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IMPROVING THE SAFETY CULTURE AS A MECHANISM FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ON THE EXAMPLE OF NAC KAZATOMPROM JSC

NAC Kazatomprom JSC (hereinafter –Kazatomprom, Company) is the national operator of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the import and export of uranium, rare metals, nuclear fuel for nuclear power plants and fully shares the values of the UN Sustainable Development Agenda. The Company recognizes the importance of all 17 SDGs and, as part of its activities, make every effort to make a feasible contribution to their achievement. One of the key tasks aimed at achieving the Company’s sustainable development goals is to ensure the health protection and occupational safety of personnel, environmental protection and radiation safety (hereinafter - HSE). In order to solve these tasks, Kazatomprom has built an appropriate organizational structure, developed and implemented mechanisms to achieve goals at the strategic level.

Kazatomprom uses a number of mechanisms aimed at increasing the level of awareness, competence and interest of employees and managers; conscious compliance with safety requirements; ensuring transparency and openness in the field of HSE. The Company has developed and successfully implemented a system for identification and registration of Unsafe Conditions (UC), Unsafe Actions (UA), Near Miss incidents; a procedure for conducting Behavioral Safety Audits, Risk Assessment, blocking hazardous energy sources (Lock-out/ Tag-out), stopping unsafe work (STOP Card), as well as interaction with contractors. Moreover, an internal and external communication system in the field of HSE has been established, as well as an employee motivation system has been built. Therefore, the development of a safety culture in Kazatomprom is aimed both at achieving a zero level of injuries and at reducing the negative impact on the environment, in this manner ensuring the sustainable development of the Company.

Currently, Kazatomprom has launched an information system in which the collection, storage, monitoring and analysis of HSE indicators is carried out. Automation of HSE processes allows Company to do more in-depth data analysis and take effective measures to prevent any risks. At the same time, the further development of the HSE management system and the pursuit of zero on HSE indicators will require further improvement of the safety culture, increasing of the automation level and necessary competencies of personnel.

Primary author: Mr ABLAIKHANOV, Yerzatkhan (Kazakhstan)

Co-authors: ARYSTANOV, Adilbek; Mr ISKAKOV, Manas (Kazakhstan)

Presenter: Mr ABLAIKHANOV, Yerzatkhan (Kazakhstan)

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