

The International Legal Framework for Nuclear Safety – Developments and Challenges

ATOMEXPO

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IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety

- Response to the Fukushima accident
- Objective of the conference: draw lessons from the Fukushima accident in order to strengthen nuclear safety, emergency preparedness and radiation protection of people and the environment throughout the world
- Declaration by the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety adopted on 20 June 2011

IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety

- Approved by the IAEA Board of Governors on 13 September 2011, endorsed by the General Conference during its 55th regular session.
- Purpose: Define a programme of work to strengthen the global nuclear safety framework in light of the Fukushima accident
- 12 actions have been identified
- Progress reports in the Implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety provided to the BOG
- Action Plan Dashboard available on the IAEA website

IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety

- Action 7: International Legal Framework

3 sub actions identified

1. States parties to explore mechanisms to enhance the effective implementation of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, the Convention on the Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, and to consider proposals made to amend the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Convention on the Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident

Convention on Nuclear Safety

- Sixth Review Meeting – to be held on 24 March to 3 April 2014
- Following the Fukushima accident, CP agreed to include in their National Reports their responses to any lessons emerging from the accident
- An Extraordinary Meeting on the Fukushima accident and the Organizational Meeting for the Sixth Review Meeting to be held in the week of 27 to 31 August 2012
- Objectives of the Extraordinary meeting : enhance safety through reviewing and sharing lessons learned and actions taken by Contracting Parties in response to the Fukushima accident and to reviewing the effectiveness and, if necessary, the continued suitability of the provisions of the CNS
- Proposals for amendments to the CNS received from the Russian Federation, Switzerland and Spain.

Joint Convention on the safety of spent fuel management and on the safety of radioactive waste management

- Article 30 of the JC: Review Meetings every three years. Last review meeting in May 2009
- Fourth Review Meeting convened on 14 to 23 May 2012.
- 54 Contracting Parties attended.
- Country Groups sessions discussed the National reports which also included a part on the implications of the Fukushima accident on spent fuel and radioactive waste management
- Willingness of the Contracting Parties to ensure continuity of the work between the review meetings and enhance the effectiveness of the peer review process.

Convention on Early Notification / Convention on Assistance

- Convention on Early Notification : since May 2011 - 5 new Contracting Parties
- On 21 June 2011 : Proposals for amendments by the Russian Federation.
- Convention on Assistance: Since may 2011: 3 new Contracting Parties
- Sixth Meeting of Representatives of the Competent Authorities identified under the emergency conventions held on April 2012

Legislative assistance

- Sub action 2 of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety:

“ Member States to be encouraged to join and effectively implement the Safety Conventions”
- Tools to promote the adherence and the implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety
 - Awareness missions
 - Nuclear Law Institute
 - Handbook on Nuclear Law – Vol. III
 - E-learning platform

Nuclear Liability

- Sub action 3 of the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety:
 - Member States to work towards establishing a global nuclear liability framework that addresses the concerns of all States that might be affected by a nuclear accident with a view to providing appropriate compensation for nuclear damage.
 - The IAEA International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability (INLEX) to recommend actions to facilitate achievement of such a global framework.
 - Member States to give due consideration to the possibility of joining the international nuclear liability instruments as a step toward achieving such a global regime

INLEX

- Special session – December 2011/ Discuss the role of INLEX in the implementation of the Action Plan
- 3 IAEA/INLEX Missions done and 3 more under preparation,
- 12th INLEX Meeting Held on 30 May -1 June 2012
- Workshop on civil liability for nuclear damage 29 May 2012

Further developments

- International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionising Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources, Interim edition 2011
- Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material TS-R-1 - 2012 - adopted by the BoG.
- Systematic review of the IAEA Safety Standards
- Development of a draft Code of conduct on the transboundary movement of radioactive material inadvertently incorporated into scrap metal and semi-finished products of the metal recycling industries

Conclusions