

# Minutes of a meeting of ICNDT Working Group 1: NDT Qualification and Certification

# Monday, 19 November 2012 Hilton Garden Inn Luton North Hotel, Luton, UK

# 1. Welcome and apologies

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all. He thanked BINDT for hosting the meeting and also thanked Mr John Thompson for his previous chairmanship of the Group.

#### **Participants - Members**

Mr A Mullin (Chair)

Mr G Aufricht

Mr S K Babu

Mr P Fallouey

Mr J Guild

Mr R Holstein

Mr P Milligan

Mr S Ooka (rep. N Ooka)

Dr M Purschke

Mr V Radko

Mr R Rodriguez

Mr J Rufino Teles Filho

#### **Observers**

Mr P Brisset (IAEA) Mr L Dick (AINDT)

Dr J M Farley (ICNDT Chairman)

Mr D J Gilbert (Secretariat) Miss S Priannikova (Ukraine)

Mr J R Thompson (ICEC Secretary)

# **Apologies**

Mr D Barnett

Mr W Holliday

Dr Rong Sheng Geng

Dr N Ooka (represented by Mr S Ooka – see above)

The Chairman gave a particular welcome to Mr Vitalii Radko, from Ukraine, who was attending for the first time. Mr Radko introduced himself briefly. He is Deputy Director of the Ukrainian National Research Institute, which is also a personnel certification body.

The Chairman also noted that Mr Milligan was replacing Mr Thompson and that Mr Holliday had agreed to continue as a member of the Group.

# 2. Approval of Agenda

The Chairman stated that the Agenda, revision C, had been circulated prior to the meeting and no comments or suggestions for addition had been received. He invited these one more time and none were raised, so the Agenda was approved.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Durban on 14 April 2012 had been circulated by Mr Thompson.

Mr Guild noted that 5 b) was incorrect in that he represented the African Federation of NDT (AFNDT) on the Group.

The minutes were approved, subject to this amendment.

Actions arising:

5 c): Mr Holliday had been confirmed as ASNT nominee as stated above.

10): Item would be covered in Agenda.

#### 4. WG1 membership

The Chairman had sent an email requesting confirmation of membership of the Group. All had agreed to continue. He requested all Group members to advise any changes as they occurred.

Mr Dick confirmed that Mr Milligan would be taking over as official AINDT delegate from 1 January 2013.

BINDT will advise its replacement representative in due course.

Mr Guild believed that the SAINT representative would be Mr Harold Jansen, however this required confirmation.

Mr Mullin referred to two documents:

- WG1-01: Group Membership, in which it states the Group should include representatives form the 4 ICNDT regional groups; and
- WG1-02: Terms of Reference, in which it states that the Group may include representatives from each of the ICNDT member societies and external experts.

Mr Mullin then raised the questions of maximum size of the Group – should there be one? And is there a quota from each region? What are the processes for application to join the Group, application review (who decides?) and who can apply for observer status?

Dr Farley stated that the original idea was to have not too large a group but one that nevertheless had representation from all ICNDT regions. He noted that it was often the case when meetings were held alongside conferences and

events that interested parties would be present and might wish to attend in some capacity or another.

All understood that there might be a need to have a limit, for practical and organisational reasons. Mr Thompson reminded the Group that the Terms of Reference stated that 'members are appointed by the IEC taking into account the views of the PGPC and the Chairman'.

Mr Mullin proposed to revise the Membership principles and make clear the procedures, including size of Group, procedure for joining, observer status and quorum.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
1	Review Membership principles	AM	Next meeting

#### 5. Action Plan

The Chairman proceeded to go through the Action Plan step-by-step.

- 1. Regularly review and update the Group's objectives: On-going task.
- 2. Consider broadening ToR to include company-based certification: Action to be confirmed.

