NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

ALGERIA

MARCH 2014

I- RATIFICATIONS:

1. Algeria has ratified all International Legal Instruments relevant to Nuclear Security in particular; those mentioned in the 2010 Washington Summit Final Communiqué and Work Plan, namely, the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT).

2. Algeria also completed the process of ratification of all related International Legal Instruments such as the United Nations Conventions on combating terrorism, organized crime, corruption and money laundering.

II- LEGISLATION:

In December 2013, Algeria amended its penal code to criminalize malicious use of radioactive materials, including in general acts of nuclear terrorism. This amendment is related to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT).

III- REGULATIONS:

1. Algeria is putting in place strong regulatory provisions to strengthen nuclear security, namely in the area of physical protection of nuclear materials as well as facilities and security of radioactive sources.

2. The Government recently issued three (03) decrees establishing security perimeters around three Nuclear Research Centers hosting the nuclear materials and facilities.

3. These decrees are related to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM as amended) and contain provisions that take into account the latest version of INFCIRC/225 Rev.5 as well as the IAEA related technical and guidelines documents.

4. Sustainable mechanisms and updated procedures are in force to address nuclear security issues at borders including export control of dual-use materials.

5. Memorandums of understanding between national actors involved are regularly updated, to take in charge actions related to safety and security of nuclear materials and other radioactive materials.

6. Regulations are being significantly updated with the input of the departments involved in security issues, taking into account international requirements and experiences.

IV- NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING MEASURES:

1. A Nuclear Security Training and Support Centre was established in 2012 by presidential decree. Its mission is to provide high quality technical and scientific support to the relevant authorities as well as to contribute to strengthening human resources at both national and regional level.

2. The Centre based in Algiers brings together all nuclear security actors providing a suitable environment for experience sharing and transfer of knowledge.
3. Specific training programmes aimed at different specific sectors have been developed to meet national needs as far as the international commitments are concerned.

4. Master’s degree course in Nuclear security has been put in place as well as nuclear security and physical protection modules were included in the nuclear engineering education programmes.

5. Algeria organized in October 2013, a regional workshop on nuclear forensics in cooperation with the IAEA. This event was very successful with the participation of many African participants from both English and French speaking countries.

6. Algeria is planning to organize in the upcoming months, several national and regional workshops and training courses on nuclear security. Some of them will be supported by the IAEA, namely, the workshops on nuclear forensics and Design basis threat.

V-INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATING MECHANISMS:

1. Algeria is a founding member of the international network of nuclear security and support centers created under the auspices of the IAEA on the 2nd February 2012.

   Algerian experts from different institutions (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algerian Atomic Energy Commission, Scientific Police, and Customs) have been actively participating in its working groups.

2. Algeria is actively contributing to the implementation of IAEA programs and the development of nuclear security guidance.

3. Algeria is a member of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) since February 2012.

4. Algeria hosts the Regional Office for North Africa and Sahel region of the EU-CBRN threat reduction Centre of Excellence (EU CBRN-CoE). It is involved in the coordination of several cooperation projects in the area of capacity building to enhance nuclear security and CBRN safety and security at the national, regional and international level.

5. During 2012-2013, Algeria hosted several IAEA Nuclear Safety and Security workshops. It organized also a national training course in nuclear security for the police in cooperation with the IAEA, EU and Interpol.

6. During 2012-2013, Algeria and the USA have identified some areas of cooperation in the field of nuclear security.

7. Algeria is cooperating with the IAEA to elaborate and implement the integrated nuclear security and support plan (INSSP). A meeting between national representatives and IAEA experts took place in Algiers in November 2013 to examine the needs as regards to the functional areas of the INSSP, so as to strengthen the national nuclear security regime.