



**ALBANIA**

**NATIONAL REPORT**

*On the measures taken to fulfill the obligations for*

*The Convention on Nuclear Safety*

For the Joint 8-th and 9-th Review Meeting of Contracting Parties to the CNS

July 2022

This Report is produced by the National Nuclear Agency on behalf of the  
Government of Albania

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## **CNS National Report - ALBANIA**

### **A – INTRODUCTION**

This National Report is the second one submitted by the Republic of Albania in compliance with the Article 5 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety. Therefore, this report, presents the national policy of the Republic of Albania regarding nuclear activities, giving an overview on the current status of implementation of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in Albania.

Republic of Albania has no nuclear power plants, no research reactor, no other fuel-cycle facility and no other nuclear installation operation in its territory and has no intention to have such in a short- and mid-term future.

Albania has a considerable activity in applying radiation and radioisotopes in human health, industry, agriculture and environment. Albania has a strong cooperation with the IAEA TC department and the Division of the Nuclear Security.

Legislative, regulatory and administrative measures have been undertaken in order to maintain a high level of radiation protection and nuclear safety. Therefore, this report addresses how the Republic of Albania has achieved the relevant objectives of the CNS regarding non-nuclear countries.

Albania ratified the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) on 29.06.2011, and the CNS is officially in force in Albania since 27.09.2011.

Ionizing radiation sources in Albania are mainly used in medicine, industry, science and education. The activities in medicine are in radiotherapy with Co-60, nuclear medicine with Tc-99m and I-131, diagnostic and interventional radiology, linear accelerators and other ionizing radiation sources X-ray machines (conventional X-ray and CT) are used in routine for diagnostic purposes. In industry are in use for non-destructive techniques (NDT) industrial radiography with X-ray and some other gauges used in the oil industry X-ray machines are used in borders and not only, for baggage inspection.

Since in Albania there are no nuclear installation and no government commitment has been shown to have such in short and middle term future, the nuclear activities in Albania are related with nuclear international agreements signed with IAEA and emergency preparedness. Albania has nuclear materials, not currently in use but previously used for research activities by universities and in geological survey. They are mainly in powder form consisting of oxides of uranium, thorium and also depleted uranium shielding for ionizing radiation sources used in medicine. These materials are located in a single repository at Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics and are subjected to the safeguard agreement rules that Albania has signed with IAEA. Albanian Nuclear Agency is the responsible body for complying with the rules of the above-mentioned agreement.

Albanian government made the National Nuclear Agency as the responsible body for the implementation of CNS to ensure that Albania is fully committed to the obligations regarding provisions of the Convention.

This National Report was prepared in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Guidelines regarding National Reports under the Convention on Nuclear Safety, INFCIRC/572/Rev.4 of 16 April 2013. Having no nuclear installations, Articles 7,8, and 16 of the CNS will be reported only.

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IAEA conducted the first International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission in Albania on 16-27 May 2016. The mission reviewed Albania's nuclear security-related legislative and regulatory framework for radioactive material and associated facilities and activities. The IPPAS team concluded that Albania has taken important steps to strengthen nuclear security. The team identified a number of good practices while also making recommendations and suggestions for continuous improvement.

**B – SUMMARY**

This is the Third National Report submitted according to the requirements of CNS. Albania, after 1995, when Law on Radiation Protection was adopted, has made significant progress when it comes to radiation safety in the country. Particularly significant is the progress in the establishment of the regulatory body and strengthening its capacity, as well as the adoption of laws in the field of radiation safety. Also, it is important to emphasize that Albania has ratified most major international instruments in the nuclear field and is deeply committed to the implementation of its international obligations. Through the adoption of regulations, the latest IAEA standards are taken in consideration, especially BSS, Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its supplementary Guidance.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Guidelines regarding national reports and is applicable to non-nuclear countries, and includes areas relevant to the work of the regulatory body. The report focuses on the description of the legislative and regulatory framework, the establishment and the status of the regulatory body, as well as on the preparation and response to emergencies (extraordinary circumstances).

