

Statement on the safety of nuclear installations in Ukraine following the military aggression by Russia

10 March 2022

On 27 February and 06 March 2022, ENSREG held extraordinary meetings via videoconference with the participation, amongst others, of the IAEA, WENRA and the Ukrainian nuclear regulator (SNRIU) in order to address the nuclear safety of the Ukrainian nuclear installations. In two previous statements ENSREG expressed its concerns about the risks which the Russian Federation's aggressive military actions posed to the facilities at the Chornobyl site, which could significantly affect safety and impact the local population and neighbouring countries.

The loss of full electrical power to the Chornobyl site, reported on 09 March 2022, represents a development of significant concern. ENSREG underlines IAEA's initial statement that this development violates the key safety pillar on ensuring uninterrupted power supply and agrees with IAEA that there is no critical impact on safety at the current time.

ENSREG urges for the power supply to the Chornobyl Exclusion Zone facilities to be restored without delay. It also repeats its urgent call to restore SNRIU's control over all nuclear facilities and materials immediately.

ENSREG takes note of the WENRA/HERCA document conclusions on the consequences of a nuclear accident, published on 09 March 2022, and welcomes the commitment of both organisations to swiftly take forward work on risk assessment and contribute to a coordinated nuclear emergency response at the European level.

ENSREG will continue to closely monitor the situation and work closely with partners to refine risk assessments. To this end ENSREG has agreed that it will now use a standing technical group to assess any new information on the situation in Ukraine which may advise on the opportunity of further ENSREG meetings as the situation evolves.