

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**  
**Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)**  
**Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities (CNRA)**  
**Working Group on Reactor Oversight (WGRO)**

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**WGRO's 1<sup>st</sup> International Nuclear Reactor  
Oversight Workshop Announcement**

11 – 18 November 2024, Tsuruga, Fukui, Fukushima Daiichi, Japan

Hosted by  
Nuclear Regulation Authority  
Nuclear Energy Agency

**Registration** deadline: 31 July 2024

General information – Registration information



# 1<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR REACTOR OVERSIGHT WORKSHOP

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) [Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities \(CNRA\) Working Group on Reactor Oversight \(WGRO\)](#) will sponsor its first international workshop on 11 – 15 November 2024 in Fukui, Japan.

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Nuclear Reactor Oversight Workshop (INROW) consists of two sessions: Session 1 (Days 1, 2, and 3) will be only with WGRO Members and Invited Participants, and Session 2 (Day 4 and 5) will be more widely open for licensees, local governments and academia.

### Background and Objectives

Reactor oversight provides a Regulatory Body (RB) the ability to verify that licensees, during all the phases of the performance of their activities, operate the facility safely, that their activities fully comply with all applicable regulations and that safety is given the highest priority. Reactor oversight also provides a basis for regulatory enforcement. In this framework, the main purpose of the workshop's Session 1 is to provide a forum for the exchange of technical information on regulatory oversight activities by the participating countries. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with their counterparts from other countries and organisations to discuss current and future issues on the selected topics. They will develop conclusions and commendable practices regarding these issues and identify methods to help improve their respective oversight activities.

In addition, as part of the INROW, a focused study of Japan's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) activities will be undertaken by international regulatory experts from the WGRO through a benchmarking inspection to observe formal interactions between onsite inspectors and licensee/operator staff and management. Key insights from the observations will be used to inform a workshop that will explore several areas such as, inspector roles and responsibilities, organisational and cultural constraints that impede effective communication and feedback during the oversight activities through facilitated panel sessions and expert opinions.

### Suggested Topics

The INROW Session 1 (Day 1-3) consists of the following three topics\* to be discussed among the WGRO members and invited participants. These topics were selected based on feedback from WGRO members and the CNRA.

- A. Oversight Framework regarding Licensee's Cross Cutting Issues
- B. Inspection of Licensee's Readiness for External Events that could result in a station blackout
- C. Innovative Approaches to Regulatory Oversight

**\* For more information on each topic, please see the Attachment "1st INROW S1 Questionnaires".**

[Link to Session 1 Programme](#)

The INROW Session 2 includes the benchmark inspection and a workshop open to a wider audience.

- Benchmark inspection (Day 4) at Ooi Nuclear Power Station will be performed by international inspectors assigned by WGRO member countries, NRA's inspectors and licensees' site staff for the input to the Day 5's case study of Japan's ROP.

- A workshop (Day 5) will be held with inviting licensees, local governments and academia as well as the WGRO members.

[Link to Session 2 \(Day 5\) Programme](#)

### **Event Format**

The workshop Session 1 (Day 1-3) will be sequenced into a plenary opening session, various workshop discussion sessions, a final topic group discussion, host country presentations and a plenary closing session. Additionally, informal opportunities will be made available throughout the workshop, for participants to exchange information and communicate on other inspection topics of mutual interest. The Session 1 will be an only in-person event.

There will be two activities on Day 4, one of which is open to those attending the workshop sessions:

- a. An opportunity to visit Monju which is the permanently shutdown prototype sodium-cooled fast breeder reactor, located near the Tsuruga nuclear power plant, Fukui Prefecture
- b. A benchmarking inspection, which will be undertaken by a pre-invited team with representatives from the international regulatory community, and which will cover several inspection practices planned and delivered by inspectors from the NRA. Key findings and observations from that benchmarking activity will be shared with participants in the Day 5 panel sessions (see below).