**C – REPORTING ARTICLE BY ARTICLE**

**Article 7 CNS – Legislative and regulatory framework**

***(1) Establishment and maintenance of the legislative and regulatory framework***

Based on the IAEA Radiation Protection Advisory Teams (RAPAT) recommendations, the Parliament of Albania approved the Radiation Protection Act No. 8025“On ionizing radiation protection” of 09/11/1995, which is the basic law on radiation protection. Amendments to the Law on radiation protection have been approved to bring it in line with EU legislation. The Law 8025 was amended and promulgated in 2008 as Law No. 9973 and in 2013 as Law No 26/2013. The Radiation Protection Commission (RPC) is the Regulatory Authority with independent status and competences. The members of RPC are appointed by the Council of Ministers. Key structures in the field of radiation protection, safety and security are Radiation Protection Commission (RPC) and Radiation Protection Office (RPO), respectively regulatory and the executive organs. The strategic objective of Radiation Protection Commission (RPC), is to protect workers, public and environment from the effects of ionizing radiation.

Also, regarding the international agreements that Albania has signed with IAEA, INFCIRC 359, INFCIRC 359a 1 and INFCIRC 359m 1, the Council of Ministers Decree no.23 of 30.01.2010 and no.637 of 19.02.2012 have been issued in order to establish the responsible institutions the competencies for ensuring the fulfillment of these agreements.

Albania has ratified the conventions:

- Law No.10379, date 24.02.2011 Republic of Albania adhere in the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management (entered in force 27.09.2011)
- Law No.10380, dated 24.02.2011 Republic of Albania adhere in the Convention on Nuclear Safety. (entered in force 27.09.2011)
- Law No.9026, dated 13.3.2003 Republic of Albania adhere in the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (entered in force 30.10.2003)
- Law No.9015, dated 20.2.2003 Republic of Albania adhere in the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (entered in force 30.05.2003)
- Law No.8853, dated 31.01.2002 Republic of Albania adhere in the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (entered in force 04.04.2002).
- Law No. 88 dated 21.02.2013 Republic of Albania adhere in the Amendment of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (entered in force 08.05.2016)

With this legislative framework the most outstanding issues have been addressing, in particular recommendations by RaSSIA on security and physical protection of radioactive materials according to General Safety Requirements (GSR) part 3. At the moment the legislation is approximate to EU legislation.

***(2)/(i) National safety requirements and regulations***

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The Council of Ministers has adopted an appropriate set of regulations that cover the area of security, safety and radiation protection to ionizing sources as follows:

- The Regulation “On the categorization of radioactive sources in the Republic of Albania” Decision No.9, date 7.01.2010, which addresses: the basic elements for the assessment of the categorization, the effects of the radioactive materials according to the categorization, categorization of the radioactive materials.
- The Regulation “On Licensing and Inspection of the Activities with Ionizing Radiation” Decision No. 10, Date 7.01.2010, which addresses: exclusions, licensing conditions, the validation time of the license, inspection, duties of inspectors, actions of the inspectors when is a risk, the right of the inspectors, complain against the decisions, licensing application forms.
- The regulation “On public protection from the discharges in environment, determination of the sampling, regions and measurements frequency”, Decision No 313, dated 09.05.2012, which addresses: The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Waters Administrations is responsible for the environmental control, objective of regulation is network monitoring, the conception of national network for radioactivity monitoring, strategy of sampling and measurements, related with every types of samples, types of samplers, types of measurements and periodicity.
- The Regulation “For the basic rules of the radiological installations in medicine” Decision No 404, date 18.06.2014, which addresses: Rules for X-ray applications in radiology system, radioscopy system, computerized tomography and dental radiography.
- The regulation “On the security of radioactive sources in Republic of Albania”, Decision No 877; date 30.10.2015, which addresses: object of the regulation, purpose, definitions, security of radioactive sources, requirements for security of radioactive sources, requirements for physical protection of radioactive sources group A, requirements for physical protection of radioactive sources group B, requirements for physical protection of radioactive sources group C, transport of radioactive sources, responsibilities of Radiation Protection Commission, responsibilities of the licensees, report, lost and orphan sources, cooperation with law enforcement agencies, cooperation with custom, contact point with the IAEA, appendix 1-physical protection plan and appendix 2-objectives of the physical protection for different security groups of radioactive sources.
- The Regulation “On guidance levels for indoor radon concentration and the concentration of radionuclides in goods, to protect the public”, Decision No 957, dated 25.11.2015, which addresses: The object of the regulation are definitions of guide and reference levels as follows:
  - PART I-Guide levels for concentration of radon indoor. The action plan for radon, concentration of radon in working places, radon concentration in residential buildings and public buildings.
  - PART II-Guide levels for radio nuclides in water for public consumption, monitoring of compatibility, non compatibility, exemptions.
  - PART III-Levels of reference for agricultural products contaminated as a result of nuclear accident or radiological emergency. The maximum permitted levels of food contaminated



