NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

THE CZECH REPUBLIC

1. SUPPORT FOR MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS (CPPNM AND ICSANT):

The Czech Republic ratified the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) on 21 May 2008. Although the Amendment has not entered into force yet, the Czech Republic has adopted a governmental decree implementing all obligations of the 2005 Amendment and has amended the national regulation and policy accordingly. Domestic use, storage and transport of nuclear material are performed under the relevant licences of the Czech National Regulatory Authority.

On 30 December 2010, the Czech Republic passed to the depositary the instrument of acceptance of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material in accordance with Article 20.2.

The Czech Republic also ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) on 25 July 2006. The Convention entered into force in the Czech Republic on 7 July 2007 and was implemented into national legislation.

2. STRENGTHENED NATIONAL NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL MATERIAL SECURITY SYSTEM:

The Czech Republic complies with INFCIRC/225 for the domestic implementation of nuclear security. The Czech Republic had participated in technical meetings within the preparations of the fifth revision of recommendations contained in INFCIRC/225 and supported the revision. Subsequently, the Czech Republic has implemented the IAEA Guidelines regarding transport of nuclear materials, published as INFCIRC/225/Rev.5 into national legislation. According to the Atomic Act an approval issued by the Czech National Regulatory Authority of the method used to ensure physical protection of nuclear materials during their transport is a prerequisite for granting a transport licence.

The Atomic Act implementing Regulation on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities and their Classification provides for the classification and associated physical protection of nuclear facilities, nuclear materials and the scope of their physical protection in transport in compliance with INFCIRC/225/Rev.5.

The IAEA implementing Guide on the Development, Use and Maintenance of the Design Basis Threat is taken into account when licensing physical protection measures for nuclear facilities. New requirements for technical systems of physical protection were implemented in national legislation in 2011.

The Czech Republic supports many additional programs to enhance nuclear security. In 2009 the Czech National Regulatory Authority held a workshop “Regional System for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Nuclear and Radioactive Materials in Murmansk region” in cooperation with the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority. Training courses concerning physical protection are regularly held from 1995. In 2010 the Czech National Regulatory Authority organized a “Performance Testing Workshop” for participants from Poland, Hungary, Serbia and Romania.

The Czech Republic has made a political commitment with regard to the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, with the Contact Point designated at the Czech National Regulatory Authority in 2004. Most of the requirements of the Code

of Conduct and the Guidance were implemented in the Czech legislation. Some requirements are applied individually by conditions of licences issued to exporters and importers of radioactive sources.

From the 1990s the Czech National Regulatory Authority maintains the national source register which contains comprehensive information on high-risk radioactive sources, as well as on their holders.

3. Contribution to and use of the IAEA's Nuclear Security-Related Activities and Services:

The Czech Republic contributed nearly 500 000 USD to the Nuclear Security Fund during the years 2003 to 2008. From 2011 the Czech Republic invested within the scope of the Peaceful Uses Initiative around 300 000 USD in the Armenian NPP Medzamor. Another 170 000 USD were provided for the Armenian National Regulatory Authority.

The results of the first IPPAS mission in the Czech Republic, performed in 1998, were generally positive, only small recommendations were realized afterwards. The follow-up mission in 2002 confirmed that the physical protection in the Czech Republic has met the international requirements. Since then the Czech experts participated on IPPAS missions upon request of the IAEA. Such missions with the Czech participation were conducted in Ukraine, Slovakia, Romania, Kazakhstan, Australia, etc.

4. Support for Nuclear Security-Related International Initiatives:

The Czech Republic is a member of the GTRI, participates in the G8 Global Partnership Initiative, PSI and other CBRN initiatives. The Czech Republic regularly takes part in the Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. It also participates in the counter-terrorist initiative GICNT and is an active supporter of nuclear security-related policies within the EU. In 2011 the Czech Republic and the United States announced a joint cooperation in nuclear energy research and development efforts through the Texas A&M University and the Czech Nuclear Education Network (CENEN). This bilateral collaboration shall advance safe and secure nuclear energy technologies in both countries.

In line with point 23 of the Council Conclusion on the strengthening chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear security – EU CBRN Action Plan - the Czech National Regulatory Authority keeps the holders of high–risk radioactive sources informed on a need–to–know basis about potential threats. In 2010 the Czech Republic held a course on physical protection of high-risk radioactive sources for operators of facilities in which such sources are handled.

In 2011 the Czech Republic assisted the GTRI to contact (on voluntary basis) some facilities with high-risk radioactive sources in order to analyze current situation with respect to the security of high radioactive sources and to propose the improvement of their physical protection if “security gaps” were identified.