The workshop Session 2 (Day 5) will consist of an opening session that will set out the purpose of the forum and introduce the topics that will be covered during the day. A sub-session will examine NEA observed inspections, planned inspection approach (Japan), and wider approaches to inspection practice, before two panel sessions that will examine benchmarking approaches (including the Day 4 benchmarking case study) and the expectations that external stakeholders have of planned inspection activities. Remote observation, without interaction, may be made available.

### **Workshop discussion sessions for Session 1 (three half-day sessions)**

Participants will be divided into smaller groups to discuss **one** of three workshop topics. A facilitator and recorder will work with each group to stimulate and encourage discussions. Based on experience at previous workshops, each group will remain the same throughout these sessions, although facilitators may be rotated to enhance the exchanges of information.

Each group will be expected to develop a list of conclusions and commendable practices for the topics being discussed, in order to prepare for the workshop proceedings.

- Participants should indicate on the registration form; **the preferred topic** they would like to discuss during these sessions. Every attempt will be made to assign participants to the appropriate discussion group. Again, past experience has shown that groups having the most diverse (e.g. participants from different countries) groupings have been the most effective.
- Participants are also encouraged to list one or two specific issues that they would like to see addressed during the workshop discussion sessions.

As a result of previous workshops, most participants have commented that advance information is very valuable to the discussions. Therefore, it is requested (**and highly recommended**) that participants supply the following information:

- A questionnaire for each topic is attached to this announcement (and also available on the WGRO working area of the NEA MyNEA website). It is requested that each participating country provide the NEA with the answers to the questionnaires **through its relevant WGRO**

**member** in order to better facilitate and co-ordinate the group discussion sessions. Additionally, participants, if they wish, can provide general information (short papers of 1 or 2 pages) on their countries' inspection practices for each topic.

### Participants

The workshop Session 1 (11-13 November 2024) is opened to persons from RBs, research organisations, and technical support organisations (TSOs) from OECD/NEA member countries and non-member countries. The NEA has invited the following organisations/groups to participate in the workshop: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), other CSNI and CNRA Working Groups. The invitees are highly recommended to contact their countries WGRO members for smooth and organized registration.

The site visit to Monju on Day 4 (14 November 2024) is opened for all the participants of the Session 1. The benchmark inspection on Day 4 is performed by invited inspectors only.

The Day 5 on Session 2 (15 November 2024) is more widely opened for licensees, local governments and academia as well as the Session 1 participants at the discretion of the NRA.

The Fukushima Daiichi NPS site visit on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 is open to all WGRO members and other accepted participants.

### Language

All presentations, discussions and meeting documents will be in English.

### Workshop proceedings

Proceedings from the INROW will be published and will include papers from the opening session, conclusions, recommendations and developed commendable practices from the discussion groups, a summary of panel discussions and information papers submitted by participants of the workshop.

### Preliminary schedule of workshop activities

The following schedule has been developed for the workshop. Participants should note that the schedule is preliminary in nature and **subject to change** based on the planning and arrangements currently being prepared by NRA.

As noted in the table, NRA will be hosting a meet and greet on Sunday evening, a workshop dinner on Wednesday evening, and coffee breaks and lunches during the workshop.

The Fukushima Daiichi NPS site visit is open to all WGRO members. Other participation can be accepted upon request in the limit of available places. Please contact to the official workshop contact and your WGRO member representative for more information.

The following is the model itinerary.

Date	Event	Accommodation Location
9 Nov (Sat)	Arrival in Tokyo	Tokyo
10 Nov (Sun)	Moving from Tokyo to Tsuruga Pre-meeting and Meet & Greet	Tsuruga
11 Nov (Mon)	INROW Session 1 Day-1	Tsuruga
12 Nov (Tue)	INROW Session 1 Day-2	Tsuruga
13 Nov (Wed)	INROW Session 1 Day-3	Tsuruga
14 Nov (Thu)	INROW Session 2 Day 4 Benchmark Inspection at Ooi NPP	Tsuruga

