

# Organisational Structure of the NEA

The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is a semi-autonomous body of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. OECD member countries wishing to participate in the activities of the Agency must make a formal request to join. Of the 30 OECD member countries, 28 are members of the NEA:

Australia	France	Japan	Slovak Republic
Austria	Germany	Luxembourg	Spain
Belgium	Greece	Mexico	Sweden
Canada	Hungary	Netherlands	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Iceland	Norway	Turkey
Denmark	Ireland	Portugal	United Kingdom
Finland	Italy	Republic of Korea	United States

The NEA is governed by the **Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy**. This committee is primarily made up of senior officials from national atomic energy authorities and associated ministries. It oversees and shapes the work of the Agency to ensure its responsiveness to member countries' needs, notably in establishing the biennial programmes of work and budgets. It approves the mandates of the seven standing technical committees.

The current members of the **Bureau of the Steering Committee** for Nuclear Energy are (as of its autumn 2006 meeting):

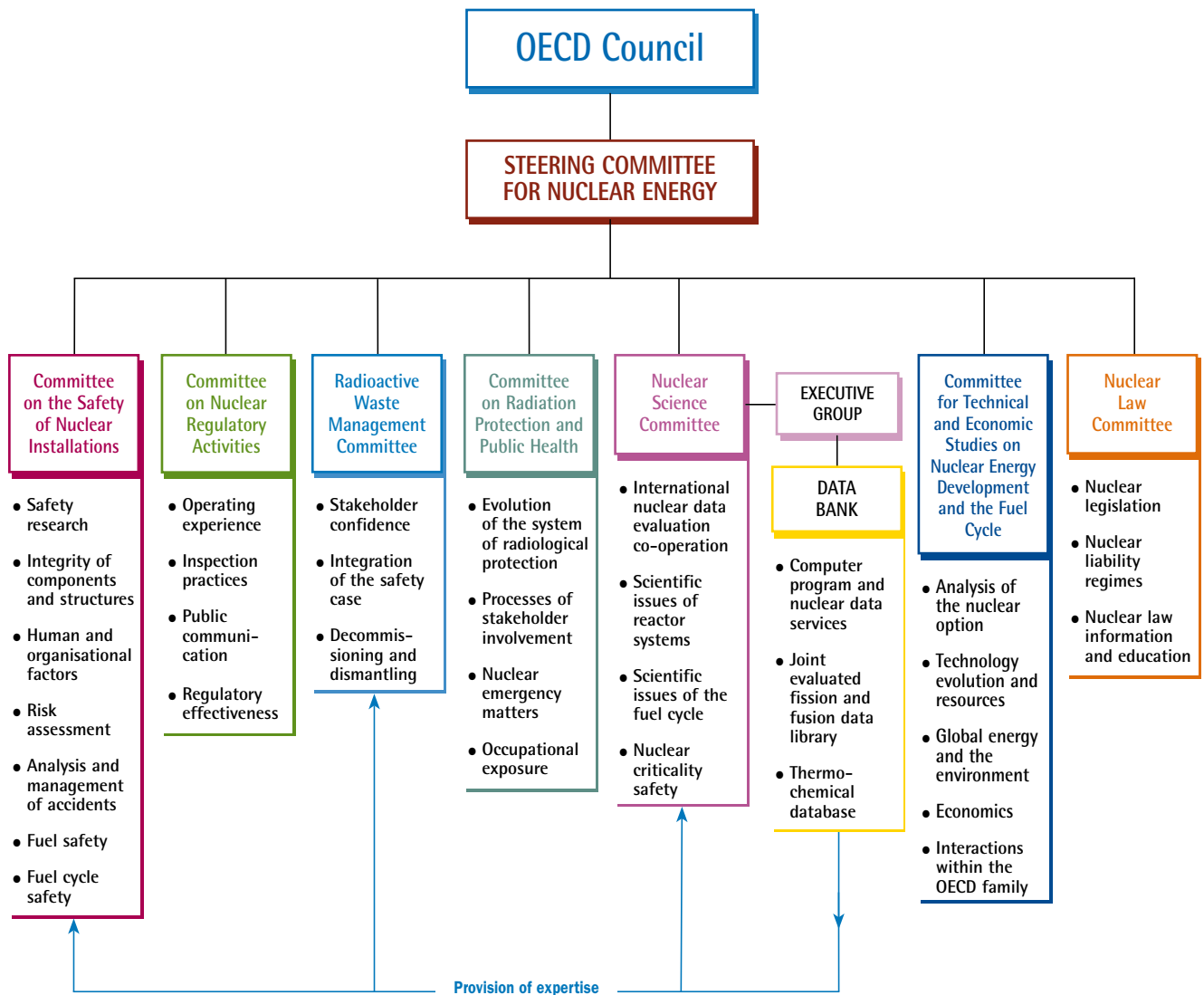
Mr. Richard STRATFORD (United States), Chair  
Ms. Sylvana GUINDON (Canada), Vice-Chair  
Dr. Walter SANDTNER (Germany), Vice-Chair  
Mr. Kenji SEYAMA (Japan), Vice-Chair  
Dr. József RÓNAKY (Hungary), Vice-Chair

The **standing technical committees** are primarily composed of member country experts and technical specialists. These committees constitute a unique feature and important strength of the NEA, providing flexibility for adapting to new issues and helping to achieve consensus rapidly. Their main areas of work are listed in the chart.

The Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy and the Agency's seven standing technical committees are serviced by the **NEA Secretariat**, composed in 2006 of 69 professional and support staff from 19 countries. Professional staff are often specialists from national administrations and research institutes, bringing their experience to the Agency for two to five years on average.

Participation in the work of the Agency by **non-member countries** is an established practice. At the end of 2006, the Steering Committee for Nuclear Energy and subsequently the OECD Council approved the text of a Joint Declaration on Co-operation between the Government of the Russian Federation and the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency in the Field of the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. Starting on 1 January 2007, the Russian Federation will hold regular observer status in all of the Agency's standing technical committees and their working groups, after having participated in the NEA nuclear safety committees for roughly a decade. Slovenia participates as a regular observer in all seven standing technical committees. Selected other countries take part in NEA activities on a more ad hoc basis.

# NEA Committees in 2006



NEA Secretariat in 2006