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with radioactive substances. The maximum permitted levels of radioactive contamination on animal food. The maximum permitted levels of radioactive contamination for cosmetics. Review of the maximum permitted levels, control of imports, exports control.

- PART IV-The reference levels of gamma radiation emitted by building materials, control of construction materials, trading of building materials, import and export of construction materials.
- PART V-Control of scrap, special provisions for the scrap recycling installations, information for employers regarding scrap import and export of scrap
- PART VI-Other provisions on Quality control
  - ✓ Annex 1-maximum levels of radioactive contamination, allowed of food products after a nuclear accident or radiological emergency
  - ✓ Annex 2- maximum levels of radioactive contamination allowed of food products for animals after a nuclear accident or radiological emergency
  - ✓ Annex 3- example. export certificate for agricultural products
  - ✓ Annex 4 -types of building materials taken into account for the emission of gamma radiation
  - ✓ Annex 5- activity indexes concentration of gamma radiation emission from building materials
  - ✓ Annex 6-example for certificate of monitoring of the load scrap.
- The Regulation "On safe management of radioactive waste", Decision No. 638 , date 7.09.2016, which addresses: the management of liquid and solid radioactive wastes, the obligation of the user of the source for the treatment of the waste, the transport of radioactive waste, conditioning and storage of radioactive waste, limits of concentrations and the total activity of the main radioisotope for the liquid waste released into municipal sewer system, categorization of the radiotoxicity group of radionuclide's.
- The Regulation "On the safe transport of the radioactive materials" Decision No. 615 , date 16.11.2016, which addresses: definitions, notification for transport, classification of the packages, contamination, limit levels, limit radiation levels during the transport, transport categorization, package label, additional conditions, accompanying documentation during the transport, passage through custom, final provisions, values of the radionuclides for the transport, limit activity for the excepted packaging, perform of radioactive danger and labels of transport categories.
- Decision No.801 date 11.12.2019 of Council of Ministers for the approval of the regulationon "protection of public and employees professionally exposed from ionising radiation and safety to medical exposure with ionizing radiation sources". This regulation is in line with IAEA document GSR part 3 and take into account the new concept of three exposure situation, planned emergency and existing exposure situation. Planned exposure situation covers the public, occupational and medical exposure, existing and emergency exposure situation cover only public and occupational exposure. This new regulation is divided in 7 parts and 2 appendixes (Dose limits and exclusions)
- Guidance, "Training Program in the field of Radiation Protection", No 1438/6 date 12 March 2011, which addresses:
  - The categories of persons to be trained

Qualified expert

Responsible of radiation protection (RPO)

Employees who use the ionizing radiation sources

Employees of regulatory body

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- Institutions to carry out the training of employees
  - Retraining
  - Assessment and recognition of training
  - Syllabus of courses for radiation protection
- Guidance on “the procedures of the evaluation of the applications for recognition by the RPC as a medical physicist”, No. 4629/1, dated 1.11.2012.
  - Guidance on “Procedures for the physical move of radioactive materials, goods and response in case of incident with radioactive sources in customs points”, No 1526/2 dated 13.04.2012.
  - Guidance on “Elements for recognition by Radiation Protection Commission for legal, physical persons, who perform measurements with ionizing and non ionizing radiation, calibration of radiometric and measuring the radiation devices, training and personal dosimetry service”, no 1526/1, dated 13.04.2012
  - Guidance on “Import export and transit of radioactive sources of category 1 and 2 in Republic of Albania” No 134, dated 12.4.2011