	(Monju site visit for INROW Session 1 Participants)	
15 Nov (Fri)	INROW session 2 Day-5	Tsuruga
16 Nov (Sat)	Moving from Tsuruga to Tokyo	Tokyo
17 Nov (Sun)	Moving from Tokyo to Fukushima	J-Village hotel in Fukushima booked by NEA
18 Nov (Mon)	Fukushima Daiichi NPS Site Visit Moving from Fukushima to Tokyo	Tokyo
19 Nov (Tue)	Departure from Tokyo	

**Programme of 1<sup>st</sup> INROW Session 1 (Chair: Mr. Guannel)**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Event</b>	
Sunday 10 November	15:00	Workshop pre-meeting for discussion group leads
	18:00	Pre-registration meet and greet
Monday 11 November	08:30	Registration and coffee
	09:00	Plenary opening session Welcome - NRA: Mr. TBD - NEA: Mr. Yuji Kumagai, NEA's Nuclear Safety Technology and Regulation Division - WGRO: Mr. Yves Guannel (ASN, France), WGRO Chair  Presentations of workshop topics by WGRO topic leads
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Workshop discussion session: Part 1
	17:00	End
Tuesday 12 November		Workshop discussion sessions: Parts 2 and 3
	09:00	Resume workshop discussion sessions: Part 2
	12:30	Lunch
	13:30	Workshop discussion sessions: Part 3
	17:00	End
Wednesday 13 November	09:00	Final topic group discussions
	12:00	Lunch
	13:00	Host country presentations – about NRA and its approach to verify general and specific topics for inspection programme
	14:00	Plenary closing session: workshop discussion results
	17:00	Close
	18:00	Workshop dinner
Thursday 14 November	08:00	Meet for the Monju site visit at Tsuruga Station
	16:00	End

<b>Programme of 1<sup>st</sup> INROW Session 2 (MC: Ms. Kimberly Hazelton) Friday, 15 November 2024</b>	
08:30	<b>Registration</b>
<b>Opening Session</b>	
09:00	Welcome remarks - NEA / TBD
09:15	Regulator's perspective - NRA / TBD
<b>Sub-session 1</b>	
09:30	Overview of the forum: logistics, structure, objectives, and expected outcomes - NEA / Mr. Yuji Kumagai
09:40	Overview of WGRO Activities related to Observed Inspections - ASN / Mr. Yves Guannel
10:00	Overview of Japan's ROP - NRA / TBD
10:20	Presentation from Academia - Nuclear Safety Division of AESJ / Ms. Hiroko Kondo
10:50	Coffee break and group photo
<b>Panel 1 (Chair: Mr. Tom Hipschman)</b>	
11:20	Benchmark exercise practice - NEA / Mr. John Nakoski
11:35	Benchmark observation Case study of Day 4 activities - Benchmark inspectors
12:50	Lunch
14:00	Feedback on Benchmark - Senior Experts (France, UK, Canada, UAE, Japan)
15:15	Coffee break
<b>Panel 2 (Chair: Mr. Gideon York)</b>	
15:45	Expectations for Regulatory Inspections Speakers: - Fukui Prefecture / Mr. Akihiro Yamamoto - TBD from licensee Panellists: - Panel Speakers - Nuclear Safety Division of AESJ / Ms. Hiroko Kondo - WGRO Representative / Mr. Kenneth Broman - WGLSC Representative / Mr. Marc McBride - NRA / TBD Wrap-up - NEA / Mr. John Nakoski
<b>Closing</b>	
17:30	Closing remarks - Chairs from Panel 1&2 - Ms. Kimberly Hazelton - Kansai EPCO / TBC - NRA / TBD - NEA / TBD
18:00	End of Day 5

## WORKSHOP VENUE, REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

### Workshop venue

The workshop will be held at the [Wakasa-wan Energy Research Center](#) in Fukui, Japan.

