Agenda item 4.2

NST 020 Draft Implementing Guide: Sustaining a Nuclear Security Regime

Rhonda Evans, Division of Nuclear Security
This draft Implementing Guide is being presented to NUSSC for approval for publication.

This Implementing Guide provides guidance to States, competent authorities, authorized persons and other organizations with nuclear security responsibilities on the objectives and actions to sustain a nuclear security regime.

“Sustainability” is defined by the set of objectives and implementing actions incorporated into the nuclear security regime to support its continuing effectiveness.

If the nuclear security regime is to remain effective it needs to be sustained over time at both the national and operational levels and those different levels of the nuclear security regime need to work together in a consistent and complementary manner.
There are 8 national objectives with actions:

- 2.1 Building and maintaining national commitment to nuclear security
- 2.2 Establishing and regularly reviewing the legislative and regulatory framework
- 2.3. Defining roles and responsibilities and ensuring accountability
- 2.4. Updating the national threat assessment and using a risk-informed approach
- 2.5. Conducting effective planning and organization
- 2.6. Developing human resources
- 2.7. Fostering a robust nuclear security culture
- 2.8. Maintaining oversight of and regularly evaluating the nuclear security regime

There are 7 operational objectives with actions:

- 3.1. Managing and planning for sustainable operations
- 3.2. Identifying and applying current threat information
- 3.3. Developing and maintaining nuclear security competencies
- 3.4. Establishing and implementing a maintenance programme
- 3.5. Applying configuration management
- 3.6. Promoting robust nuclear security culture
- 3.7. Conduct compliance and performance evaluations
The document was developed following DPP approval through a number of consultancy meetings and a technical meeting in the period 2013-2014.

During the 120 day comment period a total of 6 States provided comments and two other States simply endorsed the draft in its entirety.

One State has sustained its objection to the document throughout the comment and comment resolution periods, principally on the basis that the draft does not contain sufficient guidance for a State in relation to sustainability programmes, in particular those referred to in Nuclear Security Series No 13 Nuclear Security Recommendations on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities. Guidance that pertains to programmes at the facility level is contained in the operational level objectives and actions.

This document is broader than a sustainability programme (NSS 13) and provide guidance for sustainability of an entire national nuclear security regime as contemplated in Essential Element 12 of the Nuclear Security Fundamentals (NSS 20).
The comment resolution table illustrates the resolution of all comments, including those received after the 120 day period and in response to further comments of committee members.

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