Welcome Addresses for the 48th Annual Meeting on Nuclear Technology (AMNT 2017)

16–17 May 2017, Berlin

KTG (German Nuclear Society)
The Chairman

On behalf of the German Nuclear Society I would like to warmly welcome you to the 48th Annual Meeting on Nuclear Technology (AMNT 2017). Our organisation prepared once again an excellent and up-to-date conference programme. Particularly in these challenging times the contribution of all our KTG members who involve themselves personally with great commitment to nuclear energy „Made in Germany“ in general and especially for our Annual Meeting cannot be appreciated highly enough.

Operators, suppliers, authorities and experts, science and research are after all linked to a common central theme: Nuclear expertise must be preserved in Germany in order to ensure, among others, remaining power operation, decommissioning and dismantling of German plants and to present sustainable solutions to the issue of waste disposal, to guarantee the export business of German suppliers and service providers, to carry out national and international safety assessments and to receive also in the future the contribution of Germany innovations and standards on international developments for innovative technologies.

With regards to the concluding life cycles of German nuclear power plants – decommissioning and disposal of radioactive wastes – important course settings occurred in recent weeks:

The Bundestag passed the Site Selection Act for a final repository for high active waste. It defines the criteria and processes for the selection of a site, which shall be found until 2031 and put in operation by the middle of this century. The request that high active waste should be “retrievable” for 500 years documents very descriptively the long-term need for nuclear expertise.

The recommendation of the Expert Commission on the Disposal of Radioactive Waste was adapted by our Federal Government and the respective law of the Bundestag and Federal Council. The state takes over the responsibility for the interim and final disposal. In exchange suppliers will transfer significant resources to a state fund. In support of the current path for a direct decommissioning German authorities granted further licenses for decommissioning and dismantling.

We will reflect on these main focus points through different formats of our Annual Meeting and count on the professional dialogue between national and international knowledge holders. We continue at the AMNT with our successful formats of training young talents such as our nuclear campus or the workshop Preserving Competence.

I wish all participants for our Annual Meeting new insights, interesting encounters, contacts and conversations. The members of the KTG share all a common “Fascination for Nuclear Technology.” Get “infected” with the spirit of it...

Frank Apel

DATF (German Atomic Forum)
The President

On behalf of the DATF (German Atomic Forum) I would like to warmly welcome you to the 48th Annual Meeting on Nuclear Technology (AMNT 2017). As one of the most important conferences of the nuclear industry in Europe the AMNT provides in addition to the current technical and political issues an unique opportunity for the exchange among industry, science and politics.

In a few months a legislative period will come to an end in Germany which set important courses in the field of nuclear energy. The adoption of the Site Selection Act for Final Disposal as well as the reorganisation of financing disposal are, besides of the outlook for future tasks, only two points which Steffen Katz, Member of the German Bundestag, correspondent for nuclear energy of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, will talk about. Dr. Guido Knott, CEO of PreussenElektra, will report about the challenges of an economic operation of nuclear power plants for the remaining years.

A large and long-term challenge will be the maintenance and further development of our nuclear technology expertise. Not only Dr. Holger Vollke, head of division at the BAM will devote himself to this topic but as always also our Workshop Preserving Competence. Nuclear expertise is the basis for the safe operation of our plants and it provides us the opportunity to participate inside EURATOM and the EU at the further development and implementation of nuclear safety standards.

Nuclear know-how will also be needed for many years in the field of decommissioning and waste management, which will be treated along the panel discussion with NGO representatives, regional authorities, municipalities and energy producers as well as in the speech of Dr. Michael Siemann, head of section at the OECD-NEA.

As another highlight of the day, Prof. Dr. Ralph Hertwig, Director of the Center for Adaptive Rationality at the Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development will give us insights on how and how well go individual risk perception – also aside from nuclear issues – works.

I especially look forward to our industrial exhibition, which represents in large parts our industry in Germany and Europe also with two country pavilions from the United Kingdom and Czech Republic.

For our Annual Meeting, which is particularly shaped and filled with life by the outstanding expertise of our fellow employees of the nuclear industry, I wish all an inspiring fruitful and interesting exchange as well as a successful meeting. I look forward to the many personal conversations with you!

Dr. Ralf Güldner

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