An EU View of IGDTP Activities

Simon WEBSTER
Head of Unit ‘Fission’
DG Research
European Commission

IGDTP Exchange Forum, Paris, 8 Feb 2011
- What has been achieved so far
- The current European scene
- IGDTP – the future
- Points to ponder
What has been achieved so far

- Decades of research carried out on long-term safe management of radwaste, with support from Euratom FP
  - Phenomenology
  - Natural analogues
  - URLs & large-scale demos
  - Mining / technology
  - Operational safety / long-term safety
- Quasi-unanimity in the scientific / technical community
- Concerted and effective governance initiatives, especially in the lead countries
- Political and regulatory processes have advanced both at MS and also EU level
The current European scene

- IGDTP created – a ‘technical forum’ led by implementing organisations
  - to resolve remaining technical issues as efficiently / effectively as possible, thereby enabling implementation in lead countries
  - to promote accelerated development in other MS
  - Vision document agreed
  - membership increasing all the time
  - SRA now in advanced draft
- SET-Plan endorsed
- New Directive on RWM proposed
- Interaction between technical / stakeholder / regulatory forums
IGDTP – the future

• Commitment of main actors has to be maintained
• Clear identification of key remaining RDD&D issues to meet the Vision, through an agreed Deployment Strategy identifying needed resources
  ➔ Euratom FP will continue to support research in the Community interest
• Openness / transparency / scientific credibility
  ➔ interaction with the broader scientific community
  ➔ appropriate involvement of other stakeholders
• In particular, constructive & effective interaction with safety authorities / TSOs
• Less advanced MS must also benefit
Points to ponder

• Regarding research, when is enough enough?
• Who decides whether the science is right?
• Is there certainty in this process?