



Status of Licencing DSRS Storage Facility in Nigeria

Okafor O. N.

Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NNRA)

**TM on the Implementation of the CoC on Safety & Security of
RS with Regard to Long Term Strategies for the Management of
Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources (DSRS)**

27th Feb. to 1st March 2012

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria



DSRS Storage Facility

- ❖ Does Nigeria own a DSRS storage facility?
- ❖ Does Nigeria possess the regulations to Licence a DSRS storage facility?

Introduction



- **Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006**

Legal basis is derived from the Nuclear Safety And Radiation Protection Act No. 19 (1995)
- **National Radioactive Waste Management Policy and Strategy**
- Nigeria has a **temporary Radioactive Waste Management Facility (RWMF)**



Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006

Objective

- These Regulations set up the basic technical and organizational requirements to be complied with by waste generators and operators of waste management facilities in order to ensure the protection of human health and the environment from the hazards associated with radioactive waste within and beyond Nigeria's borders.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



Licence application

- No person or organization shall generate or manage radioactive waste without an appropriate Licence from the NNRA.
- The Designated Radioactive Waste Management Facility operator shall apply in a written application for the Licence to the NNRA.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



- An applicant shall pay such fees as prescribed by the NNRA to cover the cost of the licensing procedures.
- The licensee shall comply with all limits and conditions specified in the Licence and the Licence is valid for such a period as the NNRA may determine.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



- **Nigeria, as stated in its regulations, returns disused sealed radioactive source to supplier.**
- A person or organization that proposes to import or acquire a device containing a sealed radioactive source shall require the supplier, to receive the source back after its useful lifetime as a condition of any contract for the purchase or transfer.
- A copy of the contract shall be submitted to the NNRA upon application to import the source.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



- The owner of the sealed radioactive sources shall be responsible to return the disused sealed radioactive source to the supplier in accordance to the contract.
- Where the owner fails to return the disused sealed radioactive source it shall be appropriately transferred to the **temporary Radioactive Waste Management Facility (RWMF)** for conditioning, storage and eventual return to its manufacturer at the cost to the owner of the source.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



- **Physical protection**

Radioactive Waste Management Facilities shall ensure adequate physical protection measures to prevent any unauthorized access to the radioactive waste, and the NNRA shall approve of such physical security arrangements.

- Recently, Nigeria has embarked on physical security upgrade of the RWMF to meet all practicable international standards. This was done with assistance from the IAEA and GTRI program.

Nigerian Radioactive Waste Management Regulations, 2006



- **Reporting to the NNRA**
- **Emergency preparedness**
- **The NNRA possess the Right of Entry and Inspection**
- Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations has committed an offence and shall be liable to the penalties as established in the enforcement policy issued by the NNRA.

Radioactive Waste Management Policy and Strategies



- The radioactive waste management policies in Nigeria are prescribed in the Act 19 of 1995 and in the National Radioactive Waste Management Policy and Strategy.
- The framework for the policy stipulates that Nigeria will comply with the basic principles developed by the IAEA for safe management of radioactive materials
- **In principle, Nigeria will not import radioactive waste but will share in the responsibility for global and regional radioactive waste management issues.**

Radioactive Waste Management Policy and Strategies



- The Radioactive Waste Management Policy and Strategy serves as a national commitment to address the country's radioactive waste issues in a coordinated and co-operative manner.
- It envisages that the management of radioactive waste in Nigeria shall be in accordance with national objectives and recognized international principles as set out in the Policy.
- The management plan shall be in consonance with the provisions of other existing relevant acts and regulations in the country, for example Ministry of Housing and Environment, Ministry of Mines and Steel, Department of Petroleum Resources and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Temporary Radioactive Waste Management Facility (RWWMF)



- It has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NNRA on Management of the RWWMF
- The temporary storage facility has been licensed for temporary storage of retrieved legacy sources pending their repatriation or their eventual containment and final storage or disposal.



Thank you.