

**INFORMATION AND MEMORY FOR FUTURE DECISION MAKING**  
**Radioactive waste and beyond**

A workshop<sup>1</sup> on preserving information and memory over centuries and millennia in the context of sustainable development and the future human environment

**21–23 May, 2019**  
**Näringslivets Hus, Storgatan 19, Stockholm**

**NEAR FINAL PROGRAMME (22 January 2019)**

		<b>21 MAY AFTERNOON</b>	
13:00	<b>1. OPENING TALKS</b>	<b>3 talks</b>	<p><i>1.a Welcome from DG of Sweden National Archives</i></p> <p><i>1.b Statement on expectations by the organizers</i></p> <p><i>1.c History of how and why the workshop came about</i></p>
	<b>2. SETTING THE SCENE</b>	<b>6 talks and a plenary discussion</b>	
13:30	<b><i>The discussion document for the workshop 20'+10'</i></b>	<b><i>C. Pescatore</i></b> <i>(Linnaeus University and Independent Consultant)</i>	The discussion document, its reference questions and draft principles. Introduction to the topics of the workshop.
14:00	<b><i>Cultural heritage, nuclear waste and the future 20'+10'</i></b>	<b><i>C. Holtorf, A. Högberg</i></b> <i>(Linnaeus University)</i>	Some lessons to be learned from collaborative research since 2011
14:30	<b><i>Social memory 20'+10'</i></b>	<b><i>Carina Green</i></b> <i>(Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)</i>	If we know how it worked in the past, do we have the tools for the future? How memory is created and preserved in society with

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<sup>1</sup> See Introductory text, attached to this program

			and without societal continuity.
15:00	<b>Local perspectives on memory in the context of managing future waste legacies 20'+10'</b>	<b>A. Bergsten</b> ( <i>Östhammar Kommun</i> ), <b>B. Liedberg-Jönsson</b> ( <i>Oskarshamn Kommun</i> )	Communities are faced with managing both radioactive and non-radioactive waste. They are both hazardous and long-lived. Latest recommendations by Env'I Court in the context of spent fuel management will be described.
15:30	<b>Coffee</b>		
16:00	<b>Role of the national archives in Sweden, especially with reference to future legacies 20'+10'</b>	( <i>National Archives of Sweden confirmed</i> )	What goes into the national archive? Which role does it have for "legacy" information? Links to other archives or memory institution? Which are strengths / vulnerabilities?
16:30	<b>NEA RK&amp;M project 20'+10'</b>	<b>Stephan Hotzel</b> ( <i>Chair of NEA RK&amp;M group</i> )	Main findings of the NEA RK&M project
17:00	<b>Recent perspectives on legislation in Sweden</b>	<b>G. Szendrö</b> ( <i>Senior Advisor at Swedish Ministry of Environment and Energy</i> )	
17:15	<b>Plenary Discussion 45'</b>	Carl-Henrik Pettersson ( <i>Swedish Radiation Safety Authority, SSM</i> )	Main outcomes of this session will be recorded by a SSM rapporteur and finalized with the help of the facilitator. They will be documented in the final proceedings.
18:00	<b>Adjourning and get together</b>	<b>Hosted by Swedish National Council for Nuclear Waste</b>	Finger food and non-alcoholic drinks. Alcoholic drinks to be payed individually.

