



**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
NATIONAL AGENCY ON REGULATION OF NUCLEAR
AND RADIOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES**



**THE SIXTH NATIONAL REPORT
ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE
CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY**

*Combined eighth and ninth Review Meeting of Contracting
Parties, March, 2023*

Chișinău, August 2022



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A. GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

Since the fifth report - 2019 and 2022 period, the Republic of Moldova continued to implement the provisions arising from the Convention on Nuclear Security and the commitments assumed in the framework of the implementation of several international instruments.

1.1 History

The Convention on Nuclear Safety entered into force for Republic of Moldova on 26 February 1998. The Republic of Moldova also is a party to the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, its Amendments, Convention on Early Notification in Case of Nuclear Accident, Convention on Assistance in Case of Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage, Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management. In addition, Republic of Moldova since 2005 is part of nonbinding international acts - Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Associated Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources.

The Republic of Moldova continue to attaches great importance to nuclear safety and sustains the policy of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in this field Nuclear safety is not a concern only of national interest, since consequences could have trans-boundary effects (around of the country is 7 Nuclear Power Plants), existing threats and challenges connected to the war in Ukraine, pandemic effect on national levels and for regional countries' economies and from this reason Republic of Moldova try to actively participate through different international instruments which are aimed to regulate or coordinate nuclear safety activities.

1.2 Present status

The Republic of Moldova has no nuclear power plants and research reactors and has no plans to introduce in the near future nuclear energy as an option for power generation or any research instrument.

Regardless of the fact that the Republic of Moldova has no nuclear facilities according to the definition given in the Convention on Nuclear Safety, our country is surrounded by nuclear power plants in the neighbouring countries: Romania, Bulgaria and



Ukraine. It means that Republic of Moldova has to take the appropriate steps for the preparation and testing of emergency plans.

Ionizing radiation such as linear accelerator, X-ray equipment and radioactive sources are used in various scientific, medical, biological, safety and security and industrial applications. Practically all applications (except rebel territory from the East part of Nistru river) are under the State control and supervision by the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activity (*further National Agency*).

Although the Republic of Moldova does not have nuclear power plants on its territory, and consequently it is not obliged to report under each and every article of the Convention, in this report we shortly present, only relevant articles. However, as a state without nuclear power plant, we have paid special attention to the provisions of the Convention dealing with legislation, radiation protection and issues connected to first respond in case of nuclear and radiological events connected to orphan radioactive sources and emergency preparedness.

B. ARTICLE-BY-ARTICLE REPORT

Article 6. Existing nuclear installations

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that the safety of nuclear installations existing at the time the Convention enters into force for that Contracting Party is reviewed as soon as possible. When necessary in the context of this Convention, the Contracting Party shall ensure that all reasonably practicable improvements are made as a matter of urgency to upgrade the safety of the nuclear installation. If such upgrading cannot be achieved, plans should be implemented to shut down the nuclear installation as soon as practically possible. The timing of the shut-down may take into account the whole energy context and possible alternatives as well as the social, environmental and economic impact.

Republic of Moldova has no operating nuclear power plants or any activity related to production of nuclear material. Moldovan Government has also not taken any policy decision for establishment of nuclear power plants. However, some activities are carried out by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development in collaboration with IAEA to prepare and submit a report to the government on feasibility study on nuclear power in Republic of Moldova with the intention of obtaining government approval for proceeding to a nuclear power plant.

The uses of nuclear technology in Republic of Moldova are still limited to uses in medicine, industry, agriculture, research and teaching. Thus, there are no nuclear



facilities according to the definition given in the Convention on Nuclear Safety in Republic of Moldova.

Article 7. Legislative and Regulatory Framework

Each Contracting Party shall establish and maintain the legislative and regulatory framework to govern the safety of nuclear installations.

The legislative and regulatory framework shall provide for:

- (i) the establishment of applicable national safety requirements and regulations;*
- (ii) a system of licensing (authorization) with regard to nuclear installations and the prohibition of the operation of a nuclear installation without a license;*
- (iii) a system of regulatory inspection and assessment of nuclear installations to ascertain compliance with applicable regulations and the terms of licenses;*
- (iv) the enforcement of applicable regulations and of the terms of licenses, including suspension, modification or revocation.*

At present, in the Republic of Moldova, regulation of radiological and nuclear safety are based on:

- Law No.132 from 08.06.2012 on safe deployment of nuclear and radiological activities
- Law No. 68 on 13.04.2017 National Strategy on radioactive waste management with Action Plan 2017-2026;
and Regulations approved by the Government Decisions:
- **No 506/15.07/2020 Regulation on a mechanism for first response to nuclear or radiological events associated with orphan radioactive sources;**
- No. 608/03.07.2018 on radiological safety and protection in activity of unshielded facilities.
- No 1210 from 03.11. 2016 about Radiation protection and radiological safety in practices of nuclear medicine;
- No. 451/24.07.2015 about Radiation protection and radiological safety in X-ray diagnostic and interventional radiology;
- No. 434/16.07.2015 on Safety transportation of radioactive material;
- No. 1017/2008 on National register of ionizing radiations sources and of legal or physical authorized persons;
- No. 153/28.02.2014 on State control and supervision of nuclear and radiological activities;
- No. 727/08.09.2014 on Authorization of nuclear and radiological activities;



- No. 632/24.08.2011 on Radiation protection and radiological safety in radiotherapy practices;
- No. 388/2009 on Radioactive Waste Management;
NATIONAL AGENCY approved Regulation
- **NATIONAL AGENCY Decision No 1/0.12.2020 - Regulation on requirements for ensuring of radiological and nuclear safety in the collection, pretreatment/treatment, packaging and storage of solid radioactive waste**

In order to improve and maintain the legislative and regulatory framework for the safety of nuclear and radiological installations at the request of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, an international team of senior safety experts met representatives of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities of the Republic of Moldova (NATIONAL AGENCY) from 10 to 19 December 2018 to conduct an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission. The purpose of this peer review was to review the Republic of Moldova's regulatory framework for radiation safety. The review mission was formally requested by the Government of the Republic of Moldova in January 2016.

