

# 25 years of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management

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18 June 2026, 12:30 – 13:30 CEST (Vienna time)

**Moderator:** Ms Nelli AGHAJANYAN, Coordinator of the Joint Convention and the Scientific Secretary of Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC), IAEA

## About the webinar

Twenty-five years ago, the [Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management](#) entered into force, on 18 June 2001.

This Convention is the first legally binding international instrument addressing the issue of spent fuel and radioactive waste management safety on a global scale. It establishes a framework to achieve and maintain a high level of safety worldwide, ensuring effective protection against potential hazards and preventing accidents with radiological consequences. This is accomplished through peer review, transparent information sharing, the exchange of experience, candid discussions, and collaborative learning.

Marking this quarter-century milestone, the webinar will explore two key perspectives. First, it will reflect on the past 25 years, assessing the Convention's main achievements, contributions, and overall impact in strengthening international cooperation and safety. Second, it will look ahead to the future, considering how the Joint Convention may evolve over the next 25 years to address emerging challenges, adapt to new developments, and continue supporting global efforts in an ever-changing landscape.

Tailored for a broad audience – including senior regulators, policymakers, strategy developers, technical and legal experts, and young professionals – this webinar will feature a range of experts discussing the benefits, challenges and future of the Joint Convention.

## Learning objectives

- Assess the key achievements and overall impact of the Joint Convention over its first 25 years, including its role in strengthening international cooperation and safety.
- Identify emerging challenges and trends that may influence its future, and evaluate how the Joint Convention could evolve over the next 25 years to remain effective and relevant in a changing global context.

## About the presenters

- Ms Karine HERVIOU, Deputy Director General and Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security of the IAEA, Secretary of the Joint Convention
- Mr Ramzi JAMMAL, President of the 8th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention, Canada
- Mr Hans WANNER, President of the 7th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention, Switzerland
- Mr Bismark TYOBEKA, President of the 6th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention, South Africa
- Mr Douglas TONKAY, Vice-President of the 6th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention, USA
- Ms Olena MYKOLAICHUK, Vice-President of the 4th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention, Ukraine
- Mr Abel Julio GONZÁLEZ, Former Director of Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety of the IAEA and senior advisor to the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ARN) of Argentina
- Mr Wolfram TONHAUSER, Former Director and Head of the Nuclear and Treaty Law Section in the Office of Legal Affairs of the IAEA
- Ms Fiona CHARALAMBOUS, Assistant Director Planned and Existing Exposures at the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) and National Contact of Australia for the Joint Convention and former Country Group Officer of the Joint Convention
- Ms Ai ASANUMA, National Contact of Japan for the Joint Convention and International Program Technical Officer at the Nuclear Regulation Authority of Japan
- Ms Elisabeth PETERS, Expert at the independent technical support organization Gesellschaft für Anlagen- und Reaktorsicherheit (GRS) gGmbH and former Country Group Officer of the Joint Convention, Germany
- Ms Åsa ZAZZI, Senior analyst at Swedish Radiation Safety Authority in the Section for Radioactive Waste, and Country Group Officer of the Joint Convention, Sweden
- Ms Loriane KOHLER, Specialist International Affairs at the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI), Member of the Swiss Delegation to the 8th Review Meeting of the Joint Convention