

**INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT TO THE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

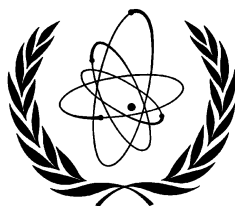
**Vienna**

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**Deputy Director General**

**Department of Nuclear Safety and Security**



**INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

Mr Chairman, distinguished Ambassadors, board members, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to provide you with a brief introduction for item 2 of the Agenda regarding the Agency's activities related to strengthening nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety:

- Item 2a on the Agenda: *Nuclear Safety Review 2012*

This year, as previously, the review addresses the past year, but as the final document is to be adopted by the General Conference, in September 2012, we have aligned the title with that of the Nuclear Technology Review, and the Nuclear Security report.

The draft *Nuclear Safety Review 2012* highlights some of the critical challenges faced by the international nuclear community. These challenges include: incorporating the safety lessons learned from the nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi NPP into new, expanding and existing nuclear power safety programmes; strengthening emergency preparedness and response in Member States; managing radioactive materials in the long term as well as limiting radiation exposure; building capacity and safety infrastructures in newcomer countries for sustainable nuclear safety; and managing ageing nuclear power plants and research reactors.

- The second safety item, 2b on the Agenda: *Draft Safety Requirements: Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material*

The draft was developed following the policy for reviewing and revising the Agency's Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (GOV/2005/31). A decision was made by the Transport Safety Standards Committee and the Commission on Safety Standards that a revision was warranted on this occasion, following a review, which drew upon expertise from Member States and considered the need for harmony with requirements from other relevant UN system organizations such as the International Maritime Organisation, and the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

One item in the draft - the international transport of contaminated persons for urgent medical treatment - relates to the accident at Fukushima Daiichi NPP. This was

implemented urgently by ICAO for air transport to ensure that capability was in place during the response to the accident. Further lessons will be reflected during the next regular review cycle.

There were several other changes in this draft: improving the controls for transport of limited amounts of fissile material (fissile excepted material), new requirements for small quantities of uranium hexafluoride, and revision of requirements for Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material. Additionally, requirements for the carriers concerning transport documentation were further harmonised with the requirements for other dangerous goods.

The draft has been subject to the rigorous IAEA safety standards review process that allows Member States to comment on all proposed revisions. Between June and November 2011, it was approved by the four safety standards committees then endorsed by the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS). Corresponding revised guidance material has also been drafted and will be considered by the CSS at their meeting later this month.

[Please note that a corrigendum to the Spanish text has been issued. ]

- Safety item 2c: *Progress in the Implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety.*

In addition to the items addressed by the Director General, the Secretariat continues to advance the implementation of the Nuclear Safety Action Plan in strengthening and better coordinating its peer review missions, and further enhance cooperation in activities relative to newcomer countries. The Secretariat is organizing or co-organizing a variety of conferences, workshops and meetings to be held this year and next, including:

- *International Experts Meeting on Reactor and Spent Fuel Safety in the light of the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, Vienna, Austria, March 2012;*
- *International Experts Meeting on Enhancing Transparency and Communication Effectiveness in the event of a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, Vienna, Austria, June 2012;*
- *The extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, Vienna, Austria, August 2012;*

- *International Workshop on Protection against Extreme Earthquake and Tsunami, Vienna, Austria, August 2012;*
- *The Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, December 2012;*
- *International Experts Meeting on Remediation and Decommissioning, location to be decided, March 2013; and*
- *International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems, Canada, April 2013.*

The Secretariat will keep the Board, Member States and the Public apprised through both its Nuclear Safety Action Plan public website and the new Nuclear Safety Action Plan Web Platform.

Now more than ever, international coordination and collaboration will be increasingly required to address these challenges and respond to global issues in order to make nuclear power safer and to restore public trust.

### **Concluding Remarks**

To conclude, the Board is recommended:

- to consider and take note of the draft Nuclear Safety Review 2012,
- to establish the Draft Safety Requirements: *“Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material”* as an Agency safety standard,
- and to authorize the Director General to promulgate these Specific Safety Requirements and to issue them as a Specific Safety Requirements publication.

Thank you for your attention.