		<b>22 MAY MORNING</b>	
8:15	<p><b>3. THEMES DISCUSSIONS</b></p> <p>4 themes overall. 1h30 per theme.</p> <p>Each theme is discussed within a small group.</p> <p>Group membership changes from one theme to another.</p> <p>2-3 groups may be formed for discussing each theme.</p>	Each theme is moderated by two facilitators.	<p>Each theme discussion addresses the questions and the draft principles identified in the discussion documents.</p> <p>The facilitators will introduce the theme and the questions in plenary, then they keep the discussion focused. Finally, they will record the main points so that one report is obtained on each theme and set of questions.</p>
8:15	<b>Introduction to themes of the day and structure of Workshop</b>	Carl-Henrik Pettersson <i>(Swedish Radiation Safety Authority)</i>	.
8:30	<b>Theme 1: Sustainable Development and information-and-memory preservation</b>	<p><i>Facilitators:</i> <b>J. Swahn</b> (MKG); <b>C. Pescatore</b> <i>(Linnaeus University and Independent Consultant)</i></p>	<p><i>Do we agree that enabling future generations to make their own informed decisions is a valid sustainable development principle that should receive recognition?</i></p> <p><i>Do we agree with the recommendation to maintain awareness of any long-term legacy? Do relevant governmental institutions accept this principle? May this principle be formulated in law?</i></p> <p><i>Is it a shared view that, when it comes to memory preservation and survival, the reliability of the current "rolling present" approach decreases in time other complementary approaches may need to be employed, if reliability needs to stay high? To whom should this finding be communicated?</i></p>
10:00	<b>Coffee</b>		

10:30	<p><b>Theme 2</b></p> <p><b>Law and Regulation and long-term responsibilities on preservation of memory in society</b></p>	<p><i>Facilitators:</i>  <b>2 SSM Specialists</b>  Carl-Henrik Pettersson and Annika Bratt  (Swedish Radiation Safety Authority)</p>	<p><i>Who is responsible – in Sweden - for a specific legacy after the activity leading to it has ended? Is it sufficient to say "The State"?</i></p> <p><i>For each specific legacy how to identify the relevant actors that will influence how information is going to be passed on to the future? Do these actors include only "institutional" actors or also society at large?</i></p> <p><i>How can these actors be structured? Who would do what and with which authority and funding?</i></p> <p><i>How to come up with the right questions in updating current law and regulation?</i></p> <p><i>How to open discussions with all stakeholders?</i>  <i>Is stewardship an option for the long-term? Is stewardship the same as oversight or part of it?</i>  <i>How to ensure that stewardship/oversight continues?</i></p>
12:00	<b>Lunch</b>		
		<b>22 MAY AFTERNOON</b>	
13:00	<p><b>Theme 3</b></p> <p><b>Role of actors vis-à-vis the future</b></p>	<p><i>Facilitators</i>  <b>E. Setzman, S. Tunbrant</b> (SKB)</p>	<p><i>Should the relevant actors clarify their intentions regarding the future, i.e., over the next decades, centuries and beyond?</i></p> <p><i>Who are the relevant actors? Which are their expectations? Which are the target audiences? What kind of solutions do they entail?</i></p> <p><i>How robust is the system, e.g., one day when responsibilities may be shifted to others? What kind of changes in current practices and management culture would intentions for future memory preservation entail?</i></p> <p><i>Do host communities and municipalities accept that they</i></p>

			<i>also could have a local role to play in informing future generations on certain decisions and actions taken today, e.g., on what the subsurface of their community may conceal, etc.?</i>
14:30	<b>Coffee</b>		
15:00	<b>Theme 4</b>  <b>The significance of cross-sectoral collaboration in managing societal challenges</b>	<i>Facilitators:</i> <b>C. Holtorf, A. Högberg</b> <i>(Linnaeus University)</i>	<i>How can cross-sectoral collaboration be brought about? What can it help we manage? Which are specific strengths and weaknesses?</i>  <i>A discussion of experiences and lessons from collaborations and partnerships between different public, public-private and civil society collaborators.</i>
16:30	<b>Fruit break mingle</b>		
		<b>Facilitators on same theme prepare one combined 10-minutes theme report for next day.</b> <b>Others adjourn</b>	
		<b>23 MAY MORNING</b>	
	<b>4. LESSONS TO BE LEARNED</b>		
8:30	<b>Theme Reports</b>	4 theme reports in all. One rapporteur from each theme of the day before reports on the answers to the questions and connections to, or statements on, draft guiding principles.	Each theme has 10 minutes followed by 10 minutes discussion.
9:40	<b>Coffee</b>		
10:00	<b>Discussion of the draft guiding principles in</b>	<b>C. Pescatore</b> <i>(Linnaeus University)</i>	Structured discussion/comments on each point.