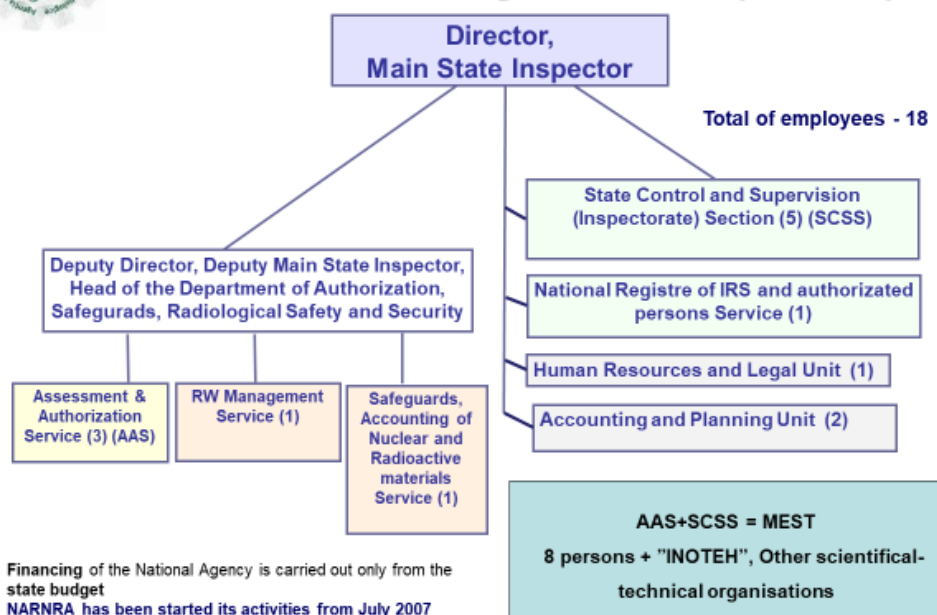
Article 8. Regulatory Body

Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework referred to in Article 7, and provided with adequate authority, competence and financial and human resources to fulfil its assigned responsibilities.

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure an effective separation between the functions of the regulatory body and those of any other body or organization concerned with the promotion of nuclear energy.



The Structure of National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities (NARNRA)



With regard to international cooperation, National Agency duties, as defined in Article 12 of the Law 132, include the fulfilment of commitments which the Republic of Moldova has to assume in accordance with international conventions including the drafting and transmission of the national reports to the international bodies in accordance with the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party, as well as coordination of technical cooperation with the IAEA and national contact point with the IAEA under the international nuclear and radiation treaties. National Agency has established Memorandums of Understanding with neighbouring countries, namely Romania and Ukraine for cooperation in related areas (radiation protection, radiation safety, training etc). The Establishing agreements was signed with all countries in the region, including the states that have nuclear power plants (such as Bulgaria) through which will further support regional cooperation and exchange of regulatory experience.

The Republic of Moldova uses the IAEA safety standards as the basis for developing its national safety requirements, but due to budgetary restrictions the participation of country experts in Safety Standards Committees and the working groups on development and revision of IAEA standards is quite limited.

National Agency is actively using the regulatory experience of other States to identify useful information and to disseminate the lessons learned to other related country authorities. Information received is processed and, if applicable, used as a learning tool to strengthen the safety in the country. Similarly, National Agency reports such information internationally through interactions with other regulatory authorities in



the region (seminars, document sharing, international projects, etc.). According to Article 12, para 1 (f) empowers National Agency to require authorized persons to submit reports, information and notifications. This provision allows National Agency to impose reporting requirements to authorized persons as an authorization condition. According to the Article 8 of the Law no. 132 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, the regulatory body in the nuclear and radiological activities is the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities.

Additionally, according to the Governmental Decision no. 458 of 24 July 2015, regarding the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities, its structure and staff limit, the National Agency is the regulatory body in the field, and according to the Law no 41-XVI from 02 March 2006, regarding ratification of the Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and IAEA of the application the guaranties follow the NPT, is the responsible government body for it implementation.

Special provisions of the Article 9 (2) states effective separation between the functions of the regulatory body and those of any other body or organization concerned with the promotion, management and use of ionising radiation sources.

Article 10 of the Law no. 132, states that the National Agency is an administrative authority established by the Government attached to the Ministry of Environment, with the status of a legal entity, which has a stamp with the State Emblem image, name in the state language and treasury accounts.

Pursuant to current legislation, the National Agency has the necessary level of independence in the exercise of its functions as specified in this law. In order to improve the efficiency of the regulatory process and reducing the risk of corruption within the National Agency, authorization processes are *de jure* and *de facto* separated from control and supervision processes.

Human resource development and finance

At present there are approved 18 cadre positions and only 10 positions are filled. Due to the prevailing financial crisis in the country, the government has stopped by moratorium new recruitments and therefore, remaining vacancies cannot be filled. The existing man power consisted of 10 scientific staff. The total expenses for the regulatory authority are given by the Government allocating funds from the Government annual budget.

The structure and regulations of the National Agency is approved by the Government.

The National Agency has established formal and informal mechanisms of communication with authorized parties. According the Law, National Agency is



responsible for establishment appropriate system of informing, education and training of all persons, whose duties in the field require specific competence in the field of radiation protection and safety. The National Agency periodically organizes training courses and round tables for operators. The information concerning the public about the regulatory process may be found on the web site www.anranr.gov.md. Any interested party may request information from the National Agency. The National Agency has prepared and has published a list of public information on its web page which is updated regularly.

The National Agency publishes on its web page information for the public for:

- contact details of the National Agency staff
- legislation and regulations
- drafts of law, regulations etc.
- information for the public regarding the activities of the National Agency
- statistic information regarding issued authorizations
- list of authorized organizations
- inspection plan

The National Agency follows transparent procedures and requires from all operators to submit completed applications accompanied by all required documentation. The conditions and documentation required for authorization are available on the website. The National Agency performs visits to the sites to confirm the documents in the file, drawing up an Evaluation Act signed by the parties. If, as a result of the evaluation process, the National Agency accepts the conditions for performing the nuclear or radiological activities declared by the applicant and this fact is co-signed in the Evaluation Act, the National Agency shall issue the authorization or other permissive act.

To further to improve communication through organizing of training courses and round tables for operators and maintaining of web page.

Article 9. Responsibility of the License Holder

Each Contracting Party shall ensure that prime responsibility for the safety of a nuclear installation rests with the holder of the relevant license and shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that each such license holder meets its responsibility.

Article 48 of the Law no. 132 of 8 June 2012 states that authorization holder is obliged to take the precautionary measures stipulated by standards, regulations and rules concerning radiation protection, nuclear and radiation safety and security of nuclear and radiological facilities.



