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Establishing and Developing an Effective Nuclear Security Culture at Regulatory Bodies

Nuclear security is the system that has responsibilities to prevent, detect and respond to, theft, sabotage, unauthorized access, illegal transfer or other malicious acts involving nuclear or other radioactive substances or their associated facilities. Nuclear security culture is the collection of characteristics, attitudes, and behavior of individuals, organizations, and institutions which serves as a means to support and enhance nuclear security. The paper describes the elements of organizational culture (i.e. beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors) and the factors that encourage a strong security culture. The paper explains the strategic role that security plays in corporate governance and the need to put organizational management systems in place that support it. In addition, the paper explains what is involved in creating a comprehensive security program that supports security culture. It also emphasizes the need to communicate effectively with staff and develop training programs that help staff understand that security is important and that they have security responsibilities. The paper also emphasizes the need for leadership to create an effective whistleblowing policy, conduct selfassessments of security culture, and effectively manage the relationship with external stakeholders. The paper clarifies the difference between nuclear security culture and nuclear safety culture.

Finally, Nuclear security culture is an important component in building a nuclear security system which leads to a robust nuclear security regime. To establish and maintain a nuclear security culture state, organizations and individuals should practice their roles and responsibilities in the right manner. Edgar Schein's model for working with organizational cultures is of great importance to develop the culture. Assessment and developing of beliefs, attitudes, behavior and management systems lead to more effective nuclear security.

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