5. Contribution to Minimization of sensitive nuclear materials:

The Czech Republic has converted all its nuclear reactors, including research reactors, to use LEU fuel. The Czech Republic also considers the possibility to use only LEU targets for the production of medical radioisotopes and has exchanged diplomatic notes with the United States in this regard.

Within the frame of GTRI, hundreds of kilograms of HEU and LEU nuclear fuel, which was originally used in research reactors, have been transported since 2004 to its country of origin – the Russian Federation. The last transfer to the same destination of the very last 64 fuel assemblies, originally used as HEU nuclear fuel on the Czech territory, was realized in 2013. The Czech Republic provided know-how, or extra budgetary contributions assistance with similar programs at facilities in many countries, for example Bulgaria, Poland, Serbia, Hungary or Vietnam.

6. Establishment of Centre of Excellence and Support:

The Czech Republic Army Colonel Radomir Mikes was the first director of the Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence after its establishment in 2006. In July 2007 Joint CBRN Defence CoE was officially activated and accredited in Vyskov, Czech Republic, as an International Military Organization by the North Atlantic Council. A pilot course of the Crisis Management after CBRN Incident was held at the Joint CBRN Defence CoE from 11 to 15 November 2013. The course was run in the presence of two representatives from the EU and the NATO, attended by

ten students from seven countries. According to a survey done by the end of the course participants have considered the course as very successful, as Crisis Management is a frequently discussed topic at the present time. The Crisis Management after CBRN Incident course was also a unique opportunity for the Joint CBRN Defence CoE to declare its CBRN defence expertise capabilities.

The Czech Republic has established a Centre of Excellence in the Nuclear Research Institute Rez too, which is specialized in nuclear safety research and nuclear fuel. The first impulse to create the CoE at Nuclear Research Institute Rez was done in the IAEA International Conference on Research Reactors, held in Sydney in November 2007. Centers of Excellence and functioning and future sustainability of the reactor coalitions were widely discussed at the conference. Soon after the conference, the Eastern European Research Reactor Initiative (EERRI) was born in Budapest. EERRI reactor coalition covers research and educational reactors from seven European countries, including two reactors from the Czech Republic.

7. Enhancing Efforts to Combating Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear and Radiological Materials:

The Czech Republic is a member of the IAEA ITWG and GICNT and participates in international information sharing on incident and illicit trafficking of nuclear materials and radioactive sources. Licensing and law enforcement institutional bodies are equipped with detectors enabling the disclosure of illicit trafficking. The Czech experts regularly take part in training courses and workshops organized by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in Karlsruhe aimed in the first instance to counter nuclear and radiological smuggling and nuclear forensics core capabilities.

The Czech Republic has vast experience with nuclear detection and forensics. Detailed analyses of nuclear materials are conducted at the Central Analysis Laboratory Rez (CAL). CAL is a member of the working group INFL (ITWG Nuclear Forensics Laboratories) and it is near to its inclusion in the IAEA network of Safeguards Analytical Laboratories (NWAL).

The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratory (SAL) in Seibersdorf examines safeguards inspection samples of nuclear material containing plutonium and uranium isotopes and analyses environmental samples to search for any undeclared usage of nuclear installations. All nuclear and environmental samples are delivered to the SAL, screened there and then analyzed in the SAL or in one of the NWAL laboratories in IAEA Member States. Upgrading the SAL in the framework of the ECAS project (Enhancing Capabilities of the Safeguards Analytical Services) will provide the IAEA with expanded capability for nuclear sample analyses, including analyses of uranium, plutonium, spent fuel and high-activity liquid samples. The Czech Republic joined this project with regular financial contributions. Last year the Czech Republic has donated more than 50 000 USD for another ECAS project .

8. Strengthened Cooperation between Government and Nuclear Industry:

The Czech National Regulatory Authority cooperates with the Czech Chamber of Commerce, organizes workshops and meetings of nuclear industry and the regulatory bodies responsible for granting export licenses. The Czech National Regulatory Authority provides nuclear exporters upon their request with the standpoint on controlled items before concluding the respective contract.

Recently, close attention is paid to the cooperation with the IAEA on the program "Outreach on Nuclear Activities and Trade Relevant to Safeguards Implementation" that was established to engage trade companies against the extensive covert networks related to procurement and supply of sensitive nuclear technology. In spring 2012 a workshop in the presence of the IAEA lectors was held for the Czech companies involved in the production of items controlled in the nuclear area.