Additionally, Article 50 of the Law no. 132 of 8 June 2012 states the following responsibilities of the authorization holder:

- 1) breaches of the provisions of statutory instruments regulating nuclear and radiological activities shall incur disciplinary, civil, contravention or criminal liability, as applicable.
- 2) authorizations shall be fully liable for breaches of requirements concerning nuclear and radiation safety and security and for breaches of this law and other statutory instruments applicable to this sector.
- 3) unauthorised pursuit of nuclear and radiological activities or illegal trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials, nuclear or radiological installations or facilities, explosive nuclear devices or components thereof which may cause harm to the public or environment shall trigger cessation of the activity, seizure or the enforcement of other measures provided for by law.
- 4) seized ionising radiation sources shall be kept at the expense of the authorised individual or legal entity at a safe location sealed off by the National Agency, in accordance with nuclear and radiation safety and security requirements, so as not to endanger the life and health of the public, cause radioactive contamination of property, environment or facilitate illegal trafficking, until legal measures have been taken.
- 5) the holder of the authorisation shall, in accordance with the Civil Code or Penal Code, be solely liable for caused damage during or after nuclear or radiation incidents or accidents, which have led to the death, injury or harm the health of one or more persons or the destruction, damage or temporary impossibility of any property item.
- 6) Liability for damage caused to persons within the territory of the Republic of Moldova as a result of the transiting of nuclear material, nuclear or radiation incidents or accidents, which occur outside the territory of the Republic of Moldova, shall be enforced on the basis of the Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage of 21 May 1963, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Article 10. Priority to Safety

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure all organizations engaged in activities directly related to nuclear installations shall establish policies that give due priority to nuclear safety.

The subject of the Law no. 132 of 8 June 2012 is the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities for exclusively peaceful purposes, in accordance with the obligations arising out of the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.



The aims of the mentioned Law are:

- to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, materials and equipment associated with the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other explosive devices containing radioactive material;
- to establish mechanisms to ensure the safety of nuclear and radiological activities and maintain them at an adequate level in all sectors where ionizing radiation sources are used; - to prevent the unauthorized conduct of nuclear and radiological activities;
- to protect personnel, the public, property and the environment against the adverse impact of ionizing radiation, in accordance with international standards concerning radiation protection and the safety of nuclear and radiological activities;
- to prevent the misappropriation and illegal trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials and to protect the security of nuclear and radiological facilities.

Article 11. Financial and Human Resources

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that adequate financial resources are available to support the safety of each nuclear installation throughout its life.

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that sufficient numbers of qualified staff with appropriate education, training and retraining are available for all safety-related activities in or for each nuclear installation, throughout its life.

These requests are included in the Article 20 of the Law No. 132 of 8 June 2012 according to which authorization shall be issued only if applicant fulfils the following conditions:

- demonstrate the professional qualifications by holding the relevant qualification certificates recognized by the National Agency and designate, by the way of an administrative decision, a person responsible for radiation protection;
- take measures to prevent and limit the consequences of nuclear or radiation incidents and accidents with possible adverse effects on the life and health of personnel, public environment, property of third parties or state assets, in accordance with the provisions of current legislation;
- ensure that personnel responsible for the safe operation of the installation hold a permit to operate for the relevant activity, in accordance with the provisions of this law;
- hold insurance or any other financial guarantee to compensate them for a possible damage; the amount, nature and stipulations of the insurance or other guarantee shall



be in accordance with the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is party;

- ensure that the necessary measures are taken to prevent interference of any kind or to eliminate disruption due to any third parties in the decision-making process during the construction and operation of an installation or item of nuclear or radiological equipment;
- have an own financial fund adequate to decommission and manage radioactive waste generated by their own activity.

Article 12. Human factors

Each Contracting party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that the capabilities and limitations of human performance are taken into account throughout the life of a nuclear installation.

Not applicable for the Republic of Moldova due to non-existence of nuclear installations.

Article 13. Quality Assurance

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that quality assurance programs are established and implemented with a view to providing confidence that specified requirements for all activities important to nuclear safety are satisfied throughout the life of a nuclear installation.

Article 20 of the Law No 132 of 8 June 2012 establishes that all activities and practices shall be carried out by respects following requirements:

- establish and maintain, in their own activity, a nuclear and radiological activity quality assurance and control system approved by the National Agency;
- establish and maintain their own control system in accordance with requirements concerning radiation protection, nuclear and radiation safety, security of the facility and readiness for emergency intervention in the event of nuclear or radiation incidents or accidents, which may occur in respect of the installations or equipment and ionizing radiation sources.

By the National Agency in December 2021 was approved the internal Procedure for carrying out the evaluation within the authorization of radiological and nuclear objectives, which includes elements of quality assurance in the process of evaluating nuclear and radiological activities.



Article 14. Assessment and Verification of Safety

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that: comprehensive and systematic safety assessment are carried out before the construction and commissioning of a nuclear installation and throughout its life. Such assessment shall be well documented, subsequently updated in the light of operating experience and significant new safety information, and reviewed under the authority of the regulatory body;

Verification by analysis, surveillance, testing and inspection is carried out to ensure that the physical state and the operation of a nuclear installation continue to be in accordance with its design, applicable national safety requirements, and operational limits and conditions.

There are safety assessment requirements in place for Radioactive Waste Management (Governmental Decree No 388 from 26.06.2009 concerning Radioactive Waste Management and for Governmental Decree No 451 from 24.07.2015 concerning radiation protection in roentgen diagnostic and interventional radiology practices). For other radiological activities Requirements have to be developed and approved.

Verification for radiation and nuclear safety of all ionizing radiation sources is done by the National Agency during the authorization procedure and inspection.

According to the Moldovan legislation the authorization procedure requires pre-licensing inspection (evaluation) to be carried out by the National Agency. Pre-licensing inspection focus on the evaluation of radiological (and nuclear) safety and security of the installations/sources to ensure that all relevant necessary measures, relevant for protection and safety precautions are taken and are in compliance with national and international safety and security requirements. In the evaluation process, the National Agency carries out visits to the sites (pre-licensing inspections) to confirm the documents in the dossier and determining whether the applicant for authorization complies with applicable regulatory requirements.

The application for the Safety Certificate – (for each ionising sources or container for radioactive sources or associated devices, or storage site or vehicle) and the file containing the necessary documents, shall be filed with the National Agency. The Safety Certificate is issued based on the assessment by the National Agency of the technical documentation and the conditions of use (in the field, as the case may be) of nuclear and radiological installations, devices with ionizing radiation sources, containers for radioactive sources, vehicles for transporting radioactive materials.