	<p><b>the discussion document</b></p> <p>Note: all participants are asked to familiarize themselves and prepare for this discussion before and during to the workshop.</p>	<p><i>and Independent Consultant)</i></p>	<p>The aim here is to collect further input for the finalization by the full working group in their afternoon session.</p>
11:15	<p><b>Independent perspective on the workshop from a relevant person</b></p> <p><b>20'</b></p>	<p><b><i>T. Svanelid</i></b> <i>(Journalist)</i></p>	
11:45	<p><b>5. CLOSURE</b></p>		
	<p><b>Overall remarks</b></p>	<p><b><i>A. Storm</i></b> <i>(Stockholm University)</i></p>	
	<p><b>Final salutations</b></p>	<p><b><i>C.-R. Bråkenhielm</i></b> <i>(Swedish National Council for Nuclear Waste)</i></p>	
12:00	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>		

## **INFORMATION AND MEMORY FOR FUTURE DECISION MAKING - Radioactive waste and beyond**

A workshop on preserving information and memory over centuries and millennia in the context of sustainable development and the future human environment

**Stockholm 21–23 May, 2019**

Sustainable development has been defined in many ways. The most frequently quoted definition is from the Brundtland Report. *"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."* One of the needs that future generations will have to meet is the ability to make decisions, specifically concerning legacies inherited from the past.

The present workshop, and supporting discussion document, is about starting a broad-based reflection in Sweden and elsewhere on how to help future society maintain or regain awareness of some of the most relevant legacies that they will inherit – notably nuclear waste. Such reflection would also identify difficulties, potential conflict of interests, target achievements and potential paths forward.

This workshop and reflection are timely in Sweden, in that the Swedish government is in the process of deciding about a repository for final disposal of spent nuclear fuel to last 100 000 years. A similar, deep underground repository for the indefinite isolation of mercury-tainted and other processing waste is slated to be operating shortly. Even if current management approaches may not require human beings' continued attention or presence, ought we not facilitate the task of dealing with those legacies - specifically by providing relevant documentation and information - if that is what future societies may want or need?

At the same time, there are about 80,000 potentially or confirmed contaminated areas in Sweden, of which approximately 1,300 have been assessed to entail very great risks to human health or the environment. When they will be remediated, the polluted soils will be disposed of in a number of deposits that will be constructed all over the country. How then to ensure that future generations will remember that these places must be considered to be off-limits for housing, play grounds etc.? Besides, will all of these deposits function as planned? In this case too, the need arises to conceive a **Records, Knowledge and Memory (RK&M)** preservation strategy that will support future generations to make decisions based on exploitable information.

The workshop will take advantage of national and international thinking in the field of RK&M preservation, including the findings of a recent, eponymous international project dealing more specifically with radioactive waste. Nuclear waste, whose literature on the subject is fairly large and recent, can act as a useful trigger for better understanding the wider questions at hand as well as suggest possible strategies and tools. A discussion document made available in advance of the workshop provides background to the relevant questions for the workshop as well as a draft set of principles that would inform future actions in the area of memory preservation.

During the last decades the issue of RK&M preservation has moved up on the agenda in Sweden and in other countries. Eventually, this may create a critical mass towards strengthening and enlarging current practices in records, knowledge and memory preservation for the benefit of future generations.

**The Organizing Committee includes members from the following Swedish entities**

- National Archives of Sweden (Riksarkivet)
- Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM)
- Swedish National Council for Nuclear Waste (Kärnavfallsrådet)
- Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Company (SKB)
- Östhammar Municipality
- Oskarshamn Municipality
- Swedish NGO Office for Nuclear Waste Review (MKG)
- Linnaeus University
- Stockholm University