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Evaluating National Nuclear Safeguards System Implementation in the Republic of Moldova

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Strengthening the multilateral system of Nuclear Safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), imposed by the increasing cross-border illicit trafficking of nuclear material and redirecting for military purposes has led Republic of Moldova to ratify on 1 June 2012 the Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/690) to the Agreement of Nuclear Safeguards in relation with the NPT. This was followed by the adoption in the Parliament on 8 June 2012, of the new Law no. 132 of 08.06.2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, which extends the power of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities (NARNRA) and details the measures to strengthen the Nuclear Safeguards in the country.

The NARNRA implements safeguards measures in relation to nuclear materials by:

- normative acts development;
- establishing a system for inspecting of nuclear material;
- implementing inventory-taking and reporting procedures for quantities of nuclear material;
- implementing authorization and monitoring procedures for the movements of nuclear material;
- implementing procedures for reporting quantities of nuclear material to the IAEA;
- maintaining and updating the national register of nuclear materials.

A very important role to achieve results is the cooperation with the IAEA. Thus, was developed and agreed the Joint Action Plan for implementing the provisions of the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement, which is an essential aid in fulfilling the country's international obligations.

In this respect have been obtained some good practices:

- Routinely performed national inspections;
- On-line information provision from the Customs check points;
- Developed special form for nuclear material in the National Register;
- Systematic interaction with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and authorization holders;
- Annual and quarterly presentation to the IAEA of the reports on SQP and the Additional Protocol;
- Systematic capacity building of NARNRA staff;
- Training provided to other organizations.

Country or International Organization

Republic of Moldova

Primary author: MURSA, Elena (National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities, Moldova)

Co-authors: Ms SIDORENCU, Angela (National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities); Ms SIRBU, Inga (National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities); Ms VASILIEVA, Natalia (National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities)

Presenter: MURSA, Elena (National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities, Moldova)

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