



European context for Emergency Preparedness & Response (EP&R): setting the landscape

Nuclear Transparency Watch

1st meeting of the EP&R Working Group

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Growing European dimension of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection

From the end of the 1990's, a continuing trend of reinforcing the European dimension of nuclear safety, notably since 2004, with the enlargement to Eastern nuclear countries

- **WENRA**, network of Nuclear Regulators of western EU countries, created in 1999,
- **ENSREG** European Nuclear Safety Regulators' Group, created in 2007
- **HERCA** Head of European Radiological Protection Competent Authorities, created in 2007
 - HERCA Working Group on “Emergencies” created in April 2011

EP&R in the post-Fukushima

- Following the nuclear accident in Fukushima on March 2011, the EU heads of state and government asked the Commission, together with the European Nuclear Safety Regulators' Group (ENSREG), to carry out stress tests and to review the EU nuclear safety legislation.
- The process of stress tests conducted from June 2011 to April 2012 focused on safety but did not include the evaluation of off-site EP&R provisions in the EU

Emergency Response: The missing track

At the occasion of the stress tests public meetings, civil society organisations (e.g. Greenpeace), pointed out the need to assess the off-site Emergency Response

EC DG ENER commissioned in 2013 :

“a Review of current off-site nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response arrangements in EU member States and neighbouring countries”

With a view to make a communication of the EC to the EU Parliament and Council by the end of 2013

Some Regulations & standards for EP&R at international levels

Council Directive regarding radiological emergencies, on :

- informing the general public about health protection measures, 1989
- maximum permitted levels of radioactive contamination of foodstuffs, 1989, 2012 (proposal)
- radioactive substances in water intended for human consumption 2013 (proposal)
- basic safety standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public, 2013

IAEA GR-S-2, on Preparedness and response for a nuclear or radiological emergency, 2002

Aarhus Convention and Nuclear Emergency

Aarhus Convention art. 5.1. c):

‘In the event of any imminent threat to human health or the environment, whether caused by human activities or due to natural causes, **all information which could enable the public to take measures to prevent or mitigate harm arising from the threat**...’is disseminated immediately and without delay to members of the public who may be affected’.

The Aarhus Convention & Nuclear (ACN) process organised two European roundtables respectively on post-accident (February 2012) and on nuclear safety (December 2012)

EP&R topics to be prioritised by NTW (1)

- Intervention levels
- Distribution of stable iodine
- Early warning and radiation monitoring systems
- Sheltering
- Zoning
- Off-site emergency personnel

EP&R topics to be prioritised by NTW (2)

- Food and drinking water restrictions
- Evacuation, relocation, voluntary leave, possible subsequent return
- Medical support and treatment of members of the public
- Radiation survey and environmental measurements
- Insurance and compensations
- Protection of citizens abroad

EP&R topics to be prioritised by NTW (3)

- National legal, regulatory & institutional framework for EP&R
- Arrangements for EP&R at the European and international level
- Cross-border cooperation
- Crisis exercises
- Information on plant/facility status
- Technical support for decision-making
- Research



THANK YOU