Radiation Protection Commission (RPC), in order to provide more support in the process of implementation of obligations about protection from radiation, has adopted a set of codes of practices as follows:

- Code of Practice in Radiotherapy No. 804 / 1 date 15.03.2005
- Code of practice in Radiology No 804 / 2 date 15.03.2005
- Code of practice in Nuclear Medicine No 5027/2 date 2/12/2010
- Code of conduct for the safety and security of radioactive sources, No. 1388, dated 14.04.2004

Radiation Protection Commission adopted a declaration in support of "Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources" IAEA Nr. 1388 14/04/2004 and a letter was sent to the Director General of the IAEA about.

The existing regulations, guidance's and codes of practice address occupational and public exposure, dose limits, medical exposure, transport of radioactive materials, waste management and emergency situations.

### **(ii) Licensing system**

The authorization system was established in 2000. The authorization process in Albania is regulated with the Regulation No.10, Date 07 January 2010 for "Licensing and inspection of activities with sources of ionizing radiation". Part of this regulation are the application forms, one is for activities with X ray generators and one for sealed/unsealed radioactive sources.

Regulation describes the rules for the process of authorizations and defines the criteria that should be met by the users. The authorization process takes into consideration safety and security elements. The authorization application must contain details of the radiation sources, the purpose of use, the radiation protection measures regarding optimization, justification, dose limits, shielding calculation, security plan for radioactive sources category 1,2,3, emergency countermeasures, requirements for returning back the DSRS etc. Particular

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information is required on the qualifications and work experience of the radiation protection officer and staff. Except of training in the radiation protection field, staff should be subjected to testing the knowledge obtained in the training. RPC has recognized the Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics to perform this process for all categories and some private institutions for training only the users.

The system for assessment of applications is based on current IAEA recommendations. There are clear procedures on application, assessment of application up to refusal of applications. There are established procedures on assessment and preparation of the assessment report on application for license.

Radiation Protection Commission (RPC) has approved:

- The document on procedures, explanatory format and evaluation of the application for license of the activities with ionizing radiation sources No.490/7 date 19.05.2020 and amendments
- The document on “The status of medical physicist in Albania”, No. 459/1, date 31.1.2012.
- The guidance on procedures of application for recognition by the RPC, as medical physicist No.4629/1 dated 01.11.2012
  
- The procedures of evaluation of the application for the recognition by the RPC as qualified experts for ionizing radiation protection No. 3618/4, dated 13.05.2014

There are some practices and radiation sources, which are exempted from licensing and this list is in compliance with the IAEA BSS. The authorizations are currently renewed every 5 years, but risk of practice is taken into account during assessment of applications (graded approach).

### **(iii) Regulatory inspection and assessment system**

In accordance with Law 8025, Article 8(c) amended on the Regulation on Licensing and Inspection, the RPC has established a systematic inspection programme. All ionizing radiation sources are subject to physical check and planned inspections are scheduled annually for higher risk sources and less frequently for others. The system of inspection was established in 2000. This process takes into consideration safety and security elements.

Based on the law No. 10433, date 16. 06. 2011, "On inspection in the Republic of Albania", Radiation Protection Office (RPO) performs e-inspection. Legislation and regulations make provision for enforcement, including penalties, sanctions and the actions and responsibilities of inspectors; Based on law No. 8025, dated 11.09.1995 "On protection from ionizing radiation" and law No. 10433, date 16. 06. 2011, "On inspection in the Republic of Albania", RPC has implemented the “Guidance on the methodology for determining the administrative penalties in the inspection process from RPO inspectors” no.1885/1, date 27.12.2016. This guidance establishes general rules based on the methodology of determining administrative penalties for all situations where the enforcement should apply by RPO inspectors.

### **(iv) Implementation of the existing regulations and license conditions**

There are legislative provisions for enforcement including the imposition of fines for violations where legal prosecution is not being pursued. Law 8025, Article 10, makes

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provision for the enforcement of regulatory actions, including sanctions. The enforcement actions are based on the type and severity of non-compliance and the fine is prescribed by the law (100 000 -300 000 Lek).

