

**Introductory Remarks**

**Agenda Item 3 – Implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear  
Safety (GOV/INF/2012/16)**

**Vienna**

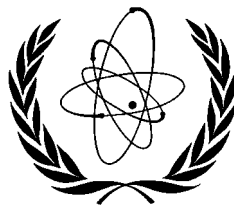
**Board of Governors Meeting**

**29 November 2012**

**Denis Flory**

**Deputy Director General**

**Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security**



**INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

Mister Chairman, I would like to provide you with a brief introduction for item 3 of the Draft Agenda, which pertains to the report by the Director General on “Progress in the Implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety”.

The document GOV/INF/2012/16 gives in a succinct format all the information about activities performed in the frame of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety endorsed by the General Conference in September 2011, following the format of earlier reports to the Board.

Since our previous report, as the DG noted in his Introductory statement, significant progress continues to be achieved in several key areas, and I would like to mention some significant achievements, with the usual caveat that we consider all areas covered by the Action Plan as equally important.

In the field of safety assessment, the international expert mission we conducted in July 2012 at the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant to examine the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake on structures, systems and components important for safety, will allow us to significantly expand our database on the resistance to earthquakes of structures, systems and components important to safety. This database is available to Member States for use in developing earthquake preparedness and response plans.

In the field of peer reviews, the Methodology to Assess the Safety Vulnerabilities of Nuclear Power Plants against Site Specific Extreme Natural Hazards was extended to include consideration of the robustness of NPP systems in relation to the combined effects of extreme natural events. This extension serves at the same time for the methodology provided to MS, and to strengthen our Design Safety Review Service.

I am glad to mention that the number of Peer Review missions conducted is at a continuous high. In the report we mention four Emergency Preparedness Review missions, one Integrated Regulatory Review Service, and three Operational Safety Review Team missions. Since the time of printing, we have conducted four more OSART mission.

Concerning cooperation with operating organisations, it is worthwhile highlighting the new Memorandum of Understanding signed during the 56th General Conference by Director General Amano and Mr Laurent Stricker, Chairman of WANO. The new Memorandum of Understanding between IAEA and WANO enables the two organizations to work more closely together to support the safe and reliable operation of nuclear power plants worldwide, and to enhance information exchange on operating experience and other relevant areas.

As concerns the international legal framework, the Secretariat provided support to the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the CNS held in August 2012. The significance of this event is wider than the international legal framework, as, in addition to reviewing and discussing the lessons learned so far from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident and reviewing the effectiveness of the CNS, the Contracting Parties addressed wider issues such as the application of the Agency's safety standards; the enhancement of transparency; regulatory effectiveness; and the use of international peer review missions.

I would like also to mention the development of a methodology to support the self-assessment of national infrastructures for safety. This methodology, called the Integrated Review of Infrastructure for Safety, is tailored to the needs of a regulatory body during each phase of the development of a nuclear power programme.

Finally, Mister Chairman, I would like to mention the undertaking of a review of generic criteria for radioactive material in food, animal feed and drinking water, in cooperation with the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as other relevant international organizations, to clarify, harmonize and update, if appropriate, the existing guidance documents on contamination levels in food, animal feed and drinking water after nuclear or radiological emergencies.

Thank you Mister Chairman.