

IAEA 51st General Conference Senior Regulators' Meeting

Chair Summary



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*Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century
1957-2007*

Chair Summary, Sessions I and II: IRRS

Interesting to note a significant number of common view on the following:

- Review by peers with involvement of high level international experts with experience in the same activities (regulatory experience)
- Common basis with well recognized safety standards
- Self-assessment is a key step
- Embarking into an IRRS review is a strategic decision to be part of a strategic plan and will influence it. It implies a strong commitment and need strong involvement of all the staff
- The modular approach allows for the necessary flexibility to adjust to the needs in a customers' approach and take into account the resources available



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Chair Summary, Sessions I and II (cont'd)

Common views (cont'd)

- IRRS is cost effective, and even more if the scope and the timing of the mission are chosen to maximise the benefit
- Need to have a worldwide planning to optimize the use of resources, in terms of reviewers from the MS
- Need to mutually share the experience, through networking so as to have mutual benefits in addition to the benefits from individual missions. Worldwide continuous learning and improvement
- Planning for the follow-up mission to be considered as well as part of the whole process

Chair Summary, Sessions I and II (cont'd)

Proposed improvements

- Optimize the self-assessment documentation and avoid repetition
- Interest of preparing a report for outside readers. Extension of the executive summary
- Ensure consistency and continuity to maintain an objective assessment
- Preference to maintain missions in one part with an optimum duration between 10 days and two weeks

Chair Summary, Sessions I and II (cont'd)

Other proposals, questions, for further investigation

- How to address specific situations like federal states ?
- Shall we establish a concept of periodic regulatory reviews like the PSR for NPPs ?
- Shall we further integrate the service with security and safeguards ?

Chair Summary, Session III

Report on the earthquake impact to the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP; and
Enhancing Operational Feedback: Regulatory Control during outages and refueling

- Two reports were provided by the Japanese Authorities, available on the Senior Regulator Web page
- The Chair concluded from the discussion that there is no perfect regulatory system. This re-confirms the need for continuous improvement and particularly through international cooperation

Chair Summary, Session III (Cont'd)

Regulatory Control of Medical applications

- This is an important issue. There is a need for urgent improvements
- There is a significant number of accidents and incidents whose main cause is related to human and organizational factors
- There is therefore a crucial need to enhance event reporting in order to improve safety through experience feedback and to enhance communication to the public. France is experimenting a rating scale compatible with INES. Improvement take time due to cultural changes implications for the medical community
- Need to involve health Departments, manufacturers and professional associations to improve the design and procedures, including QA
- Need to reinforce regulatory inspection of medical applications