



International Atomic Energy Agency

# INFORMATION CIRCULAR

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**COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT  
MISSION OF PAKISTAN TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC  
ENERGY AGENCY CONCERNING THE PROMULGATION OF THE  
PAKISTAN NUCLEAR REGULATORY AUTHORITY ORDINANCE  
2001**

The Director General has received a communication dated 30 January 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan forwarding a press release concerning the promulgation of the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority Ordinance 2001. As requested in that communication, the press release is attached hereto for the information of Member States.

**PRESS RELEASE**

**PRESIDENT PROMULGATES PAKISTAN NUCLEAR  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY ORDINANCE 2001**

President Muhammad Rafiq Tarar here today promulgated an Ordinance for the establishment of the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority. The ordinance is called PNRA Ordinance 2001.

The PNRA would be regulatory authority for nuclear safety and radiation protection in the country and the extent of civil liability for nuclear damage resulting from any nuclear incident.

The Ordinance binds the Federal Government to establish the authority as soon as possible but not later than thirty days after notification in the official gazette.

The authority will be established in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance:

The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority and shall, subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, the rules and regulations, be responsible for the day to day administration of the affairs of the Authority. The Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, remove the Chairman or any member from his office.

The Authority shall have the responsibility for controlling, regulating and supervising all matters related to nuclear safety and radiation protection measures in Pakistan. The powers and functions of the Authority are:

- a. to devise, adopt, make and enforce such rules, regulations, orders or codes of practice for nuclear safety and radiation protection as may, in its opinion, be necessary;
- b. to plan, develop and execute comprehensive policies and programmes for the protection of life, health and property against the risk of ionizing radiation;
- c. to approve effective reporting procedures with respect to radiation incidents and to ensure that plans for protective action in emergency situation have been prepared;

- d. to ensure that corrective actions are undertaken when unsafe or potentially unsafe conditions are detected concerning a nuclear installation, radiation generator, nuclear material, nuclear substance or radioactive material;**
- e. to ensure that appropriate measures for physical protection of nuclear installations and nuclear materials are taken; and**
- f. to inspect all nuclear installations, radiation generators, nuclear materials, nuclear substances or radioactive materials to ensure that regulations concerning safety measures are properly followed.**

**The Federal Government may, from time to time, issue to the Authority such directives and orders as it may consider necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Ordinance and the Authority shall follow and carry out such directives and orders.**

**In discharging its functions, the Authority shall be bound by such instructions, if any, as may be given to it on any questions of policy by the Federal Government which shall be the sole judge as to whether a question is a question of policy.**

**The Authority may, in order to carry out its functions in a smooth and effective manner, with the prior approval of the Federal Government, enter into cooperation agreements with any other nuclear regulatory authority or international organization in respect of the peaceful uses of atomic energy pursuant to the express terms and conditions of any programme or agreement for cooperation to which such authority or organization is a party or pursuant to any other international arrangement made before or after the commencements of this Ordinance.**

**Islamabad,  
January 22, 2001**