

Joint communication EURAD-PREDIS on steps towards a EURAD-2 future EJP programme Version 1 – May 2022

The European Commission (as well as from the EURAD mid-term review) is promoting the continuation for both EURAD programme and PREDIS project in a merged future programme (called here EURAD-2). The initial step towards this new programme is the workshop to be held at the end of May 2022, to discuss feedback from the projects, European Commission (EC), Member States and key stakeholders. The workshop is arranged by the EC and is attended by invite only. The outcomes will be summarised for the participants, and shared to the EURAD and PREDIS partners.

The EURAD programme and PREDIS project decided to jointly issue this note to communicate to both Consortia about the planned further steps towards a EURAD-2 future EC programme and proposal.

The objectives of the workshop as defined by the EC are:

- To present the conclusions and recommendations of the experts performing EURAD's mid-term review (held between November 2021 and January 2022).
- To present an overview of EURAD achievements by the Programme Management Office and Chief Scientific Officer and the views of the Colleges (via the Bureau members).
- To present the feedback of the EURAD External Advisory Board on the progress and way forward.
- To present an overview of the PREDIS project's achievements by the project coordinators.
- EURAD and PREDIS together will give their first recommendations for a potential second European Joint Programme (EJP) format and way forward in preparing the proposal and governance structure.
- For European Commission representatives to provide input on the challenges in radioactive waste management research and the opportunity of a follow-up EJP.
- For Member State representatives to share their views on a future EJP on radioactive waste management.

Ultimately, the open exchanges chaired by the EC, between the participants, stakeholders and Member States' Fission Programme Committee are expected to further refine all recommendations for a future EJP as EURAD-2. It is anticipated that EURAD-2 could start in the later half of 2024, and the proposal would then need to be submitted in 2023.

It should be recalled that this workshop will not address or define technical topics that will be present in a future EJP as EURAD-2. The workshop is considered as a first step to identify recommendations that can be added by the EC in the call for proposals. **Therefore, Mandated Actors are encouraged to reach out to their Member States / national programmes representatives, prior to this workshop, to restate the importance of this workshop and assure that the representatives have all information needed to express their views on benefits from both EURAD and PREDIS and their expectations for a future programme.**

The timeline below is provisional and aims at providing an overview of next steps towards the next EJP. The anticipated next steps are to form the committee to prepare the EJP application in 2023,

