



NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

ROMANIA

Romania is strongly committed to the efforts of strengthening nuclear security and reducing the continuing threat of nuclear terrorism.

Ensuring the highest possible standards of nuclear security lies at the core of Romania's nuclear energy policy.

GLOBAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

As a State Party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) since 1970, Romania believes that the effective implementation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the gradual progress towards nuclear disarmament should be pursued within the framework of the three pillars of the NPT: non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Romania is a State Party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and the Amendment to the CPPNM, as well as the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSTANT) and the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and, therefore, encourages all States that have not yet done so, to become party to the CPPNM, to ratify its Amendment and to sign and ratify CTBT.

Romania is in the process of reviewing its national practices and regulatory framework in order to reflect the requirements of the latest IAEA documents on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (INFCIRC/225/Rev.5). Romania translated into practice the guidelines on nuclear security contained in relevant IAEA publications.

Romania fully supports international efforts aimed at preventing nuclear terrorism. In this context, Romania participates in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, together with other 81 countries and four observers, who have made a commitment to detect, prevent and respond effectively to acts of nuclear terrorism by carrying multilateral activities aimed at improving interoperability among them.

THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

Romania recognizes the leading role of IAEA, fully supports the IAEA's nuclear security programme and commends the Agency for its tireless efforts to strengthen international cooperation and improve nuclear security worldwide.

Romania has in place the necessary regulatory framework and has the capacity to ensure a proper management of nuclear materials, while preventing terrorists from acquiring such materials.

Romania reiterates its readiness to engage in international cooperation projects, to share its experience in the field of nuclear safety and security and to offer relevant expertise in this field.

The national regulatory authority in Romania (the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control - CNCAN) follows strictly the standards and guidelines issued by the IAEA. It participated in most of the activities organized by the IAEA, including in the aftermath of the accident in Fukushima, such as the Ministerial Conference of Nuclear Safety (June 2011) and the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts (July 2013).



Romania fulfilled its commitment assumed unilaterally during the second Summit on Nuclear Security, held in Seoul in March 2012, and paid a voluntary contribution of 30,000 Euro to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund (December 2013). CNCAN took all necessary measures in view of fulfilling this commitment.

Another commitment assumed in Seoul that Romania already fulfilled is hosting the IPPAS Mission (International Physical Protection Advisory Service) that IAEA conducted from 27 November to 7 December 2012.

The IPPAS Mission assessed the national arrangements regarding the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities and how they are implemented at Cernavoda NPP, checked the consistency of procedures and practices in use in Romania with the provisions of CPPNM, the Amendment to the CPPNM, and the IAEA document INFCIRC/225, rev.5.

In order to evaluate the national response in case of a threat, a practical exercise was organized at Cernavoda NPP.

On 12 -16 May 2014, IAEA will conduct an INSServ (International Nuclear Security Advisory Service) mission to Romania, with the objective of providing an independent assessment of the national architecture for protection and physical security of nuclear facilities, as well as identifying existing needs and making recommendations in order to improve the national nuclear security system and the interaction between the competent authorities with responsibilities in the field of detection and response.

CNCAN actively participated in meetings organized by the IAEA in the context of strengthening the legislative framework in the field, namely the elaboration of guidelines on the sustainability of the nuclear security regime, with the main objective of identifying the necessary actions which must be developed and carried out by each Member State, at national and operational level.

NUCLEAR MATERIALS

Romania carried out the following activities regarding the management of nuclear materials:

- In 2003, Romania conducted the repatriation to the Russian Federation of fresh Highly Enriched nuclear fuel (Highly Enriched Uranium - HEU) stored at the TRIGA research reactor in Pitesti (approx. 14 kg); this activity was carried out under the Tripartite Initiative US – Russian Federation - IAEA dedicated to returning to the country of origin the nuclear fuel resulted from research reactors in various states.
- In 2006, under the IAEA's technical cooperation program, with the support of the U.S. Department of Energy, Romania completed the conversion of TRIGA research reactor in Pitesti from Highly Enriched Uranium to Low Enriched Uranium.
- In 2009, Romania successfully completed the return of all spent HEU in the Russian Federation, with US financial support and under the auspices of the IAEA, being the 3rd country that achieved the objective of nuclear fuel stock evacuation. It is worth noting that the transport of the HEU fuel was done by air, proving that this mode of transport is also a safe means for the repatriation of the remaining quantities of nuclear fuel of Russian origin, in addition to the rail and the sea way.
- In December 2012, Romania conducted the last stage of repatriation to the Russian Federation of EK-10 low-enriched nuclear fuel from the reactor VVR-S (nuclear research and production of radioisotopes) installed at the National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering Horia Hulubei (IFIN-HH) in Magurele. The event took place under a Decommissioning Program, approved and funded by the Romanian Government. The entire quantity of spent nuclear fuel will be processed in the Russian Federation and the resulting radioactive waste will be stored therein.

Romania reiterates its readiness to provide assistance / expertise as lessons learned from the national experience in the areas of conversion from HEU to LEU research reactors, HEU repatriation in the states of origin, the radiological safety and the safety / security of radioactive sources.



CONTROL OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

In Romania, all radioactive sources are subject to a strict control in accordance with national and international obligations in the field. CNCAN has specific responsibilities related to the management of radiological safety and the security arrangements for radioactive sources.

