
Nuclear Security

Objective

To contribute to global efforts to achieve effective nuclear security, by establishing comprehensive nuclear security guidance and promoting its use through peer reviews and advisory services and capacity building, including education and training. To assist in adherence to, and implementation of, relevant international legal instruments, and in strengthening the international cooperation and coordination of assistance in a manner that underpins the use of nuclear energy and applications. To play the central role and enhance international cooperation in nuclear security, in response to General Conference resolutions and Board of Governors directions.

International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts (ICONS 2020)

The Agency organized the third and final Programme Committee meeting, co-chaired by Bulgaria and Egypt, in preparation for ICONS 2020. It also facilitated consultations on the Ministerial Declaration expected to result from the conference, a process initiated by the co-chairs from Panama and Romania that included six informal open-ended consultations and three drafting sessions.

The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and Its Amendment

Two regional events were convened on this topic, one for English-speaking African countries and one for Latin American countries, and an international seminar on the CPPNM and its Amendment was held in Vienna. The Agency organized the fifth Technical Meeting of Representatives of States Parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and the CPPNM Amendment. The Agency also convened two meetings of legal and technical experts in preparation for the 2021 Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. The aim was to facilitate the review, at the 2021 Conference, of the implementation of the amended CPPNM and its adequacy as concerns the preamble, the whole of the operative part and the annexes in the light of the then prevailing situation, as foreseen in Article 16.1 thereof.

Nuclear Security Guidance

Five new IAEA Nuclear Security Series guidance publications and one revision of an existing publication were issued. At the end of 2019, the Nuclear Security Series comprised

37 publications. New publications addressed topics including developing a nuclear security contingency plan for nuclear facilities; security during the lifetime of a nuclear facility; establishing a system for control of nuclear material for nuclear security purposes at a facility during use, storage and movement; preventive measures for nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control; and planning and organizing nuclear security systems and measures for nuclear and other radioactive material out of regulatory control.

Needs Assessment and Capacity Building

Three Member States approved Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans, bringing the total number of approved plans to 84. The Agency conducted 104 security related training activities with more than 2500 participants from 143 States (Figs 1 and 2). In addition, 1972 users from 164 States completed 4692 e learning modules.



FIG. 1. Participants in the Regional Training Course on Basic Aspects of the Design of Physical Protection Systems for Radioactive Sources held in Obninsk, Russian Federation.



FIG. 2. Participants in the workshop on Managing Radiological Crime Scenes: Learning through Practice photograph the contaminated evidence for crime scene reconstruction.

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Risk Reduction

The Agency continued to support Member States to protect radioactive material during and after use. In 2019, three Category 1 and 2 disused sealed sources were removed from two European countries, and the removal of 11 sources was initiated from five countries in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. A new physical protection laboratory was established in Malaysia. The Agency also provided assistance in implementing nuclear security systems and measures for major public events to 12 States.

Incident and Trafficking Database

In 2019, States reported 189 national incidents to the Incident and Trafficking Database: 182 involved radioactive sources and radioactively contaminated material, and 12 involved nuclear material. Eight reported incidents involved acts of trafficking or malicious use.

Nuclear Security Fund

The Agency accepted extrabudgetary pledges to the Nuclear Security Fund amounting to €33.3 million from 15 Member States and other contributors in 2019.