Articles 6, 8 and 9 of the Regulation on Licensing and Inspection set out the rights and responsibilities of RPC inspectors and detail actions available to them. Law 8025 and the regulation together provide the authority and guidance for inspectors on the enforcement policy of the RPC

It seems that the new amendments in 2008, establish clear enforcement actions (e.g. instructions, sanctions, fines, suspensions) based on the nature of non-compliance and the implications for safety.

The RPC has not established formal arrangements with relevant government agencies where enforcement requires the involvement of the police, Ministry of Justice or other authorities. In accordance with Article 8 of the Regulation on Licensing and Inspection, RPC may require the operator to cease activities and to take prompt actions to restore an adequate level of safety in situations deemed to pose an imminent radiological hazard to workers, the public or the environment.

In case of enforcement provisions, the dual nature of the regulatory body, namely the RPC and the RPO makes it difficult for the inspector to maintain on-the-spot authority and retain the inspector's integrity as an authorized person, who is independent in enforcing the law.

### **Article 8 CNS. The Regulatory Body**

#### **(1) The establishment of the Regulatory body**

The Radiation Protection Act No 8025, date 09.11.1995 amended, establishes the:

- Radiation Protection Commission (RPC) as the Regulatory Body; and the
- Radiation Protection Office (RPO) as its Executive Body.

Radiation Protection Commission (RPC) is established on the Decision No 123, dated 5.3.2014 of the Council of Ministers "For the establishment, composition and form of organization, operation, remuneration of the Radiation Protection Commission". The RPC has six non-permanent members and five experts from different Ministries, institutions and agencies.

The Radiation Protection Office (RPO) is established as the executive organ of the RPC. The Chairman of RPO is Secretary of RPC.

The mission statement of the RPC is to provide for the safe & secure use of ionizing radiation sources and to protect people and the environment against potential harmful effects, for now and future simultaneously ensuring to community the maximum benefit from use of radiation sources.

The functions, powers and duties of the RPC include:

- preparation of regulations, and issues guides and Codes of Practice for radiation protection and safety;
- overseeing enforcement;

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- issuing licenses;
- technical advice of national and local authorities for immediate enforcement of necessary procedures for mitigation of the effects of nuclear accidents;
- making recommendations and proposals for the improvement of the radiation protection legislation;
- cooperating with national and international organizations on radiation protection issues;
- defining the structure of the RPO;
- nomination/dismissal of the Chairman of RPO; and
- cooperation with the State Inspectorate.

The functions, powers and duties of the RPO include:

- preparation of information on licenses (applications, suspension or cancelation) for RPC approval;
- enforcement;
- inspection;
- collection of information and performance of necessary analysis and measurements for radiation protection control;
- keeps national inventory of sources; and
- preparation of relevant information, including reports, for Commission.

RPO have 8 full technical staff and 2 administrative supporting staff.

The RPO is equipped with an X- Ray test device, dose rate meters, a multichannel analyzer, a Field Spec unit, dosimeters of different types, phantoms, etc.

According to Law 9973 all regulatory activities associated with the system of authorization, inspection and enforcement are implemented by the RPC and RPO.

In support of the Albanian RPC, there are four technical service organizations (TSOs):

- The Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics (IANP), which has responsibilities relating to radiation protection expertise, calibration, dosimetry service, waste management, training programmes, environmental control, and emergency response.
- The Institute of Public Health, which covers medical surveillance of occupationally exposed workers.
- The Institute of Radiation covers issues on expertise and training programme for users.
- The Institute of Radiation Protection covers issues on expertise and training programme for users.

Council of Ministers Decree no.23 of. 30.01.2010 and no.637 of. 19.02.2012 establishes the National Nuclear Agency of Albania as the responsible institution for the following duties:

- Development, following and progress of the Albanian nuclear program.
- Preparation of nuclear legal framework for the development of the nuclear program
- Responsible for safety and security of spent fuel and all the radioactive materials derived from the process of producing nuclear energy.
- Responsible for the inspection and verification of the inventory of the materials included in the “Protocol Additional of Safeguards to all Nuclear Activities for Albania”

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- Responsible for communication with IAEA regarding the report of nuclear materials safety and security status as specified in, INFCIRC 359, INFCIRC 359a 1 and INFCIRC 359m 1
- The owners and users of materials such as are mentioned in the INFCIRC 359, INFCIRC 359a 1 and INFCIRC 359m 1 agreements are obligated to create the necessary condition for the inspection and verification of the nuclear material status according to the requirements of the above-mentioned agreements.

