

Development of Nuclear Security Regulations to Address International Obligations

The global nuclear security regime comprises of international instruments like CPPNM, United Nations resolutions and IAEA codes and standards. These instruments make States responsible for implementing nuclear security and development of domestic laws, regulations and institutions to govern nuclear security in the country and establishment of systems to prevent, detect, and respond to malicious acts involving nuclear or other radioactive materials & associated facilities.

Adherence to international instruments in the field of physical protection and nuclear security for formulation of national legal and regulatory frameworks can contribute towards combating threat of nuclear terrorism and other malicious acts involving nuclear or other radioactive material and associated facilities or activities.

Pakistan is a responsible country and attaches highest importance towards global efforts to promote and strengthen nuclear safety and security internationally. Pakistan is party to all the important conventions related to nuclear safety and security that includes the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its 2005 Amendment, Convention on Nuclear Safety, Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency. In addition, Pakistan is also committed to implement United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004) that address, among other things, the threat of nuclear terrorism and nuclear proliferation and is following Code of Conduct for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources along with its Supplementary Guidance on import and export of radioactive sources.

As a responsible nuclear state, Pakistan has incorporated the requirements of the above mentioned international instruments in the national legal and regulatory framework. A comprehensive regulatory framework has been established to perform the regulatory functions related to nuclear safety, nuclear security and physical protection. This regulatory system is part of a robust Nuclear Security Regime (NSR) established for prevention and detection of, and response to, theft, sabotage, unauthorized access, illegal transfer or other malicious acts involving nuclear material, other radioactive substances or their associated facilities.

Pakistan Nuclear regulatory Authority (PNRA) is empowered to issue and enforce regulations to ensure physical protection of nuclear and radiation facilities in the country. In this regard, the national regulations on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material(s) and Nuclear Installations (PAK/925) are in final step of promulgation while the Regulations on Security of Radioactive Sources (PAK/926) have been promulgated in 2018. During the development of these regulations, State's obligations under international instruments were also considered along with the national legislative requirements, best practices adopted by international community, current evaluation of the threat, operational experience feedback etc.

This paper will describe the approach followed by Pakistan for development of nuclear security regulations to address international obligations in the field of physical protection/nuclear security.

State

Pakistan

Gender

Male

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