IAEA Member State Board of Governor's Nuclear Safety Technical Briefing 22 February 2013



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GOV/2013/4: Nuclear Safety Review 2013

GOV/INF/2013/1: Implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety

GOV/INF/2013/2: Fukushima Conference on Nuclear Safety





Global "Big Picture"



- Noteworthy progress in strengthening nuclear safety in 2012.
- Operational safety level remained high | there is room for further improvement.
- Long term operation and ageing continue to challenge NPP and research reactor operators and regulators.
- Continued to share lessons learned from the Fukushima
 Daiichi accident | IEMs | CSS | CNS | Fukushima Ministerial
 Conference.
- Continued to strengthen regional and international knowledge networks.



Radiation Protection and Transport Safety



- Complexity of radiotherapy procedures and challenges associated with occupational exposure.
- International consensus required on the Code of Conduct on the Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Material Inadvertently Incorporated into Scrap Metal.
- Long term management strategies and practical arrangements needed to strengthen the safe and secure control over radiation sources; expansion of security guidance also needed to help strengthen the radiation regulatory framework.
- Variations in the application of transport regulations in Member States have resulted in shipping difficulties and delays.



Strengthening the Safety of Waste Management, Decommissioning and Remediation.



- Establishing comprehensive policies and strategies for radioactive waste and spent fuel management lag behind.
- No solutions implemented for the disposal of high level radioactive waste and spent fuel.
- Continuing need for radioactive waste and spent fuel storage capacity; dual purpose casks could be an economical alternative.
- Decommissioning progress continues to be made, but some impediments persist; inadequate funding, regulations, management and training continue to be factors.
- Former uranium production sites continue to pose risks that must be addressed.



Strengthening Safety in Nuclear Installations



- "Human error bears a potential for jeopardizing defence in depth
 ..."— errors of commission in particular.
- Nuclear organizations tend to take an inadequate, ad hoc approach to safety culture in their nuclear operations, As a result, changes in safety culture have been insufficient and unsustainable requires a systematic, long term commitment.
- Recent events point to the fact that nuclear installations need to be better prepared to manage the unexpected.
- Newcomer countries do not use the Site and External Events Design (SEED) review service.
- SAMGs were insufficient in scope, not fully trained, or nonexistent in some NPPs.



Improving Regulatory Infrastructure and Effectiveness



- Existing Nuclear Programmes: Review of 44 IRRS missions (31 at NPP MSs) worldwide found that Requirement 24, "demonstration of safety for the authorization of facilities and activities" was most often referred to among Regulators reviewed.
- Newcomer Countries: identified many common weaknesses and challenges: weak regulatory independence, lack of technical support, limited education and training programmes, short project schedules.
- Regulatory Infrastructure for radiation safety: new Member States often limited, or no regulatory framework in place to ensure the safety of people and the environment



Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response



- Eight EPREV missions in 2012, the highest number since the programme began in 1999.
- States' increasing interest in EPR, will require more EPREV
 missions in the coming years, which will require more experts,
 and more resources from the Agency and the Member States
- IACRNE, et al, agreed to enhance international response arrangements in an emergency as well as in the post-emergency phase based on lessons identified in response to the Fukushima Daiichi accident (December 2012, Paris meeting)
- Developing minimum required guidelines that would help to harmonize response capabilities with some Member States for international assistance; to be effective, Member States need to comply with them.



Civil Liabilities



- Effective civil liability mechanisms to insure against harm caused by nuclear damage
- Action Plan specifically calls on Member States to work towards establishing a global nuclear liability regime that addresses the concerns of all States that might be affected by a nuclear accident with a view to providing appropriate compensation
- Member States to give consideration to joining the international nuclear liability instruments
- Action Plan also calls on INLEX to recommend actions to facilitate the achievement of such a global regime.
- Challenge: low number of Contracting Parties to the existing nuclear liability conventions





The Board is recommended to consider and take note of the draft

Nuclear Safety Review 2013

NSR final version will be prepared in light of discussions in the Board of Governors and Member State comments received before 15

April 2013

