D, siting and licensing take ~30/40 years

• Staged approach towards the repository is necessary

• Importance of having a national strategy, that covers all the steps until disposal.

• Openness, transparency and participation are essential

• International cooperation is already in place for spent fuel (reprocessing, fuel take-back)
Factors for acceptability of international disposal

- Reducing time-scales by reprocessing
- Existence of a successful national programme
- Responsibility issues taken care of clearly
- Long-term availability needs to be guaranteed
- Effective participation of the public in the decision-making process
- Economic benefits for the host country
- Link with nuclear industry

“Think positive!”
THANK YOU!