The National Nuclear Agency is an institution of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy administratively depending on the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy. The National Nuclear Agency of Albania has 7 full time employees.

Below is the RPC and the National Nuclear Agency Organizational Chart

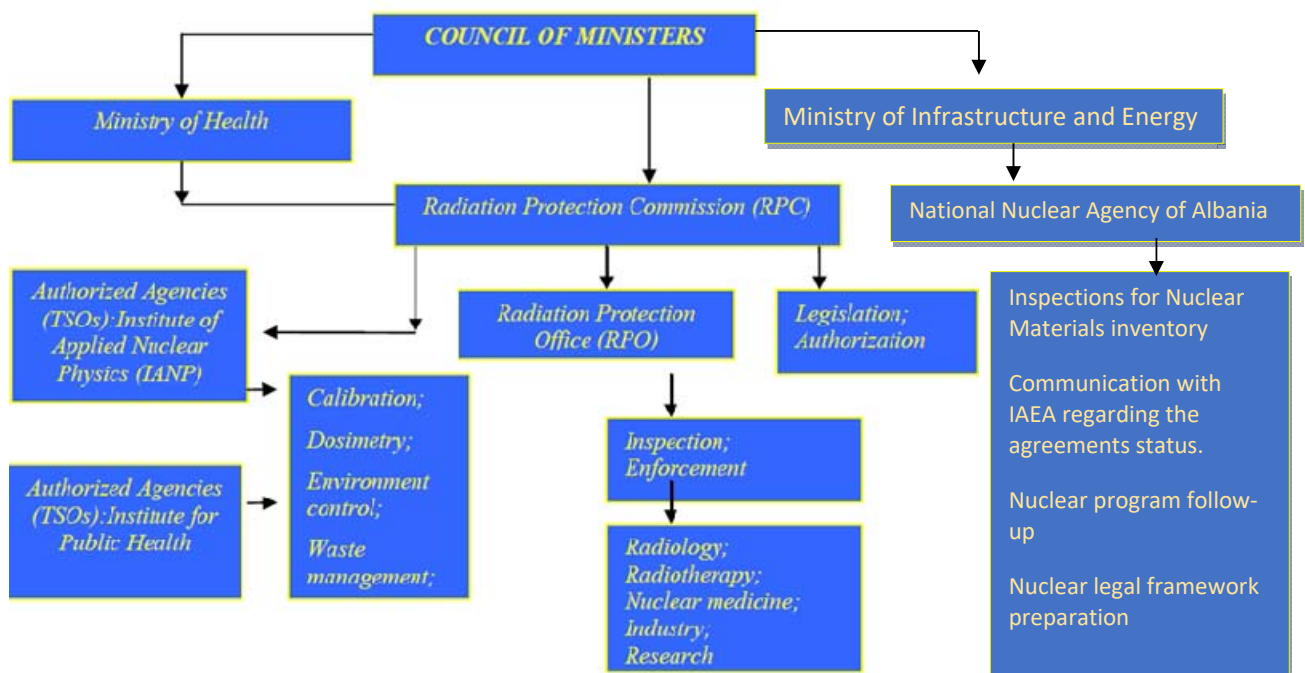


Fig. 1 Organizational Chart

### (2) Status of the regulatory body

The distribution of responsibilities among organizations having responsibility for radiation safety in Albania appears to be well defined. The regulatory body appears to be effectively independent of operating organizations by reporting to the Council of Ministers via Minister of Health and Social Protection.

The RPO has sufficient facilities and equipment to perform its duties and responsibilities as the executive body of the RPC. The RPO has 10 technical and administrative staff. As necessary and appropriate, the RPO uses the services of experts from the Institute of Applied Nuclear Physics, Institute of Radiation and Institute of Radiation Protection to undertake technical activities.