Through an inter-agency process, CNCAN developed and attached to each and every national nuclear installation a document entitled "Design Basis Threat" (DBT), with the aim of regulating, assessing and inspecting the physical protection regime in place for nuclear facilities and materials.

In 2009, CNCAN signed an agreement with the US Department of Energy (DOE) on cooperation for enhancing the physical security of special nuclear materials and radioactive sources in Romania. Under this agreement, Romania benefited from DOE's assistance aimed at improving the physical protection systems for nuclear materials, radioactive materials and radiological facilities containing high-activity radioactive sources.

Several activities were carried out under this Agreement, such as: improving physical protection systems at IFIN-HH, "Bagdasar Arseni" Emergency Hospital, Central Military Emergency Hospital "Dr. Carol Davila", University Emergency Hospital "Elias"; initiating the use of the equipment envisaged under the "Second Line of Defence" system in Constanta, Galati and Sculeni; inaugurating the detection equipment at the access points for road and pedestrian traffic, as well as in the seaports of Constanta and Agigea; starting the installation of such equipment for the rail access points.

Other projects are also under way, such as the modernization of physical protection system at Post-Irradiation Examination Laboratory at the Institute for Nuclear Research Pitesti, or Constanta County Hospital and Monitoring and Intervention Center of the Romanian Gendarmerie.

Under the bilateral Agreement with the US Department of Energy, Romania organized an exercise in Bucharest, on 8 - 10 May 2013, based on a scenario of a shooting incident at a medical center that has radiological installations holding large radioactive sources activity. The Romanian Gendarmerie, the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police, the Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, the Emergency Hospital "Bagdasar Arseni", the Emergency Hospital "Elias" and CNCAN participated in the exercise. The purpose was to test the management of an incident regarding the radiological installations.

COMBATING ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS

Romania has the capacity to prevent and combat illicit trafficking of nuclear materials, including through cooperation with the IAEA, INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization.

Preventing and combating illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials are essential components of preventing and combating nuclear and radiological terrorism.

Romania is one of the states that voluntarily reports to the IAEA database on illicit trafficking of radioactive substances in the event that such developments ever occur. No high-risk events regarding illicit trafficking in dual use (civilian and military) nuclear items occurred in Romania so far. Since the launch of the IAEA database, Romania only reported some minor incidents.

In recent years, the frequency of recorded events was about 1 or 2 per year. They are, nevertheless, insignificant in what concerns their impact on the environment and for the population.

The strict control of radioactive sources is carried out also by the National Customs Authority, through Customs Integrated Border Security System (CIBSS), a component of the Integrated Border Security System (IBSS).

The purpose of CIBSS is to ensure a high level of external border control performance, aligned with the EU requirements, aiming at providing enhanced security for citizens, while fully respecting their fundamental rights and freedoms and being consistent with the requirements of free movement of persons and goods.



The control system is installed in accordance with national and European legislation, ensuring the security for the EU external border.

In what concerns the management of radioactive waste, the Nuclear Agency and for Radioactive Waste (ANDR) is setting up, in line with the general concerns related to the safe management of the radioactive waste, a National Operational Centre for Radioactive Waste Management. The project is aimed at implementing procedures for Radioactive Waste volumes, control in strategic infrastructures, Radioactive Waste transport monitoring and cyber security within a real-time updated database.

“The Law for transposition of the Council Directive 2011/70/EURATOM of 19 July 2011 establishing a Community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste” passed the approval and promulgation stage. Implementation of this Directive will strengthen Romania’s profile as a responsible state in respect to the import and export of radioactive waste at inter-community level.

NUCLEAR SECURITY AND SAFETY

Following the accident at Fukushima, Romania participated in the two-track process performed at European level, put in place to cover both the safety and the security. With respect to the nuclear security, the Romanian experts participated in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Group on Nuclear Security, whose final recommendations have been considered both by the regulatory authority and the NPP operator. Our country attaches great importance to the implementation process of these recommendations, the final aim being to obtain an effective nuclear security regime.

INFORMATION SECURITY

Romania follows strictly the standards and guidelines issued by IAEA in the field of information security and stresses the importance of comprehensive action to ensure the effective protection of sensitive nuclear information.

A national training course in Computer and Information Security for Nuclear Facilities was organized in Romania in July 2013.

NUCLEAR SECURITY CULTURE

Romania attaches great importance to the promotion of the nuclear security culture. To this end, a training seminar for experts from national institutions and organizations in the field of nuclear security will be held in March 2014, with the support of the IAEA.

The main objective of this seminar will be to raise awareness and improve understanding of the nuclear security culture, including of its international aspects, such as the responsibility of the states, of the governmental agencies, and also of the individuals. At the same time, the event will offer the framework for a presentation of national and international legislative tools with an impact on nuclear security culture, as well as a presentation of IAEA methodology for country’ self-assessment in nuclear security culture.

GIFT BASKETS (MULTILATERAL COMMITMENTS) AT THE NSS 2014

Romania supports the following 2014 NSS gift baskets: the UK initiative on Nuclear Information Security; Indonesia’s proposal on National Legislation Implementation Kit in Nuclear Security; the initiative of Canada and Republic of Korea on Promoting Full and Universal Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540; the US proposal for a HEU-Free Joint Statement; the NSS Troika’s initiative on Strengthening nuclear security implementation, Italy’s initiative for Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres, and the Netherlands’ project regarding Nuclear Forensics.