TERMS OF REFERENCE

COMMISSION ON SAFETY STANDARDS

The Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) is a standing body of senior government officials holding national responsibilities for establishing standards and other regulatory documents relevant to nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and to emergency preparedness and response.

The CSS has a special overview role with regard to the Agency's safety standards and provides advice to the Director General on the overall programme on regulatory aspects of safety.

Functions

The functions of the CSS are:

- To provide guidance on the approach and strategy for establishing the Agency's safety standards, particularly in order to ensure coherence and consistency between standards;
- To resolve outstanding issues referred to it by the committees involved in the Agency's preparation and review process for safety standards;
- To endorse, in accordance with the Agency's preparation and review process for safety standards, the texts of the Safety Fundamentals and Safety Requirements to be submitted to the Board of Governors for approval and to determine the suitability of Safety Guides to be issued under the authority of the Director General;
- To provide general advice and guidance on safety standards issues, relevant regulatory issues and the Agency's safety standards activities and related programmes, including those for promoting the worldwide application of the standards.

Membership

- Member States will be requested to nominate senior officials holding responsibilities in national regulatory organizations and having recognized expertise in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, and in emergency preparedness and response. In appointing the CSS members, the Director General will seek to ensure a balance of regional approaches and experience in the areas covered by the Agency's safety standards. The Director General will appoint the members for a term of four years. The members may each be accompanied by one technical adviser when attending the CSS meetings. In addition the Chairpersons of the five committees on safety standards will be invited to participate fully in the CSS meetings.
- Observers from specialized international organizations and relevant non-governmental bodies may be invited by the Director General to attend CSS meetings.
- The Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, or a designated substitute will participate in all CSS meetings.

- The Director General will appoint a Chairperson from among the CSS members for a four year term.
- A Scientific Secretary to serve the CSS will be designated by the Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security.
- Ordinarily, the CSS will meet twice a year for up to five working days. Extraordinary meetings may be called as required.
- Meetings will be conducted in English.
- The CSS will submit a mid-term report and an end of term report on its work to the Director General.

Resources

- The Secretariat will provide all the resources necessary to permit the efficient working of the CSS.
- All costs involved in the participation of each CSS member, including travel and per diem expenses, will be borne by the nominating Member State.