A1. Establish lines of communication: Regional Reps to be confirmed as follows:

Africa: J Guild, possibly H Jansen from SAINT

Asia-Pacific: S K Babu, P Milligan Europe: M Purschke, R Rodriguez Pan-America: J Filho, S Bond

#### A2. Liaison:

- a) ISO TC135 SC7: ICNDT has official liaison, with nominated personnel Dr Farley and Mr Thompson. It was agreed that Mr Mullin would take over from Mr Thompson.
- b) IAF: Mr Zirnhelt was difficult to contact. To be advised.
- c) ISO/CASCO: Mr Thompson currently handled the liaison. Current work item on terminology. Mr Thompson to continue.
- d) ASME etc: Mr Fallouev to handle.
- e) IAEA: Dr Farley progressing; meeting on 27 November.
- A3. Directory: S K Babu progressing.
- A4. Guidance: Mr Barnett had been in contact with Asian certification bodies. Dr Farley suggested an appendix to next version of Guidelines document. Mr Dick said AINDT would support Mr Milligan with this task. On-going.

A5. Forum: Mr Mullin proposed future forums to be held alongside APCNDT (Mumbai, Nov 2013) and ECNDT (Prague, Oct 2014). Mr Thompson reported that feedback on the Durban forum had been positive. He also mentioned the NDE forum to take place at the 2013 ASME Pressure Vessels & Piping (PVP) Conference, 15 July 2013, Paris. Participation had proved successful in the

past when handled through EFNDT; Mr Thompson suggested perhaps ICNDT might be interested. To be considered.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
2	Consider participation in NDE Forum at ASME PVP, July 2013, Paris	All	Next meeting

- A6. Website: On-going development D Gilbert/A Mullin progressing.
- A7. Application of EN ISO 9712: Ref. Agenda.

A8. Gap analysis: ISO were looking at revision of TR 25107, probably under WG9 of SC7. It is expected that WG9 will be split into groups of experts dealing with specific topics. ICNDT may put forward members to these sub-groups. DR Farley explained reason for wanting gap analysis – having two documents does not help harmonisation. There are differences, leading to confusion. ASME code requires operators to work to SNTC-1A which in turn refers to CP106 as Body of Knowledge. A single BoK would be better. After some discussion Mr Babu volunteered to carry out gap analysis.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
3	Conduct gap analysis – TR 25107 vs. CP106.	SKB	ASAP

- A9. ASNT: Mr Mullin explained background. Dr Purschke reported on EFNDT experiences with successful general liaison. Action on-going.
- B1. New methods: Mr Fallouey reported on a new ISO Standard on methodology for qualification of non-destructive tests, which includes something on new techniques. He would circulate information.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
4	Circulate information on new standard covering new techniques	PF	Next meeting

B2. Guidelines: Dr Purschke requested to stand back from this action. It was agreed that corrections and additions should be forwarded to Mr Gilbert who would act as editor and incorporate these in a revised draft. Mr Fallouey suggested a new chapter on how the new standard compares with the old. See also Agenda item 9.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
5	Submit updates to	All	Next meeting
	Guidelines to D Gilbert		

B3. Practical exams: Mr Mullin proposed a first draft to be produced for APCNDT, Nov 2013. Refer to Agenda item.

# 6. Task sharing with ICEC

Mr Mullin referred to the discussion paper he had circulated and also to the discussion that had taken place at the ICEC meeting earlier that day. All agreed on the need to have clear documents. The roles of WG1 and ICEC were described, broadly speaking, as 'developers' and 'implementers' respectively. OP 18 (ICEC) and WG1 ToR would be reviewed and revised if necessary, to define objectives and make functions clear, and circulated to ICEC and WG1 members for approval. Dr Farley volunteered to complete this task in collaboration with the ICEC Secretary.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012- 11-19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
6	Review and revise OP18 (ICEC) and WG1 ToR	AM/JRT/JMF	12 December 2012

# 7. Recommendation for implementation of ISO 9712:2012

The Chairman referred to his document: 'ICNDT WG1 Comments Template – Review of ISO 9712: 2012 for statements to be interpreted' that had been circulated and some comments received, notably from Messrs Radko and Rodriguez. He then proceeded to go through the document.

