First meeting of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Standards Committee

30 Nov to 2 Dec 2015

Agenda Item EP3.1

Safety Guide on Arrangements for Public Communications in Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency (DS475)

Status Update

Incident and Emergency Centre
Background

- Past radiation emergencies show need for:
  - Transparent, timely, clear, factually correct information
- With the objective of:
  - Effectively implementing protective actions
  - Mitigating consequences of fear and psychological effects of radiation emergencies
- Tools exist but no safety standards:
  - Effective public communications contingent on level of preparedness
  - Need for recommendations, principles, good practices
Justification

- DS475 will support GSR Part 7
- Emergency public communications not extensively covered in Safety Standards
- Harmonize public communications arrangements in radiation incidents and emergencies
- Interlink with operational documents under Emergency Conventions: IEComm and JPLAN
- Provide basis for use of existing and planned EPR public communications practical tools
Recommendation 1
• IAEA to develop, in consultation with international organizations, a framework to deal with the underlying question of ‘What is safe?’

Recommendation 2
• IAEA to develop, through EPReSC, communication material to be used by decision makers, relevant authorities and organizations to provide scientifically based information to the public on issues relating to nuclear or radiological emergency.
Objective, Scope and Audience

• Provide guidance to MS in developing arrangements for communicating with the public and media and coordinating with all sources of official information in the response to a nuclear or radiological emergency.
• Applicable to full range of nuclear and radiological emergencies, regardless of cause, including specific consideration for nuclear security event particularities.
• Audience: those responsible for communicating with the public and media in a radiation emergency within all organizations involved in EPR at facility, local, national and international levels.
History of development

- Document Preparation Profile (DPP) prepared
  - 1Q 2013
- DPP approved by review Committees
  - 3Q/4Q 2013
- DPP approved by Commission on Safety Standards
  - November 2013
- Drafting:
  - 2014 – 2015
  - 3CSs in 2014
Ad-hoc Working Group on DS475

• Established in November 2014
  • To increase the involvement of international organizations
  • Under the framework of Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNE)
  • Comprises of representatives of 9 international organizations
Activities planned

• 2016:
  • To continue drafting
  • To hold consultancy meetings and consultations (with Member States, international organizations, internal), as appropriate
  • To hold a Technical Meeting

• 2016-2017:
  • To address outcomes of the Technical Meeting
  • To prepare the draft for submission to SSCs for first review
Thank you for your attention!