The procedure for requesting, examining and issuing partial radiological approval is the same as for authorization. Partial radiological approval allows for nuclear and



radiological activities only for the phases for which it was issued, according to the set limits and conditions.

Suspension of authorization shall be applied for breaches, which may be removed within a period of not more than six months. If this requirement is not met within the indicated time limit, the decision to withdraw the authorization shall be taken. If the severity of the violations does not allow this remedy within six months, the decision to withdraw shall be immediately applied by the State Inspector on the basis of the control of the National Agency.

There is developed electronic system for issuing of the authorization - <https://permits.gov.md/>. Currently the system is in the working process and used by National Agency in special for issuing of partial radiological authorisations – for one phase. This system represents a harmonized system for exchanging information between the governmental institutions; electronic monitoring of the final date of validity of the authorizations etc.

Article 15. Radiation Protection

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that in all operational states the radiation exposure to the workers and the public caused by a nuclear installation shall be kept as low as reasonably achievable and that no individual shall be exposed to radiation doses exceed prescribed national dose limits.

In conformity with the Article 49 of the Law No 132 of 8 June 2012 the authorized individuals and legal entities are obliged:

- to maintain nuclear and radiation safety, protection against ionizing radiation and the physical protection of nuclear and radioactive materials;
- to keep meticulous records of nuclear and radioactive materials and all ionizing radiation sources used or produced in their own activity;
- to comply with all of the requirements on their radiation authorization and report any deviations from the limits and requirements stated on the authorization to the National Agency;
- to conduct the activities for which they have been authorized;
- to devise their own system of requirements, regulations and instructions to ensure that the authorized activities are conducted without incurring risks of any kind.

Results of the state control and supervision performed by the Inspectorate of the National Agency confirm that Convention's requirement to keep radiation exposure to the workers, the public and the environment is in full compliance.

Dose limits for exposures incurred from practices



1. Occupational exposure

1.1 For occupational exposure of workers over the age of 18 years, the dose limits are:

- (a) An effective dose of 20 mSv per year averaged over five consecutive years (100 mSv in 5 years) and of 50 mSv in any single year;
- (b) An equivalent dose to the lens of the eye of 150 mSv in a year;
- (c) An equivalent dose to the extremities (hands and feet) or the skin of 500 mSv in a year.

1.2. Dose limit applicable for pregnant or a breast-feeding woman shall be as same as the dose limit recommended for general public

1.3. For occupational exposure of apprentices of 16 to 18 years of age who are trained for employment involving exposure to radiation and for students of age 16 to 18 who use sources in the course of their studies, the dose limits are:

- (a) An effective dose of 5 mSv in a year;
- (b) An equivalent dose to the lens of the eye of 50 mSv in a year;
- (c) An equivalent dose to the extremities (hands and feet) or the skin of 150 mSv in a year. 28 I-2.

Public exposure

For public exposure, the dose limits are:

- (a) An effective dose of 1 mSv in a year;
- (b) In special circumstances, a higher value of effective dose in a single year could apply, provided that the average dose over five consecutive years does not exceed 1 mSv per year;
- (c) An equivalent dose to the lens of the eye of 15 mSv in a year; and
- (d) An equivalent dose to the skin of 50 mSv in a year.

Compliance with dose limits

(a) The effective dose limits specified in this schedule apply to the sum of the relevant doses from external exposure in the specified period and the relevant committed doses from intakes in the same period; the period for calculating the committed dose shall normally be 50 years for intakes by adults and shall be up to age 70 years for intakes by children.



(b) For occupational exposure, the personal dose equivalent $H_p(10)$ may be used as an approximation of the effective dose from external exposure to penetrating radiation.

Article 16. Emergency Preparedness

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that there are on-site and off-site emergency plans that are routinely tested for nuclear installations and cover the activities to be carried out in the event of an emergency.

For new nuclear installation above a low power level agreed by the regulatory body. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that, insofar as they are likely to be affected by a radiological emergency, its own population and the competent authorities of the states in the vicinity of the nuclear installation are provided with appropriate information for emergency planning and response.

Contracting Parties which do not have a nuclear installation on their territory, insofar as they are likely to be affected in the event of a radiological emergency at a nuclear installation in the vicinity, shall take the appropriate steps for the preparation and testing of emergency plans for their territory that cover the activities to be carried out in the event of such an emergency.

Until now, the Republic of Moldova has not developed and approved the National Response Plan to nuclear or radiological accidents. However, a national project concept was proposed for the IAEA TC, which provides for the development of this plan for the period 2024-2026.

Therewith, The Article 49 of the Law No 132 establishes that the authorized persons must have:

- an effective response plans to deal with design basis threats through interaction between the relevant departments in the event of nuclear or radiation emergencies;
- personnel who are prepared and trained for response activities;
- their own intervention plans for nuclear or radiation incidents or accidents;
- their own quality assurance and control system for the maintenance of nuclear or radiation safety and security in the activities conducted;
- a system for notifying the National Agency within the time-limits established by current statutory instruments of nuclear or radiation incidents or accidents which take place and cause harm to individuals or legal entities, economic losses and radioactive contamination of the environment, and of the possibility that a nuclear or radiation incident or accident may occur.



The preparedness and plans are periodically tested in the form of exercises. The ways for alerting the public and the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and neighbouring countries are in place.

There are bilateral agreements signed between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as well as the Republic of Moldova and Romania at the Governments levels.

In July 2020 by the Government has been approved the regulation No 506 on the first response mechanism for radiological or nuclear events connected to the orphan radioactive sources – (see Annex) in base of IAEA GSR-part 7 - Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency. General Safety Requirements.

Article 17. Sitting

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that appropriate procedures are established and implemented:

- for evaluating all relevant site-related likely to affect the safety of a nuclear installation for its projected lifetime;*
- for evaluating the likely safety impact of a proposed nuclear installation on individuals, society and the environment;*
- for re-evaluating, as necessary, all relevant factors referred to in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) so as to ensure the continued safety acceptability of the nuclear installation;*
- for consulting Contracting Parties in the vicinity of a proposed nuclear installation, insofar as they are likely to be affected by that installation and, upon request providing the necessary information to such Contracting Parties, in order to enable them to evaluate and make their own assessment of the likely safety impact on their own territory of the nuclear installation.*

Article 20 (g) of the Law no. 132 states as a condition for authorization issuing that the applicant shall have a location for the nuclear or radiological installation or item of equipment, which satisfies technical requirements and current legal framework in the field of radiation protection and nuclear and radiation safety, and public interests with regard to the non-contamination of water, air and soil, and which does not affect the operation of other installations (or facilities) located nearby. This location must be agreed on with the National Agency.

