

## **REGIONAL EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL ASIAN ALARA NETWORKING**

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Networking in exchange of information on optimization issues is becoming more and more important. The Central and Eastern European ALARA Network which was created in 2002 was expanded and changed qualitatively in order to meet the needs of countries of a rather large region – Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. As a result of it the Regional European and Central Asian ALARA Networking (RECAN) was established in the end of 2005.

The RECAN includes countries which were participating in model projects directed to creation of radiation protection infrastructures. It helps to find common interests, which increase the attractiveness of the network for the potential participants and facilitate an active participation of the present ones.

The following main features of the network should be mentioned in this context: close relations with the IAEA and its support, following of IAEA documents including BSS, good co-operation with the EAN, dissemination of information and information exchange among participants with the aim of facilitation of practical implementation of principle of optimization, covering all the types of practices. The due attention is paid to personal contacts among participants of the network.

Activities of the network include information exchange through e-mail and internet, webpage and newsletters, annual conferences. The Steering Committee co-ordinates all the activities of the network.

The main purpose of this network is creation of self-sustainability in radiation protection infrastructures of member states of the RECAN.