



# NUCLEAR SECURITY SUMMIT 2014

## NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup> 2013

#### 1. GLOBAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

The Government of the UAE is party to all international instruments relevant to nuclear security, including the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (accession in January 2008) and the Amendment of the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials (CPPNM) (acceptance in July 2009).

The UAE provided its national report to the United Nations (UN) 1540 Committee, as well as the associated matrix. An updated version of the national report will be provided to the UN 1540 Committee in the near future.

The Government of the UAE is a partner in the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and hosted one plenary meeting, in June 2010, in Abu Dhabi.

The Federal Law by Decree No. 6 of 2009 concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, created the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) as the independent regulatory authority of the nuclear sector in the UAE, including in relation to nuclear security. In the nuclear security domain, the UAE regulations and regulatory guides are based on the IAEA Nuclear Security Series documents, in particular the Nuclear Security Recommendations on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities publication (INFCIRC/225/Rev.5).

#### 2. ROLE OF THE IAEA

The Government of the UAE supports the activities of the IAEA through participation at workshops, Nuclear Security Guidance Committee meetings and by providing experts to meetings regarding the development of Nuclear Security Series publications.

The UAE has participated at the International Conference on Nuclear Security, held by the IAEA in July 2013 and presented a paper on the "Experience of an embarking country".

An Integrated master Working Plan (IWP) was signed in 2013 between the UAE and the IAEA, which will enhance, for the period of 2013-2017, the efficiency and effectiveness of the partnership between the UAE and the IAEA, including in the nuclear security domain.

For ensuring the sustainability of its nuclear security regime, an Integrated Security Support Plan (INSSP) for UAE was signed on August 2012 between the UAE and IAEA.



### 3. NUCLEAR MATERIALS

The Government of the UAE has made the political commitment to the peaceful use of nuclear power and has decided not to be involved in enrichment or domestic reprocessing. These commitments were manifested through the Federal Law by Decree No. 6 of 2009 concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The UAE Law, regulations and regulatory guides have been established in accordance with the amended CPPNM, even if the amendment of 2005 has not yet entered into force.

The UAE regulation for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear Facilities was issued in 2010 and is implemented at the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant as well as for the nuclear materials on its territory, including the development of a nuclear material accountancy and control system.

### 4. RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

The Government of the UAE endorsed the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export in August 2013. UAE in cooperation with the IAEA, convened the International Conference on the safety and security of radioactive sources at Abu Dhabi in October 2013. The first national report on the UAE's fulfillment of the guidance in the Code of Conduct was presented at his conference as well as two papers: "*Management of emergencies, safety and security events*" and "*Integration of safety and security for effective control and protection of radioactive sources*".

The UAE Law, regulations and regulatory guides have been developed in accordance with the Code of Conduct as well as the related IAEA safety standards and security guidance.

Regulations were issued for the management of radioactive source during their life cycle, including disused sources and, in accordance with the Law by Decree No. 6 of 2009, a national register of radioactive sources is been maintained.

Specific regulation for the security of radioactive sources, issued in 2011, to reflect into national practices the relevant IAEA Nuclear Security Series publications, is being implemented throughout the UAE.

### 5. TRANSPORT SECURITY

Both UAE regulations for the security of radioactive sources and for the physical protection of nuclear materials include requirements regarding the transport of such materials, including the submission for approval by the regulatory authority, of a transport security plan and physical protection plan for transport.

During 2014, The Government of UAE will host an IAEA workshop on the security of transport of nuclear materials.

### 6. NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

The Government of the UAE has established a nuclear scholarship program, which will produce engineers to support the nuclear plant staff, regulatory staff and educational infrastructure. Moreover, the UAE in cooperation with USA entities established the Gulf Nuclear Energy Infrastructure Institute (GNEII) in Abu Dhabi, an educational institution that will provide classroom instruction and hands-on experience in nuclear energy safety, security, safeguards and non-proliferation. GNEII is associated with Khalifa University of Science Technology and Research.

Relationships with universities located in the United States and France with strong nuclear engineering programs have also been established.

In 2013, a workshop held in the UAE to advance security education programs organized jointly by Khalifa University and the Partnership for Nuclear Security (PNS) curriculum development.



## 7. INFORMATION SECURITY

The Critical Infrastructure and Coastal Protection Authority (CICPA) has established an Information Protection Program Operating Manual (IPPOM), defining the management of sensitive nuclear information. This manual is implementing by relevant entities in the nuclear sector in the UAE.

The regulation for physical protection of nuclear materials and nuclear facilities requires that operators develop and implement a Cyber Security Plan to protect the facility against cyber-attack. Nuclear industry is developing such program based on international guidance.

The regulation for security of high activity radioactive sources requires the management of sensitive information as well as the background check of the personnel involved.

The UAE will host an IAEA national workshop on cyber security in 2014.

## 8. COMBATTING ILLICIT TRAFICKING

The Government of the UAE issued the Federal Law by Decree No. 6 of 2011 creating the General Authority of Ports, Borders & Free zones to control and increase the security of UAE Ports, Borders & Free Zones.

The Government of the UAE is party in the international information sharing on the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials through its participation of the IAEA Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB) and has already provided such information, especially regarding the lost and recovery of a high activity radioactive source.

## 9. NUCLEAR SECURITY AND SAFETY

According to the Law, the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation regulates nuclear safety, nuclear security and safeguards. The regulations issued for nuclear power plants, contain requirements regarding the management of safety and security interfaces.

The UAE will hold next year an IAEA meeting on the integrated regulatory approach and synergies for safety, security and safeguards.

The development of a strong nuclear security culture is promoted in UAE at all regulated facilities, including through the regulatory oversight (regulation, licensing and inspection).

## 10. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

With regard to bilateral agreements on nuclear security, UAE concluded nine bilateral government to government agreements for cooperation on peaceful uses of nuclear energy including nuclear security aspects. MoUs have been signed between FANR, the nuclear regulator and several foreign entities, such as with IRSN (France), US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USA), Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (South Korea), the Radiation and Safety Authority of Finland, and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). Such MOUs facilitate information sharing, training and exchange of experience.

The UAE has received IAEA "site review" in 2010, an Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) mission, and an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission in 2011.

The UAE has requested the IAEA to provide an Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) mission in 2015, an International SSAC Advisory Service (ISSAS) in 2014 and an Integrated Physical Protection Advisory Services (IPPAS) in 2016.