



60 Years

IAEA *Atoms for Peace and Development*

Information Circular

INFCIRC/903

Date: 20 December 2016

General Distribution

Original: English

Communication dated 19 December 2016 received from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine concerning Chernobyl's New Safe Confinement

1. The Secretariat has received a communication dated 19 December 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency, enclosing a press release on “Chernobyl's New Safe Confinement”.
2. The communication and, as requested, the press release, are herewith circulated for the information of Member States.



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna

№ 4131/35-197-2781

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to transmit herewith the **Press Release on Chernobyl's New Safe Confinement** (attached).

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine requests the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency to circulate above mentioned Press Release as Information Circular to all IAEA Member States.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Incl.: as stated, on 2 pages



Secretariat
International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna

PRESS RELEASE
Chornobyl's New Safe Confinement

The high-level events dedicated to completion of the installation of the New Safe Confinement (Arch) over the destroyed Chornobyl's Unit 4, which until recently was covered by a temporary Shelter, took place on 29 November 2016 at the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant.

The New Safe Confinement (NSC) is unprecedented engineer project in terms of design and construction. It is intended to replace the present sarcophagus, which was constructed over destroyed Unit 4 on April 26, 1986.

The NSC is aimed at converting the destroyed Unit 4 into an environmentally safe system, reducing corrosion and weathering of the existing Shelter as well as enabling safe demolition of unstable structures by providing remotely and state-of-art operated equipment.

Never before has such a huge structure been constructed at a heavily contaminated site: the NSC is 108 meters high and 162 meters long, and has a span of 257 meters, the arch-shaped structure weighs approximately 36,000 tones. Its frame is a huge lattice construction of tubular steel elements, supported by two longitudinal concrete beams.

Being a key part of the Shelter Implementation Plan, the construction of the NSC at the site started in 2010, and is scheduled to be completed in 2017. This unique project combines the outstanding efforts of Ukraine and 28 countries-donors who raised over 1 billion 417 million euro. 10 thousand workers from various countries were involved in the implementation of this project. A total of 40 countries took part in the construction.

President of Ukraine H.E. Mr. Petro Poroshenko, the representatives of the relevant ministries of Ukraine, donor-countries to the Chornobyl Shelter Fund and the Nuclear Safety Account, diplomatic missions and international organizations in Ukraine took part in the high-level events on 29 November 2016.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which made a significant contribution in remediation of affected cities and farmland, monitoring of human exposure to radiation, and dissemination of information, was represented at the high level, in particular by the Deputy Director General, Head of Department of Technical Cooperation Mr. Dazhu Yang.

It should be noted that since 1990 the IAEA has provided 15,5 million USD of financial support to Ukraine for the implementation of 13 projects related to the issues of mitigation of the Chornobyl accident consequences.

Nowadays, Ukraine continues cooperation with the Agency on Chornobyl related issues and implements a number of important national projects in framework of Technical Cooperation Programme for 2016-2017, including the project aimed at rendering assistance in decommissioning and radioactive waste management at the Chornobyl NPP onsite.

Ukraine stands ready to actively cooperate with the Agency on Chernobyl related issues for the next TCP project cycle for 2018-2019 by further implementing, inter alia, a national project aimed at supporting Chernobyl NPP Units Decommissioning and Radioactive Waste Management at the NPP site and within the Exclusion Zone.

**Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations in Vienna**