Several statements require clarification; clear definition of terminology is needed to avoid misinterpretation. All agreed this was a very worthwhile exercise. The first step was to collect details of statements in question and decide how to go about dealing with the issues. Mr Mullin would select the 'top 20' statements and then ask certification bodies how they interpreted them. The results could then be collated and possibly published on the website and/or cross-referenced in the Guidelines document. This could form a useful resource for how the harmonised standard may be interpreted.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
7	Compile 'top 20' EN ISO 9712 statements and circulate to CBs for info on interpretation.	AM	ASAP

# 8. Guideline for administering practical examination

Mr Babu had produced and circulated a draft guideline and this was discussed. It was agreed that it might be appropriate to set up a working group or subgroup to consider the recommendations, which included minimum sizes of specimens. Action on-going.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
8	Consider WG to look at S K Babu's draft Guideline for Administering Practical Examination	All	Next meeting

# 9. ICNDT Guide: Condition monitoring matter

It was suggested that at some stage it might become necessary to update the Guidelines document to incorporate Condition Monitoring. However it was agreed to make this separate from the other updates and commence liaison with ISO TC108 SC5 with a view to adding relevant CM information at a later date.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
9	Commence liaison with ISO TC108 SC5 w.r.t CM in Guidelines	AM/JMF	Next meeting

#### 10. Discussions with IAEA and priorities for future IAEA NDT projects

Dr Farley reported that a meeting between ICNDT and IAEA was scheduled to take place on 27 November in Vienna, at which both organisations would present their status and plans. Both organisations had common objectives in terms of personnel competency and safety. ICNDT might help identify potential projects to help other countries establish certification schemes, for example, or to provide additional information to update and expand the body of knowledge referred to earlier. It was Dr Farley's hope that ICNDT could work with IAEA to draw up what might be valuable projects across the world.

Mr Brisset pointed out that the way it works is that member nations approach IAEA for assistance and help with projects, not the other way round. He also reported that IAEA was working on at least two relevant documents: Tec Doc 628: Training syllabus for conventional methods, Rev. 3 (alternative to TR 25107); and a training guideline on digital radiography.

Dr Farley asked if there was any activity within IAEA on guidance on security of radiation devices, noting the discussions that ICNDT had held with WINS

(World Institute for Nuclear Security). Mr Brisset referred to IAEA's Nuclear and Security Department.

#### 11. Status of ISO/IEC 17024: 2012

Mr Fallouey had studied the update and identified no major changes; most were to do with incorporating into the IAF Guide. He proposed to produce a paper detailing the changes for circulation to the Group. However Mr Thompson stated that he had already done a comparison. He felt the new Standard was better but was still not perfect. The plan was to do away with Guide 24; there was a new clause on principles covering impartiality and dealing with complaints, among other things. Mr Mullin reported that there was an IAF resolution that the transition to the new Standard would be three years from the date of publication – 1 July 2012.

It was agreed that the new Standard warranted a chapter in the new Guidelines document.

Action Ref. No. WG1/2012-11- 19/	Desc.	WHO	COMPLETE BY
10	Produce new chapter on ISO/IEC 17024: 2012 for Guidelines	PF/JRT/AM	ASAP

#### 12. Report on the work of the ICEC

Mr Fallouey reported on the progress made at the ICEC meeting held earlier that day, as follows:

- OP18, the ICEC constitutional document, to be revised to describe the relationship between the ICEC and WG1 (referred to above).
- 5 ICNDT members had signed the ICNDT Multilateral Recognition Agreement; Australia and Brazil were to sign tomorrow.
- A composite budget covering ICNDT MRA, PCB CA and EQB business was approved and cleared for IEC approval.
- OP18 (CEC ToR) to be further revised to incorporate reference to the EQB, working interfaces with WG1, etc., and a new OP (#23) on EQB Administration.
- The ICEC's Action Plan was reviewed and updated.
- OPs 19 and 20 to be revised to incorporate minor typographical amendments and agreed corrections before distribution to the ICEC for "final" approval.
- The process for appointment of assessors was agreed.
- The upgrade of software for the ICNDT EQB was in progress, the questions cleaned up but further work was required to make it fully compliant with ISO IEC 17024 requirements for fairness, validity and reliability.

# 13. Any other business

There was none.

# 14. Next meeting

The next meeting would take place on 14 November 2013 in Mumbai, India, alongside the Asia-Pacific Conference on NDT.

The Chairman thanked all for their attention and closed the meeting.