Article 18. Design and construction

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:



- i. the design and construction of a nuclear installation provides for several reliable levels and methods of protection (defence in depth) against the release of radioactive materials, with a view to preventing the occurrence of accidents and to mitigating their radiological consequences should they occur;*
- ii. the technologies incorporated in the design and construction of a nuclear installation are proven by experience or qualified by testing or analysis;*
- iii. the design of a nuclear installation allows for reliable, stable and easily manageable operation, with specific consideration of human factors and the man-machine interface.*

Not applicable, as Republic of Moldova doesn't have plan to construct a nuclear facility.

Article 19. Operation

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:

- the initial authorization to operate a nuclear installation is based upon an appropriate safety analyses and a commissioning program demonstrating that the installation, as constructed, is consistent with design and safety requirements;*
- operational limits and conditions derived from the safety analyses, tests and operational experience are defined and revised as necessary for identifying safe for operation;*
- operation, maintenance, inspection and testing of a nuclear installation are conducted in accordance with approved procedures;*
- procedures are established for responding to anticipated operational occurrences and to accidents;*
- necessary engineering and technical support in all safety-related fields is available throughout the lifetime of a nuclear installation;*
- incidents significant to safety are reported in a timely manner by the holder of the relevant license to the regulatory body;*
- programs to collect and analyse operating experience are established, the results obtained and the conclusions drawn are acted upon and that existing mechanisms are used to share important experience with international bodies and with other operating organizations and regulatory bodies;*
- the generation of radioactive waste resulting from the operation of a nuclear installation is kept to the minimum practicable for the process concerned, both in activity and in volume, and any necessary treatment and storage of spent fuel and waste directly related to the operation and on the same site as that of the nuclear installation take into consideration conditioning and disposal.*



Not applicable for the Republic of Moldova due to non-existence of nuclear installations.

C. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE SAFETY

Proceeding from the above reporting under the applicable articles for a country having no nuclear installations on their territory, we conclude that Republic of Moldova is in compliance with its obligations according to the Convention on Nuclear Safety. However, the main concern of the Republic of Moldova for next period remains still updating of the legislation in this area.

As a priority the Republic of Moldova set the transposing till end of 2022 of the Council directive 2013/59/EURATOM of 5 December 2013 laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionising radiation, which was developed by National Agency in the form of a draft law, coordinated with the relevant institutions and was approved on August 3, 2022 by the Government of the Republic of Moldova, after which it will be sent to the Parliament for approval.



□

Annex

To the Sixth National Report
On Implementation
Of The Obligations Under The
Convention On Nuclear Safety

Republic of Moldova

GOVERNMENT

Decision No HG 506/2020
of 15.07.2020

for approval
Regulation on the mechanism
first response to nuclear events
or radiological associated with radioactive sources
orphans

Published: 07.08.2020 in Official Gazette No 199-204, art. 697 Date of entry into force

Pursuant to Article 7 (a) of Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2012, No 229-233, Article 739), as amended, the Government OF THE HEALTH:

1. The Regulation on a mechanism for first response to nuclear or radiological events associated with orphan radioactive sources is hereby approved (to be annexed).
2. The Ministry of the Environment jointly with the Ministry of Internal Affairs shall submit to the Government every three years a report on the implementation of the nominated Regulation.
3. This Decision shall enter into force on the expiry of 90 days from the date of its publication.

Prime Minister Ion CHICU

Countersign:

Minister for Agriculture,

regional development

and the Ion Perju environment

Minister for Home Affairs Pavel Voicu



REGULATION
the first response mechanism
at related nuclear or radiological events
orphan radioactive sources

This Regulation transposes Articles 2 (1), 4 (26), (60) and (73), 12, 15 to 17, 42, 69, 70, 92 and 96 to 99 and Annex XII to Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom of 5 December 2013 laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionised radiation, and repealing Directives 89/618/Euratom, 90/641/Euratom, 96/29/Euratom, 97/43/Euratom and 2003/122/Euratom, published in Official Journal of the European Union L 13 of 17 January 2014.

Chapter I

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE REGULATION

1. The purpose of this Regulation is to establish a uniform approach to the prevention, risk assessment, investigation, intervention and coercion of nuclear and radiological events related to the unauthorised possession of radioactive or nuclear material and the detection of orphan radioactive sources.

2. The purpose of this Regulation is to establish the roles and responsibilities of the participating parties directly involved in the day-to-day operation, maintenance and management of instrument (primary) detection and identification of ionising radiation. These include monitoring, detection, alarm, response, reporting, presenting the findings of nuclear expertise to the bodies concerned, training and supporting actions.

3. This Regulation is based on predetermined intervention where intervention levels are expressed in terms of foreseeable doses for participants in the reaction and do not cover situations of major radiological accidents, for which the state of emergency or exceptional situation needs to be triggered.

4. For the purposes of this Regulation, the following terms shall be used:

smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials — in accordance with Article 248 (2) of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova No 985/2002, or any intentional, unauthorised or commercial movement of radioactive or nuclear materials, in particular those with possible or proven criminal intent;

mobile expert team — a structure organised by the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities, consisting of experts in nuclear forensics, radiation protection and nuclear physical safety, to assist the persons responsible for the investigation in the identification, protocol, recording, taking and preservation of objects — bodies of crime with radioactive properties, in assessing the radiological impact on staff, the population and the environment, with the issuing of a nuclear forensic conclusion and the recommendation on the place of preservation of delicate bodies;

nuclear occurrence — incident establishing the presence of the situations described in point 5;

first line response officer — employees of the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Customs Service, the Intelligence and Security Service who, in accordance with their duties, carry out activities related to the field;

standard Operating Procedure — step-by-step action procedure under which the tasks and objectives of the responding parties in situations or events related to orphan radioactive or nuclear material are carried out;

response — coordinated actions of competent authorities and support organisations for the assessment, control,



analysis, investigation and prosecution of incidents of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or incidents related to the detection of orphan radioactive sources;

radiological/nuclear emergency — exceptional condition or event involving a source of radiation requiring rapid intervention to mitigate serious adverse consequences for the health and safety of human beings, quality of life, property or the environment, or a risk that could result in such serious adverse consequences.