Wakasa-wan Energy Research Center  
64-52-1 Nagatani, Tsuruga City, Fukui Prefecture,  
914-0192 Japan  
Telephone: +81 770 24 2300  
E-mail: [werc@werc.or.jp](mailto:werc@werc.or.jp)



### Hotel room reservation

The workshop registration fee does not include the hotel room.

List of the hotels recommended near Tsuruga Station:

- Hotel Granbinario Tsuruga
- Hotel Route-Inn Tsuruga Ekimae
- Toyoko Inn Tsuruga Station
- Tsuruga Manten Hotel



Participants are requested to make their own hotel reservation. If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please inform the hotel.

**Note:** A large bus transportation will be provided between Tsuruga Station and the venue (including Monju on 14<sup>th</sup> November) in the morning and evening on 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> November. The detail will be provided to the participants.

### Registration

Registration is required for all participants. To support effective planning, please register early, but at latest by the **deadline 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024**. Please register using the [Registration Form](#).

### Workshop fee and payment

The fee for the workshop is **EUR 300 per person**. Please make the workshop fee payment with the [Registration Form](#). Please note that you can pay the fee separately after the registration, however, you are requested to complete the payment **before 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024**.

### Disclaimer

Best endeavours will be made to deliver the event programme as presented. However, the workshop committee of WGRO reserves the right to alter or cancel, without prior notice, any of the arrangements, timetables, plans or other items relating directly or indirectly to the conference, for any cause beyond their reasonable control.

The workshop committee is not liable for any loss or inconvenience caused as a result of such alterations.



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Visas

Please visit the website [https://www.mofa.go.jp/j\\_info/visit/visa/index.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html) to verify visa requirements.

### Travel to and within Japan (Detail to be provided)

#### *From the airport:*

Access from the airports to Tsuruga station near the venue (The Wakasa-wan Energy Research Center).

- Haneda Airport (HND)
- Cybu Centrair Airpot (NGO)
- Osaka / Itami Airport (ITM)
- Komatsu Airport (KMQ)

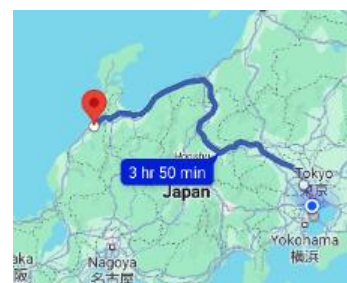


Most of participants probably arrive at Tokyo Haneda Airport (HND).  
Option 1 (Highly Recommended): Direct train from Shinagawa Station to Tsuruga Station.

You can purchase train ticket at the following website

<https://smart-ex.jp/en/index.php>

or at the station in English but recommended to purchase one day in advance.



Option 2: One stop from Shinagawa Station to Tsuruga Station (stop at Maibara Station).



## Official workshop contacts

<p>NEA contacts:</p> <p>Mr Yuji Kumagai Division of Nuclear Safety Technology and Regulation Nuclear Energy Agency 46, Quai Alphonse Le Gallo 92100 Boulogne Billancourt, France</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:yuji.kumagai@oecd-nea.org">yuji.kumagai@oecd-nea.org</a></p>	<p>Host country contacts:</p> <p>Mr Tatsuki Watanabe Nuclear Regulation Authority 1-9-9, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 106-8450. Japan</p> <p>Tel.: +81(3) 5114 2122 E-mail: <a href="mailto:watanabe_tatsuki_8s3@nra.go.jp">watanabe tatsuki 8s3@nra.go.jp</a></p>
<p>Ms Stephanie Ruiz Division of Nuclear Safety Technology and Regulation Nuclear Energy Agency 46, Quai Alphonse Le Gallo 92100 Boulogne Billancourt, France</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:stephanie.ruiz@oecd-nea.org">stephanie.ruiz@oecd-nea.org</a></p>	<p>Mr Yuya Mito Nuclear Regulation Authority 1-9-9, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 106-8450. Japan</p> <p>Tel.: +81(3) 5114 2122 E-mail: <a href="mailto:mito_yuya_pt3@nra.go.jp">mito_yuya_pt3@nra.go.jp</a></p>