



NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

ITALY

Italy is fully committed to strengthen nuclear security by reinforcing national measures and international cooperation along the lines agreed to in the Washington and Seoul Communiqués and the Washington Work Plan.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE GLOBAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

Italy is a founding member of the G8 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and participates in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). At the national level, ratifications of both the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) and the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) moved forward. Pending their entry into force many related provisions are already being implemented. Following Government approval of the draft legislation on 17 January 2014, the 2005 CPPNM Amendment's ratification will take place soon after the completion of parliamentary procedures.

STRENGTHENING THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Italy is a major contributor to the IAEA regular Budget and actively supports the Agency through financial contributions to the Nuclear Security Fund and to the Technical Cooperation Program. Italy also contributes to the IAEA activities related to the strengthening of the international nuclear security framework. Italy is a member of the Nuclear Security Guidance Committee and an active contributor to the drafting of the Nuclear Security Series. In July 2013, Italy attended the First IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Security.

NUCLEAR MATERIALS CONSOLIDATION AND MINIMIZATION

The Italian national inventory of special nuclear material currently consists of limited quantities of Highly Enriched Uranium and Plutonium stored in accordance with the CPPNM as amended. Noting the importance of the timely removal and disposition of nuclear materials from facilities no longer using them, also in accordance with the national programme for the decommissioning of existing nuclear plants, Italy is working with the United States to eliminate excess Highly Enriched Uranium and Plutonium. Ad hoc arrangements are under way within the framework of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative and two repatriation operations have been carried out in November 2012 and July 2013 respectively, in full compliance with the highest nuclear safety and security standards. Only very limited quantities of special nuclear material are currently located in national facilities. A further repatriation is to be completed by the 2014 Nuclear Security Summit.

ENHANCING NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY CAPACITY

Nuclear security measures, including transport security measures, are implemented in accordance with the 2005 Amendment to the CPPNM and INFCIRC 255/Rev.5, together with the relevant EU Directives and taking into account the IAEA Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. International transportations of national irradiated fuel and nuclear materials are currently carried out along the lines set out in the national programme for the decommissioning of nuclear installations. Italy is committed to draft a National Nuclear Security Plan to ensure better coordination among all relevant actors in combating illicit trafficking. The Plan will include both provisions on nuclear and other radioactive materials, radioactive sources and associated facilities as well as harmonization of related contingency plans.



Italy further improved the efficiency of the early warning radiation network which now includes more than 1200 stations throughout the national territory, 2 national centres and 16 regional centres. The network operates 24 hours a day and it has been tested during attack simulation exercises and across border emergencies. Italy is also working to develop a comprehensive emergency response system. In 2013 the Firefighters Department continued to carry out crisis management exercises, including those related to terrorist attacks with radiological materials. In June 2013, a table top exercise involving all relevant actors at local and national level took place in Messina and Reggio Calabria (Southern Italy). The exercise succeeded in testing effective response capabilities following a serious environmental contamination triggered by a radiological dispersal device (RDD).

ENHANCING EFFORTS IN COMBATING ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

In 2010 Italy and the U.S. signed a Memorandum of Understanding within the framework of the Megaports Initiative, to prevent the smuggling of nuclear and other radioactive materials through the global maritime system. Under a cost-sharing arrangement, the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration worked with the Italian Customs Agency to help secure cargo containers passing through several Italian ports. Since September 2013 the ports of Genoa and La Spezia have been equipped with mobile detection systems. By the end of December 2013 more than 300 cargo shipments have been controlled. Taking into consideration the key role played by Italian ports in the Mediterranean region, Italy's participation in the Initiative is crucial to greater security in the area. In February 2014, Italy attended The "Dead Sea Workshop on Counter-Nuclear Smuggling" hosted by Jordan.

STRENGTHENING NUCLEAR SECURITY CULTURE

Since the Italian G8 Presidency in 2009, Italy has paid special attention to education, training and institutional capacity-building as essential elements for an effective safety and security infrastructure. At the 2010 Washington Summit, Italy announced the creation of an International School on Nuclear Security with the IAEA and the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste. In 2014 the School will hold its fourth annual training course. The School is highly regarded by the participants from both developing and emerging countries and is considered as a model for other Schools of Nuclear Security. We are working closely with the IAEA and the ICTP on a course on "Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Response". Italy's educational effort is further strengthened by Master courses offered by a number of Italian Universities. Two new Master courses on "Protection against CBRNe events" will start in 2014 at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata", within the framework of cooperation agreements with Italian institutions and major relevant international entities.

Taking into account that several countries have established, or are planning to establish, nuclear security centres or Centres of Excellence for training and support, to develop human resource in nuclear security, enhance nuclear security culture, and maintain a well-trained cadre of technical experts, Italy is sponsoring a Gift Basket for The Hague Summit on "Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres / Centres of Excellence". This Gift Basket, building on the previous one sponsored by several states in Seoul, aims at demonstrating the progress achieved since the Washington Summit as well as at further promoting the NSSC Network and deepening international cooperation.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ITALIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY

In 2011 Italy decided to discontinue its nuclear energy programs. Nevertheless, we did not give up our strong commitment to nuclear safety and security. The Energy Strategy adopted in March 2013 acknowledged our important asset of high level expertise in nuclear technologies, including research reactors and R&D centres. Within the framework of this Strategy, national efforts are currently devoted to decommissioning and management activities of radioactive waste and limited residual amounts of irradiated fuel and nuclear materials. The institutional framework on nuclear safety and radiation protection has been recently upgraded with the establishment of a new regulatory authority, the National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN), responsible for nuclear safety, radiation protection and physical protection.