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Good practices in the joint drills on nuclear security at border ports between China Customs and neighbouring countries

Customs is the administrative department of the state to exercise the authority of border port entry and exit supervision and administration, and Customs is the first line of defense to guard the security of the country, Customs plays a very important role in maintaining national security. China Customs attaches great importance to nuclear security, earnestly implements the state's main responsibility on nuclear security, fulfills the functions and powers conferred by the law, and continuously strengthens border port nuclear radiation detection work. In recent years, China Customs has continuously strengthened international cooperation in border port nuclear security with Russia, Kazakhstan and other neighboring countries. China Customs invited cooperative countries to participate in nuclear radiation detection work at border ports and send personnel to participate in seminars, training courses and bilateral cooperation projects related to border port nuclear radiation detection work in cooperating countries. China Customs and the Russian Customs Administration have established a long-term cooperation mechanism. Each year, holding annual meetings of the Sino-Russian Customs Joint Working Group on the Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Nuclear and Other Radioactive Materials. The minutes of the meeting are signed by the two sides for the implementation of annual cooperation projects and make the cooperation plan for the next year. Since 2015, China Customs and the Russian Customs Administration have organized a joint drill to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials every year. They have already successively held joint drills at Chinese Heihe border Port on 2015, at Russia's Bragovishnsk border Port on 2016, at Chinese Manzhouli border Port on 2017 and at Russia's Begalsk border Port on 2018, and on 2019 the joint drill will be held at one border port of China. China Customs has accumulated rich experience in joint drills of nuclear security at border ports. In addition to cooperation with the Russian Customs Administration, China Customs is carrying out the nuclear security cooperation with other neighbouring countries. At present, China Customs is planning to cooperate with Kazakhstan Customs in organizing a joint drill to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials.

This paper discusses the specific practice of formulating and implementing joint drills on nuclear security between China and Russia, either between China and Kazakhstan. It introduces the purpose of bilateral cooperation between two countries, the planning and preparation of joint drill on nuclear security, and the best practices of joint drills on nuclear security at border ports between two countries. The innovation of this paper is to provide other countries with the best practices that can be used for reference in bilateral cooperation on nuclear security at border ports between the two countries.

Keywords: China Customs, border ports, nuclear safety joint drill

Gender

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Track Classification: CC: Good practices in the development and execution of nuclear security exercises (e.g. tabletop, drills and field exercises);