International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection: Strengthening Radiation Protection of Workers –Twenty Years of Progress and the Way Forward

Contribution ID: 186 Type: Poster

The Moroccan experience in the implementation of approval of technical service providers in occupational radiation protection

Since the promulgation of the law 142-12 related to nuclear and radiological safety and security and the creation of the Moroccan Agency for Nuclear and Radiological Safety and Security (AMSSNuR) in 2016, the Kingdom of Morocco through AMSSNuR, has been upgrading its regulatory framework to ensure compliance with Law No.142-12 and consistency with the international safety standards, in particular the IAEA General Safety Requirements (GSR part 3).

In this regard, AMSSNuR has established the basic framework for occupational exposure to ionizing radiation in planned, existent and emergency exposure situations, which defines among others the requirements for dose limits (including lens equivalent dose limit reduction), monitoring and recording of occupational exposures, responsibilities of employers, registrants, and licensees, radiation protection program, assessment of occupational exposure and workers'health surveillance.

In order to reinforce the radiation protection system and provide technical support to the licensee especially in strengthening occupational radiation protection within his facility, Law No.142-12, assigned to AMSSNuR the responsibility of providing approval of the following technical services:

- Individual dosimetry monitoring.
- Calibration of instruments used for the detection of ionizing radiations.
- Training and evaluation of the radiation protection officer.
- Control of the efficiency of technical and organizational aspects related to safety and security.
- Technical control of the radiation protection of ionizing radiation sources, of the protection and alarm systems and of the measurements instruments.

In this framework, the regulatory text implementing the Law No.142-12 related to the approval of service providers fixes the conditions and modalities for the grant of approval for each technical service. In fact, one of the most important requirements for approval of calibration and dosimetry services is accreditation according to ISO 17025 and for approval of technical controls mentioned above, having a management system in compliance with ISO 17020.

The aim of this paper is to introduce AMSSNuR's approach for enhancing occupational radiation protection system at the national level, through the transposition of the GSR part 3 requirements related to technical service providers in the regulation pursuant to the Law No.142-12.

Key Words: Morocco, AMSSNuR, Radiation Protection, Regulatory Authority, Regulatory Control, Occupational Radiation protection, Technical Service Providers.

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Session Classification: Session 10. Technical service providers in occupational radiation protec-

tion

Track Classification: 11. Technical service providers in occupational radiation protection