5. This Regulation shall apply to all incidents related to the unauthorised possession and illegal trafficking of nuclear or radioactive material and the detection of orphan radioactive sources, including:

- 1) unauthorised possession, use or transfer of radioactive or nuclear material, in particular with possible or proven criminal intent;
- 2) unauthorised sale, purchase or attempted sale or purchase of radioactive or nuclear material;
- 3) the sale, purchase or attempted sale or purchase of misleading material alleged to be radioactive or nuclear material;
- 4) threats, scams or thefts related to the smuggling of radioactive/nuclear materials and other illegal actions or inactions with radioactive or nuclear material.

6. This Regulation provides the organisational and functional framework for the planning and execution of measures specific to events presenting hazards and likely to lead to nuclear or radiological emergencies for the economic objectives identified by the competent authorities on the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

7. This Regulation lays down the responsibilities of central and local government authorities, economic institutions or entities involved in the response to a nuclear or radiological event, the minimum participation scheme for the initial response to the event, the additional means for increasing the response capacity and the information — decision-making flow between the responding parties.

8. This Regulation aims to detect and/or prevent the triggering of emergencies derived from events (incidents) related to the illegal trafficking of radioactive or nuclear material and the detection of orphan radioactive sources by:

- a) identification of radiological risks at national level;
- b) monitoring potential sources of nuclear or radiological incidents;
- c) assessment of the information and analysis of the initial situation.

Competent authorities — Parties to the Regulation are:

- a) General Police Inspectorate under the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- b) The customs department under the Ministry of Finance;
- c) General Inspectorate of the Border Police under the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- d) The Attorney General's Office;
- e) The Intelligence and Security Service;
- f) The National Regulatory Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities under the Ministry of the Environment;
- g) General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations under the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- h) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration;
- i) The National Agency for Public Health under the Ministry of Health;
- j) Single National Emergency Call Service 112.

Chapter II

PREVENTION APPLICATIONS

9. Smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials is not only the physical movement of radioactive or nuclear material across the state border, can be detected at state border crossing points, within the state or in a transnational network, and may involve real or misleading radioactive or nuclear materials.



10. During the initial phases of a threat of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or detection of the orphan radioactive source, the situation shall not be considered as a radiological emergency with external effect and consequences and it is therefore not necessary to establish the structure to control exceptional radiological or nuclear emergencies.

11. Information on smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or orphan radioactive sources may come from a variety of sources, including ionising radiation detection equipment and the means (information) used in the investigation process.

12. An effective response to an event of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or to cases of detection of the orphan radioactive source shall be achieved where necessary through joint and coordinated efforts by several competent authorities, including prosecution officers, border security, technical response, public health, rescue services and fire services/medical emergency, forensic and prosecutorial officials.

13. It should be noted that not in all cases events involving radioactive or nuclear material or orphan radioactive source clearly indicate the presence of criminal or terrorist activity. However, any event involving unauthorised radioactive or nuclear material shall be treated as a criminal offence until proven otherwise, as determined by the body exercising special investigative activity.

14. The main priorities for the management of radioactive or nuclear material smuggling events or the detection of the orphan radioactive source are:

- 1) ensuring the protection of public health and safety;
- 2) identification of networks of illegal traffickers of real or presumed radioactive or nuclear material;
- 3) determining the nature and location of the material and all members of the smuggling network;
- 4) removal, preservation and safe storage of radioactive or nuclear material from illegal circulation, establishment and recovery of any additional radioactive or nuclear material;
- 5) classification and categorisation of radioactive or nuclear materials;
- 6) determining the possible origin of the seized material and identifying associated groups or persons by carrying out detailed forensic analyses of associated material and elements, using traditional and nuclear forensic approaches;
- 7) identification and remediation of vulnerabilities under the national nuclear safety regime;
- 8) providing, obtaining/requesting relevant information on smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials to/from international partners, paying attention to the process of protecting sensitive information.

Chapter III

CONCEPT OF REACTION OPERATIONS

16. Situations in which this Regulation applies:

- 1) on receipt of a notification from the authorities specified in point 9;
- 2) at the request of the local public administration authorities.

17. As soon as possible and throughout the response to the event related to smuggling or detection of an orphan radioactive source, the National Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities and the specialised emergency services shall be notified directly or through the Single National Service for Emergency Calls 112, providing the comprehensive information necessary to fulfil their roles and responsibilities in accordance with Annex 1 and Schedule 2.



18. Any entity with primary information on an event smuggling radioactive or nuclear material or the detection of an orphan radioactive source shall use the scheme algorithm in Annex 2 in informing law enforcement authorities to include the General Police Inspectorate as soon as possible in the first response to the radiological or nuclear event.

19. The initial response force is the first person or team to arrive at the site of an event and to have an official role in the response to the event. This can be:

- 1) an organisation holding radiation sources — employee of duty, radiation protection officer;
- 2) the head of laboratory or security staff;
- 3) in the case of an event in a public place: police, medical institution, emergency service.

20. The initial response force team shall be responsible for carrying out all aspects of the incident. His/her work shall be supervised and directed by the team coordinator from the original response force at the site of the incident.

21. Due to the fact that initial response forces may not always have dosimeters and equipment to detect radiation, certain appropriate generic precautions will be adapted by the initial response forces in order to protect themselves and to ensure protection against possible radiological risk for other persons present at the incident site. In this respect, the mobile expert team will be asked to intervene in all cases to attend all radiological aspects of the response to the event.

22. The specialised investigation team of the Police General Inspectorate shall determine the additional actions necessary to be taken in the context of securing the site of the event and shall communicate the necessary information to other relevant authorities, taking as a basis the schedule in Annex 2.

23. The authority which first detects an event of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or the location of an orphan radioactive source shall have the custody and control of the site of the event until the release from regulated control of radioactive or nuclear material in accordance with Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, after the collection of evidence and the removal of radioactive or nuclear material by local law enforcement authorities, the specialised national investigation team or other relevant authority in accordance with legal procedures.

Chapter IV

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

24. The General Police Inspectorate, the Customs Service, the General Inspectorate of the Border Police and the Intelligence and Security Service, according to their legal powers, are the main authorities responsible for investigating cases of illegal possession or smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials. Following the notification of an event of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material or the detection of an orphan radioactive source, the prosecution group shall take the lead over the event and coordinate with the local authorities, as provided for in the regulations in force. If necessary, establish a common command system to coordinate response activities. Upon request, the prosecution group shall seek the assistance of the competent authorities and the experts of the mobile team in identifying, categorising and forensic nuclear material and, if necessary, managing the areas affected by the event.

