

Information Programme

Decision making in the field of nuclear energy and stakeholder participation need to be based on understanding. The NEA Information Programme seeks to provide member governments and other interested parties with a large array of information resulting from the Agency's activities, thereby enhancing awareness and understanding of the scientific, technical and economic aspects of the nuclear option.

The NEA is an intergovernmental agency specialised in studying the scientific, technical and economic aspects of nuclear energy. It has no commercial interests in the nuclear industry and is not a lobby group. It strives to provide high-quality, factual information in a timely manner to those with a need to know for their professional activities, as well as to those with an interest in learning about nuclear energy's multiple aspects. NEA activities cover the full range of the fuel cycle and consider future technological developments. All of these activities are reflected in the Agency's publications and information programme.

Publications

The Agency produced 64 publications in 2002, of which 32 were on sale and 32 were distributed free of charge. The list of these publications is provided on page 34. Best sellers included *Uranium 2001: Resources, Production and Demand*; *Fission Gas Behaviour in Water Reactor Fuels*; and *Advanced Reactors with Innovative Fuels*.



In addition to standard distribution of free publications (some 50 000 copies), over 600 individual requests were received involving the shipment of more than 1 800 reports.

Two issues of *NEA News* were published in English and French. In addition to feature articles covering the latest developments in the nuclear energy field, they provided updates on NEA work, news briefs, information about NEA publications and forthcoming events. The 2002 yearly subscription price was € 37. Sample articles and back issues are available on the NEA website at www.nea.fr/html/pub.

Internet-based communication

A complete revamp of the NEA website's graphical interface was completed during 2002. In addition to standardising the overall look of the site, the new interface has improved the speed with which web pages from the site load. The Agency welcomes comments and feedback from website visitors.

A new section on "Civil Society" (www.nea.fr/html/civil) presenting information on the Agency's four main areas of activity in this field was added to the site in 2002 (see page 32 for details about these activities). The new section also provides links to OECD work on government-citizen relations and a range of NEA reports of related interest.



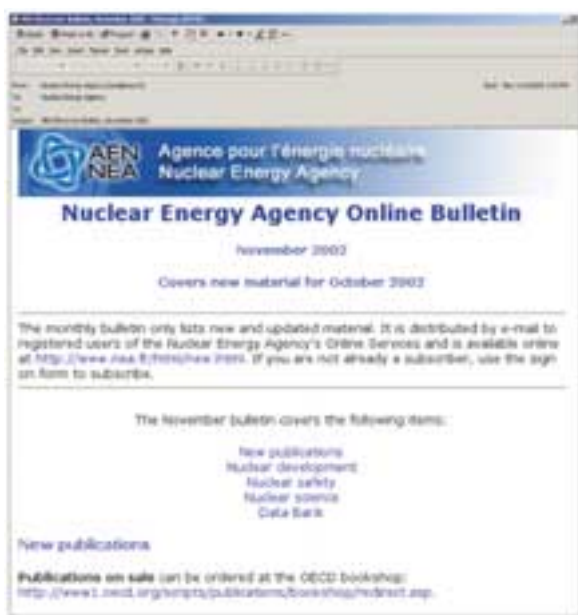
Work is under way to introduce another new section early in 2003 to cater in particular to the needs of journalists and the staff of policy makers. The "NEA Press Room" will also provide background information of the sort that students and the general public often request.

While the number of visits to the NEA website remained more or less constant, the "quality" of visits to the site improved. The percentage of visitors who downloaded a report during their visit increased

from 52% in 2001 to 66% in 2002. The most downloaded report remained the perennial *Chernobyl – Ten Years On: Radiological and Health Impact* followed by *Externalities and Energy Policy: The Life Cycle Analysis Approach*. The 2002 update of the Chernobyl report will be available on the site from January 2003.

The "Delegates' area" on the NEA website now constitutes an important tool for many NEA committees and working groups. This section of the website provides authorised users with OECD official documents, information on forthcoming NEA meetings and contact details for other committee members. Over 4 000 official documents are now available in the Delegates' area, 342 of which were added during the course of 2002.

Individual subscriptions to the Agency's monthly electronic bulletin continued to grow during 2002, reaching 5 500 by December. The HTML bulletin's format was streamlined and brought into line with the website's graphical interface in November. The bulletin is distributed free of charge and includes monthly updates on important NEA activities and newly released reports. Subscription requests can be made at www.nea.fr/html/signon.html.



Several projects are also under way to enhance the NEA Intranet in order to improve communication within the Agency.

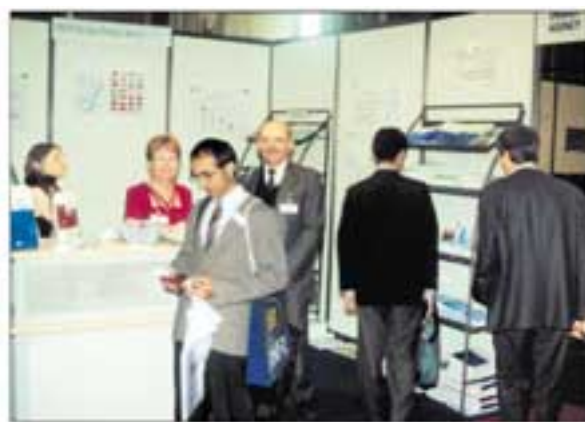
NEA visibility in international fora

NEA information and publications stands were organised at six international conferences in 2002:

- The OECD Forum 2002 on "Taking Care of the Fundamentals: Security, Equity, Education and Growth", Paris, France, 13-15 May.
- The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, South Africa, 17 August-8 September.
- ENC 2002, Lille, France, 7-9 October.

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- The NEA co-sponsored 13 international conferences during 2002.

- The 13th Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference, Shenzhen, China, 21-25 October.
- The ANS Winter meeting, Washington, DC, 17-19 November.
- The ANDRA International Meeting on Clays in Natural and Engineered Barriers for Radioactive Waste Confinement, Reims, France, 9-12 December.



The NEA stand at the ENC 2002 international nuclear congress and world nuclear exposition.

The NEA co-sponsored 13 international conferences. Some of the events at which the NEA made significant contributions included the IAEA international conferences on "Occupational Radiation Protection: Protecting Workers Against Exposure to Ionizing Radiation" and "Issues and Trends in Radioactive Waste Management".



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