DISCUSSION ON F/2015/01

1. Background
In TRANSSC 31, the proposal F/2015/01 to add emergency response to the objective of the Regulations was approved with inserting one sentence to para. 104. However there were comments that the sentence seemed to be placed in better place and the text could be improved. TRANSSC concluded that it should be further elaborated in the Consultancy Meeting in February.

2. Proposals

Original proposal F/2015/01

104. The objective of these Regulations is to establish requirements that must be satisfied to ensure safety and to protect persons, property and the environment from the effects of radiation in the transport of radioactive material. This protection is achieved by requiring:

(a) Containment of the radioactive contents;
(b) Control of external dose equivalent rate;
(c) Prevention of criticality;
(d) Prevention of damage caused by heat.

These requirements are satisfied firstly by applying a graded approach to contents limits for packages and conveyances and to performance standards applied to package designs, depending upon the hazard of the radioactive contents. Secondly, they are satisfied by imposing conditions on the design and operation of packages and on the maintenance of packagings, including consideration of the nature of the radioactive contents. Thirdly they are satisfied by implementing arrangements for planning and preparing emergency response in order to mitigate the consequences of potential events. Finally, they are satisfied by requiring administrative controls, including, where appropriate, approval by competent authorities.

Current para.104 describes the objective of the Regulations as “to establish requirements to ensure safety and protection for persons, properties and environment”, and it is achieved by setting requirements on the safety functions (a) – (d). Then, these requirements on (a) – (d) are satisfied by:
- Firstly, to apply graded approach to contents limits and performance standards.
- Secondly, to impose conditions on the design, operation and maintenance.
- Finally, to require administrative controls.

Since emergence response is required when one or more safety functions (a) – (d) were failed, the insertion of the proposed sentence among “Firstly to Finally” does not seem to fit well.

Then, the following options are proposed to be discussed in the Consultancy.
Option 1: To move the proposed sentence to the end of the paragraph.

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These requirements are satisfied firstly by applying a graded approach to contents limits for packages and conveyances and to performance standards applied to package designs, depending upon the hazard of the radioactive contents. Secondly, they are satisfied by imposing conditions on the design and operation of packages and on the maintenance of packagings, including consideration of the nature of the radioactive contents. Finally, they are satisfied by requiring administrative controls, including, where appropriate, approval by competent authorities. In addition, they are satisfied by implementing arrangements for planning and preparing emergency response in order to mitigate the consequences of potential events.

Option 2: To tailor the proposed sentence.

The subject of proposed sentence (they = these requirements) contradicts the context since emergency response is required when these requirements are failed to be satisfied.

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(c) Prevention of criticality;
(d) Prevention of damage caused by heat.

These requirements are satisfied firstly by applying a graded approach to contents limits for packages and conveyances and to performance standards applied to package designs, depending upon the hazard of the radioactive contents. Secondly, they are satisfied by imposing conditions on the design and operation of packages and on the maintenance of packagings, including consideration of the nature of the radioactive contents. Finally, they are satisfied by requiring administrative controls, including, where appropriate, approval by competent authorities. Further, to provide confidence in protection in case when these requirements are failed to be satisfied, implementing arrangements for planning and preparing emergency response is required in order to mitigate the consequences of potential events.
Option 3: To move to para. 105.

From a viewpoint of framework of paragraphs under the subtitle “OBJECTIVES”, para.104 addresses the requirements on (a) – (d), whose concrete details are prescribed in the Sections IV to VIII. Meanwhile, other important elements such as management systems or compliance assurance are addressed in para. 105, but their requirements are not prescribed in detail in the Section III, but references to guidance documents are provided, since concrete requirements are dependent to situation in the Member States. So, the proposed sentence better fits to para.105.

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These requirements are satisfied firstly by applying a graded approach to contents limits for packages and conveyances and to performance standards applied to package designs, depending upon the hazard of the radioactive contents. Secondly, they are satisfied by imposing conditions on the design and operation of packages and on the maintenance of packagings, including consideration of the nature of the radioactive contents. Finally, they are satisfied by requiring administrative controls, including, where appropriate, approval by competent authorities.

105. In the transport of radioactive material, the safety of persons and the protection of property and the environment are assured when these Regulations are complied with. Confidence in this regard is achieved through management system and compliance assurance programmes. **Further confidence is provided by implementing arrangements for planning and preparing emergency response in order to mitigate the consequences of potential events.**

More can be said when moved to the Advisory Material SSG-26, but it seems out of the TRANSSC decision.