The staff qualification is adequate. All staff attended IAEA regional and post-graduate training courses, which have covered radiation safety and to certain extend the security of

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radiation sources. Existing continuous educational and training programmes in Albania serve the requirements of agencies involved in regulation or those of the users of ionizing radiation.

There are shortcomings related with financial and administrative aspects of the RPO as part of the budget and administration of the Institute of Public Health (IPH). The RPO has no financial independence and its own budget. RPO does not prepare an annual budget based on the needs of its regulatory programme. RPO obtains vehicles on request from dispatcher center at the Institute of Public Health; however, vehicles may not always be available when required.

As for the National Nuclear Agency, it has to be stated a certain limited independence in terms of financing its activities and many times the coordination between different actors has to be made involving three ministries in a very bureaucratic way.

### **Article 16 Emergency Preparedness**

#### **(1) Plans and programs in case of emergencies**

In the Republic of Albania, radiation sources are mainly used in different applications including medicine, industry, agriculture, research and education. The previous experiences in the country as well as in many other countries require enforcement of rules and regulations on radiation protection to prevent any probable accident with radioactive sources. Due to a human and/or design error such sources might cause a radiological accident leading to overexposure of patients, radiation workers and public. On the other hand, although Albania does not have any research reactor or nuclear power plant (herein referred to as NPP), it is in relatively close distances from some NPPs in operation in some neighboring countries, which in case of accidents could affect the territory of Albania, such as: Kozloduy NPP in Bulgaria, Krsko NPP in Slovenia, Paks NPP in Hungary and Cernavoda NPP in Romania (Fig 2).