25. The Customs Service is the main authority responsible for the operation of radioactive or nuclear material detection systems at the state border crossing points of the Republic of Moldova and is responsible for:

- 1) response to all alarms triggered by the relevant security equipment or services;
- 2) establishing, where necessary, secondary testing of a vehicle by means of non-destructive scanning equipment or other relevant methods;
- 3) ensuring the effective performance of secondary radiological inspections and the documentation of results;



4) regular review of the Standard Operating Procedure on matching activities to monitor illicit trafficking in radioactive or nuclear materials depending on the change in logistical or procedural configuration.

26) The Customs Service's activity in the field of control of the movement of radioactive or nuclear materials is carried out in accordance with Article 18 of Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities.

27) The activity of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police in the field of detection of illegal trafficking in radioactive or nuclear materials is carried out in accordance with Article 181 of Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities and as follows:

1. at state border crossing points where the Customs Service is not present — operates with stationary and mobile systems, special detection equipment to counter illicit cross-border trafficking of radioactive or nuclear materials;

2. in the border area — operates with mobile systems and special detection equipment to counter illicit cross-border trafficking of radioactive or nuclear materials, maintaining the state border regime, the border regime and other rules required by national legislation.

28. If radioactive or nuclear materials are detected in areas under its jurisdiction and the event is induced to represent a potential threat, the General Inspectorate of the Border Police provides the location, lifts the corps of crime, detains suspects, requests further support and transfers the authority of the case to the group of specialised investigation officers or the mixed command structure. Upon request, the General Inspectorate of the Border Police assists in investigating potential incidents of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials.

29. The Intelligence and Security Service shall, within the limits of its competence, take measures aimed at the detection, prevention and counteraction of acts of absconding, smuggling of radioactive/nuclear substances and their unlawful production, use, transportation and retention, if this undermines the interests of State security.

30. The mobile expert team is responsible for setting up and monitoring the radiological safety of staff at the site of an event/incident smuggling radioactive or nuclear material or tracing the orphan radioactive source. The mobile team of experts draws conclusions at the site of the event/incident to advise on the radiological safety of the first respondents, carries out the classification, categorisation and identification of radioactive or nuclear materials on site and consults the parties to the application of the specialised law, assists specialised services in the collection and collection of radiologically hazardous bodies. When requested, the mobile expert team shall provide additional assistance in the handling, packaging, storage and disposal (transmission to the specialised institution) of radioactive or nuclear material and associated items, as well as in nuclear forensic analysis, in the investigation of smuggling or related to the detection of the orphan radioactive source.

31. The mobile expert team shall be equipped with the minimum necessary set — mobile or portable equipment/device for advanced detection and identification of radioactive and nuclear materials, used to draw conclusions and recommendations relevant to the field. In the case of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials, the mobile team of experts shall include a forensic expert who consults/organises the collection of evidence by authorised persons from the crime scene, so that subsequent forensic investigations, including nuclear ones, are not compromised as a result of uncoordinated actions.

32. In special cases, when radiation field parameters are increased (more than 10 mSv/hour at 1 m distance from the source), the mobile expert team shall notify the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations independently. In this case, experts from the medical emergency services, the Intelligence and Security Service and the relevant laboratories are co-opted in the mobile expert team. In this respect, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and subordinate subdivisions shall ensure:

1. assessing individual effective doses received by workers and other affected persons at nuclear or radiological events associated with orphan radioactive sources, limiting unjustified exposure and informing them where appropriate of the doses received and any subsequent health risks;

2. the provision of medical care to workers or other affected persons in emergency situations proportionate to



the doses received as a result of an event related to the orphan radioactive source, isolation or admission to a specialised medical institution.

33. The mobile expert team shall be responsible for presenting the results of estimates or assessments of the identified event/incident, or possibly by drawing up the preliminary conclusion or evaluation act on the results of nuclear investigations, but not for emergency response and remediation in the event of a state of emergency or a nuclear or radiological accident.

34. The National Regulatory Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities is the main authority responsible for placing radioactive or nuclear crime bodies or orphan radioactive sources under regulated control, and for regulating the storage or disposal of such materials in accordance with Annex 1 to Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities. The experts of the National Regulatory Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities, in accordance with Article 11 (r) of Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, are part of the radiological crime/incident site management team, in order to consult the participating parties on radiological safety and nuclear physical security, the safe handling of radioactive materials or radioactive contaminated bodies, and the formulation of regulatory and licensing requirements and the collection of samples. In addition, the National Regulatory Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities shall ensure that the national register of sources of ionising radiation and of authorised natural and legal persons is kept, as well as a National Nuclear Expertise Library, which is used to determine the history of seized radioactive or nuclear materials or the orphan radioactive source detected.

35. The public prosecutor's office is an autonomous public body within the judicial authority which, in criminal proceedings and other procedures provided for by law, contributes to the observance of the rule of law, the conduct of justice, the protection of the rights and legitimate interests of the person and society.

36. General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and Subdivisions:

- 1) maintain the forces of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations in a permanent state of preparation;
- 2) organise and execute search, rescue and release activities, the provision of qualified first aid, other emergency activities in the event of emergency states, exceptional situations, fires and their liquidation, including at the request of the mobile expert team, the National Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities Regulation or another competent authority according to the reaction scheme;
- 3) carry out the cycle of activities comprising the reception, transport, pre-treatment/treatment, conditioning and storage of radioactive waste (radioactive material), including the orphan radioactive source.

37. At the request of the National Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities for international support for the detection and analysis of radioactive or nuclear materials, management of the affected areas, investigation of incidents, etc., the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration shall ensure that demarches are forwarded to the competent institutions of the external partners and shall provide the necessary support in establishing and developing international cooperation in the field.

38. The single national emergency call service 112 shall be responsible for receiving, recording, processing emergency calls and transmitting processed response requests to the specialised emergency services for the purpose of resolving radiological or nuclear emergencies in accordance with the schedule in Annex 2.

39. The functions and responsibilities of the authorities involved in the operation of mobile detection equipment or systems, stationary detection systems and advanced identification tools for radioactive or nuclear materials are set out in Annex 1.

Chapter V

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND ALARM ASSESSMENT.

