

International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, Decommissioning, Environmental Protection and Remediation: Ensuring Safety and Enabling Sustainability



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Legislative Framework towards Safe Management and Disposal of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources: Nigeria's Experiences, Challenges and Prospects

Nuclear technology is applied in numerous sectors of the Nigerian economy ranging from petroleum industry, Industrial sector, health sector, mining, agricultural sector, security screening, education and research, to handle many socio-economic challenges in a way that is beneficial to the public. The legislative framework for regulating the possession and application of nuclear technology in Nigeria is the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act No. 19 of 1995 (the Act), which establishes the Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NNRA) as the only Competent National Authority saddled with the responsibility for nuclear safety and radiological protection regulation in Nigeria. The Act clearly establishes the requirement that mandates operators of nuclear and radiological facilities towards ensuring safe utilization, management and disposal of disused sealed radioactive sources thereby ensuring public and environmental protection from unjustified radiation exposure and contamination arising from such practices. The NNRA provides regulatory oversight on all facilities utilizing radioactive sources and ionizing radiation generating equipment in Nigeria thereby ensuring safe management after use in line with radiation protection standards. This presentation highlights Nigeria's Experiences, Challenges and Prospects towards Safe Management and Disposal of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources after their useful life.

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