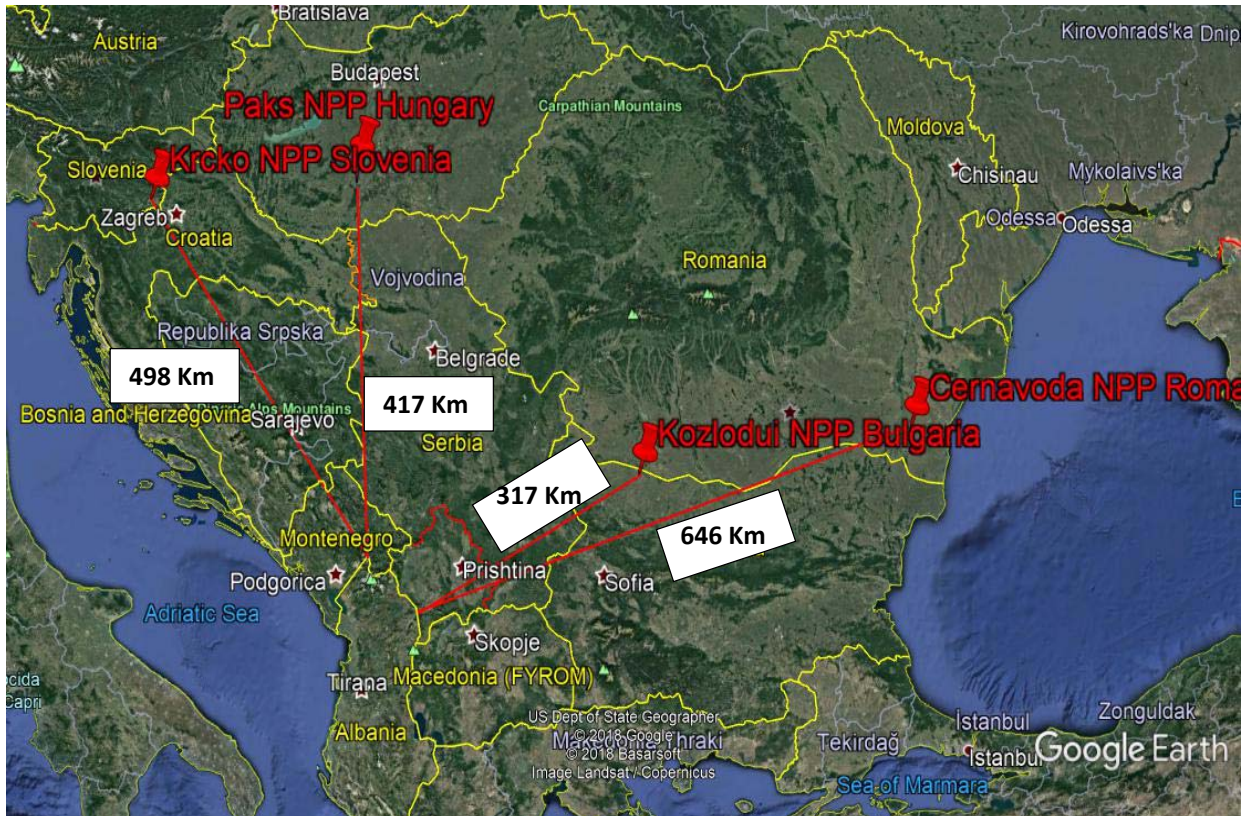


Fig. 2 Schematic map of NPP-s in neighboring countries of Albania

By considering the existing radiation sources in the country and the geographic position of the country towards the neighboring NPPs, Albania falls into threat categories III, IV and V.

Based on the above stated information, and keeping in mind the need to be ready to respond to any radiological emergency, is approved the Regulation No.700 date 21.11.2018 "on the radiological emergency preparedness and response for the protection of employees and public. The main purpose of this regulation is to establish and organize the necessary infrastructure in Albania to mitigate and eliminate the consequences of each type of radiological emergency, in an integrated manner. Therefore, this regulation should be read and applied in correlation with the National Plan for civil emergencies, No.853 date 3.12.2004.

The legal basis of the Regulation No.700 date 21.11.2018 on the radiological emergency preparedness and response for the protection of employees and public is the Law No. 8025 of 09.11.1995 "On Ionizing Radiation Protection" as amended No. 9973 on 28.07.2008, Law No. 9756 from 26.03.2001 "For civil emergencies", Law on Environmental Protection No. 10431 from 09.06.2011 and other specific laws. This regulation also provides for personnel and equipment necessary, according to the procedures developed and recommended by the IAEA, to face with radiological emergencies.

The main objectives of the Regulation No.700 date 21.11.2018 on the radiological emergency preparedness and response for the protection of employees and public are:



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- Aware the attention of users and relevant authorities to the possibility of the occurrence of a radiological accident and to the implementation of the necessary measures to avoid it;
- Reduce the risk of accidents and / or to mitigate the consequences of accidents when they occur;
- Avoid serious deterministic effects (such as deaths from accidents);
- Reduce as much as possible the stochastic effects.

The prime responsibility for ensuring safety and radiation protection belongs to the physical/legal person who operates with ionizing radiation sources. Planning for the protective measures towards radiological emergency is based on the goals of defining the responsibility of the users, the regulatory authority as well as the other organizations responsible for the implementation of this Plan. When the consequences of the emergency are inside the premises or in their immediate vicinity, the responsibility for countermeasures belongs to the user. When the consequences of the accident are not localized only within or near the installation, but affect a larger area, then to mitigate the consequences of this accident, the user, IANP, local authorities, and other first responding institutions (Police or Firefighters) according to the responsibilities stipulated by the legislation are responsible and should be committed to alleviating the consequences of the accident.

The RPC will provide technical adviser to DPCCE (Directorate for Planning and Coordinating of Civil Emergencies) for taking the necessary measures to deal with the emergency. RPC has to gather and analyze information from the emergency response teams and first responders to give appropriate advice to DPCCE. Meanwhile, DPCCE will organize and coordinate the work of different organizations under the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration, the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior Affairs, the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, General Directorate of Customs and mass-media.

The Regulation No.700 date 21.11.2018 on the radiological emergency preparedness and response for the protection of employees and public includes the main duties for the RPC, RPO and IANP in advising the DPCCE.

There are two types of emergency response teams:

Radiological Emergency Teams, and

Environmental Survey Teams.

RPO has one Radiological Emergency Team, while IANP has besides a Radiological Emergency Team, Environmental Survey Teams and the National Environmental Monitoring Network. The regulation provides the classification of emergencies and main response action, elements on protection of emergency workers, training of this category of workers, quality assurance, testing regulation, funding etc.