RESPONSE MEASURES

40. The detection at the crossing points of the state border of the Republic of Moldova of radioactive or nuclear materials is carried out in accordance with the requirements to ensure the health and safety of the trained personnel and



the population — in accordance with Law No 132/2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, the protection of the environment — in accordance with Law No 1515/1993 on the protection of the environment, the maintenance of the integrity of evidence (bodies of offences) — in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Moldova No 122/2003, and the protection of the efficient flow of trade.

41. The detection of radioactive or nuclear materials in the border area and in the territory of the Republic of Moldova shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in point 40 and respecting private property rights.

42. Any officer of the first line of response or the person who detected the orphan radioactive source or the element of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials shall immediately submit by telephone (under telephone numbers 112 and 022311136) information on the response to confirmed radiological/nuclear alarms generated by detection equipment and, for 24 hours, the written information (drawings, texts, digital photographs, gamma spectra, etc. of the orphan radioactive source) to the electronic mail of the National Regulatory Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities (agentia.nucleara@anranr.gov.md).

43. The telephone notification of the National Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities shall be made in all cases where expert assistance is required, with a presentation of the circumstances and detailed technical information, if requested.

44. In the event of a confirmed alarm, the first line officer shall ensure the initiation of investigation procedures in the event of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material and the management of the site of the event, as well as the maintenance of a separate secure space on that site for as long as necessary for the collection, removal and preservation of the delicate bodies by the relevant authorities.

45. The delimitation of the area of the event/incident shall be as follows:

- 1) the defined radiological safety perimeter for which the ambient dose rate does not exceed 13,3 microSv/h;
- 2) the physical security perimeter, which is outside the safety perimeter, shall be carried out in order to delimit the access of the public or persons without duties to the management of the site of the event for which the ambient dose rate does not exceed the value of 0,3 microSv/hour, in accordance with Annex 3.

46. The zoning scheme shall be developed for the response to the event/incident, on the whole scale, involving a major hazard to physical health or security. For minor events this scheme may be adapted for a smaller response.

47. At the checkpoint (entry-exit) in the demarcated areas, persons (crossing the checkpoint) are checked against the presence of radioactive contamination or other dangerous substances.

48. The seizure of radioactive or nuclear material shall be carried out in accordance with requirements relating to the health and safety of trained personnel and the general public, the protection of the environment, the prosecution procedure, the maintenance of the integrity of evidence, the requirements of the chain of custody, the protection of law enforcement information and regulations on the handling and storage of radioactive or nuclear material.

49. Information activities to the company by event site management coordinators shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements for the protection of information with limited accessibility, coordination of law bodies and other relevant persons, in order to ensure that procedures related to the effective identification, investigation and prosecution of offenders and the detection and seizure of radioactive or nuclear material are not disrupted.

50. Communication with the media is made only by the authorised persons who have this right (spokespersons) and only after prior, full information on the causes, location and seriousness of the event.

51. The measure of information to the public and the media applies only if an accident with radiological consequences for the population or the environment has occurred. Communication with the media will convey objective and truthful data to the public on the emergency, measures to be taken by affected persons, monitoring sites, decontamination of people affected by the incident. It is necessary to bear in mind that in such cases radiological events have a particular impact on the media and the perception of the population, and that the technical nature of the



information conveyed may lead to incorrect interpretation of the reality, with negative consequences for the general state of peace among the population.

52. The investigation of events/incidents of smuggling of radioactive or nuclear material is carried out in accordance with the Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova No 985/2002 and the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Moldova No 122/2003, the requirements on admissibility of evidence and the conditions for ensuring the chain of custody and the protection of information with limited accessibility.

53. The technical analysis of radioactive or nuclear materials and orphan radioactive source, including classification, categorisation and characterisation, shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of non-destructive forensic analysis and, where necessary, destructive, radiological and nuclear safety standards, regulatory acts governing the handling, possession and storage of delicate bodies and radioactive or nuclear material.

54. The handling, packaging, storage and disposal of radioactive or nuclear material shall be carried out in accordance with all applicable regulations in the nuclear or radiological field, health and safety requirements, the protection of the environment and the maintenance of the integrity of evidence and shall be carried out only by the authorities authorised in accordance with the legal provisions.

55. The transport of radioactive or nuclear material shall be carried out in accordance with the Regulation on the safe transport of radioactive materials, approved by Government Decision No 434/2015, the Regulation on physical security in nuclear and radiological activities, approved by Government Decision No 1268/2016, regulations on the handling, possession and storage of radioactive or nuclear materials, safety regulations, health and safety requirements, environmental protection, the maintenance of the integrity of evidence and the protection of the efficient flow of trade.

56. International communication, including notification to relevant governments, the International Atomic Energy Agency, Interpol and other international bodies, shall be conducted in accordance with the competences established for each relevant authority party to the Regulation, in a manner that minimises the risk of the release of sensitive law enforcement information and allows for a coordinated and efficient response.

Chapter VI

DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE, EXERCISE

REGULATION AND FINANCING OF INTERVENTION

57. The primary responsibility for the development of the Regulation in accordance with the legislation lies with the National Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities and the structures of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, with the support and assistance of all other competent authorities.

58. The resources needed for the response and logistics will be provided by each institution involved in the response to nuclear and radiological events, in accordance with the relevant legislation.

59. The Regulation will be reviewed every four years and, if necessary, updated to reflect changes in structure, resources, capabilities and/or environment related to the smuggling of radioactive or nuclear materials.

60. Amendments to this Regulation may be proposed by any competent authority, through the coordinator (s) designated within the National Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Activities Regulation and the structures of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and require the formal approval of all competent authorities in the order laid down by law.

61. The competent authorities shall be responsible for providing training, training and education to all staff in order to carry out their tasks under this Regulation. This may include training and/or exercises involving staff from more than one competent authority.

62. Training and exercises are organised and carried out in order to prepare local government authorities and intervention forces, to improve cooperation, to verify the viability of the arrangements, to assess the state of play and to determine the necessary measures.

63. Before the exercises are carried out, it shall be ensured that existing and used mechanisms are updated or



reviewed, as well as partial training with decision-making staff and intervention forces.

64. Major state exercises assumed to be carried out outside the event site shall be organised by the National Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities and shall take place at least every 3 years.

65. The evaluation of this Regulation shall be carried out after the performance of the exercises, on the basis of the conclusions and reports submitted by staff specifically trained for that purpose, a copy of which shall be sent to each part of the Regulation.

[Annex 1](#)

[Annex 2](#)

[Annex 3](#)