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Two Views on Nuclear Material Accounting and Control (NMAC)

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Under the NPT, most of the states concluded comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Nuclear Material and Control (NMAC) is one of the most important measures of the safeguards to detect the diversion of the nuclear material by the state actor. Meanwhile, NMAC plays an important role in detection of the theft by the non-state actor. Therefore, the NMAC is used as a measure for the security purpose. Since the 3S concept was introduced, relations, synergies and interfaces of the safety, security and safeguards were discussed. NMAC is one of the items representing security-safeguards interface. Most of the non-weapon states have well established NMAC system. Physical inventory of the nuclear material and their verification would be performed periodically by the Agency, which makes it less vulnerable to the insider threat in view of security. It will be useful for the newcomer countries to have NMAC system with consideration of security feature. The states with well established NMAC system can utilize the existing NMAC system for the security purpose, or strengthen their security system. In this research, we will discuss what needs to be considered to get synergies both for safeguards and security of the NMAC system. It will include technical aspects as well as legislation point of view.

Country or International Organization

Republic of Korea

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