

Convention on Nuclear Safety

7th Review Meeting – 2017



International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA, Vienna

Country Review Report for CYPRUS

Drafted by Country Group N° 1

(Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Jordan, Kazakhstan,
Malta, Mexico, Poland, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,
United States of America)

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Version: FINAL

DISCLAIMER: Per INFCIRC 571, Revision 7, Para. 16-19 and Annex IV, Contracting Parties were invited to comment on the implementation of the CNS reporting guidance. Contracting Parties were also encouraged to submit proposed Good Practices, Challenges, and Suggestions prior to the Review Meeting. The draft Country Review Report documents the preliminary observations identified by the Contracting Parties. The Country Review Report is the result of the CNS Review Process and was agreed by consensus by the Country Group.

Glossary

A **Challenge** is “a difficult issue for the Contracting Party and may be a demanding undertaking (beyond the day-to-day activities); or a weakness that needs to be remediated.”

A **Suggestion** is “an area for improvement. It is an action needed to improve the implementation of the obligations of the CNS.”

A **Good Practice** is “a new or revised practice, policy or programme that makes a significant contribution to nuclear safety. A Good Practice is one that has been tried and proven by at least one Contracting Party but has not been widely implemented by other Contracting Parties; and is applicable to other Contracting Parties with similar programmes.”

An **Area of Good Performance** is “a practice, policy or programme that is worthwhile to commend and has been undertaken and implemented effectively. An Area of Good Performance is a significant accomplishment for the particular CP although it may have been implemented by other CPs.”

Executive Summary

Cyprus has no nuclear power reactor units and currently has no plans to become a nuclear energy country. Cyprus has no research reactors, nor has Cyprus any other nuclear installations.

Two out of four Challenges from the 6th Review Meeting have been closed.

The Country Group highlights the following measures to improve safety in Cyprus:

- The Regulatory Authority (RA) has signed a bi-lateral agreement with the Greek Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC), covering all issues of cooperation concerning ionizing radiation, including nuclear safety.
- The revised National Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (in case of radiological or nuclear accidents/events) has been adopted and put into force.
- Two new sets of Regulations have been implemented:
 - The Protection from Ionizing Radiation and Nuclear Safety, Responsible and Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste, Regulations of 2014, P.I. 178/2014, and
 - The Protection from Ionizing Radiation and Nuclear Safety, Protection of the Health of the General Public with regard to Radioactive Substances in Water Intended for Human Consumption, Regulations of 2016, P.I. 54/2016.

The Country Group highlights the following regarding international peer review mission of Cyprus:

- An Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Mission has been conducted in Cyprus in February 2017.

The Country Group identified the following Challenges for Cyprus:

- **Challenge 1:** To introduce new legislation with provisions on, for example, functional separation of the RA, legal powers and human and financial resources necessary for the RA, information to be made available to the workers and the general public in relation to safety. **(new)**
- **Challenge 2:** To establish an integrated management system in accordance with IAEA safety standards. **(new)**
- **Challenge 3:** To implement the IRRS action plan. **(new)**
- **Challenge 4:** Further strengthening of the Regulatory Authority (RA) and Supporting/Co-operating institutions (Staffing and training, Equipment and other resources)

In addition, the Country Group identified one Suggestion and three Areas of Good Performance.

The Country Group concluded that Cyprus:

- Submitted a National Report, and therefore complies with Article 5 and in time following Rule 39 of INFCIRC/573 Rev. 6.
- Attended the 7th CNS Review Meeting, and therefore complies with Article 24.1
- Held a national presentation and answered questions, and therefore complies with Article 20.3

1. Basic Information on Cyprus's Nuclear Programme

Cyprus has no nuclear power reactor units and currently has no plans to become a nuclear energy country. Cyprus has no research reactors, nor has Cyprus any other nuclear installations.

Ionizing radiation in Cyprus is mainly used in medicine, either for diagnostic or for therapeutic purposes. There are also some applications of ionizing radiation in industry and research. Thus, the interest of Cyprus in the safety of nuclear installations relates to the protection of human health and the environment from risks arising from the operation of such installations and nuclear power plants in neighbouring countries.

2. Follow-Up from previous CNS Review Meeting

2.1 Challenges

Cyprus did not, in its 6th National Report, provide any updates on Challenges identified during the 6th CNS Review Meeting.

Cyprus provided, in its National Presentation, the following updates on Challenges identified during the 6th CNS Review Meeting:

Challenge 1: Further strengthening of the Regulatory Authority (RA) and Supporting/Co-operating institutions (Staffing and training, Equipment and other resources)

Cyprus reports that staffing of the RA and supporting institutions an on-going challenge. This was a finding of the IRRS mission as well. No new posts since 2013. Training of personnel has been conducted in Cyprus and abroad – IAEA training programmes.

Follow Up Status: Open

Challenge 2: Further improvement of Safety Culture (Users and public, Education and training arrangements)

Cyprus reports that appropriate procedures and campaigns aiming at the development and promotion of safety culture have been initiated. Safety is clearly recognized as a core value throughout the national policies for safety and radioactive waste management, the existing legislation, guides, procedures, documentation, management system, communications, decision-making bodies and procedures. There is a clear commitment of the RA's management for safety at all levels. Improving safety culture is an ongoing process.

Follow Up Status: Closed

Challenge 3: Full implementation of the new emergency plan (Staff Training, Drills and exercises)

Cyprus reports that a wide range of measures have been taken, which includes, but is not limited to:

- National EPR off-site plan adopted in 2015.
- Coordinated and administered by RA – Amendment, revision and update.
- Hazard assessment/categorization.
- Emergency classification.
- Allocation of roles and responsibilities.
- Participation of 20 different stakeholders.
- Obligations of licensees – Internal (on-site) action plans.
- Human and financial resources.
- Potential scenarios.
- Drills and exercises.

Follow Up Status: Open

Challenge 4: Preparation/Implementation of new legislation (EU BSS, EU Water Directive, NS and SF&RW Directives – Peer Review, Regulation on radioactivity levels in foodstuffs after nuclear accidents, etc)

Cyprus reported that EU Drinking Water Directive and SF&RWM Directive were transposed (2016 and 2014 resp.). NSD draft legislation under public consultation (Q1 2017) and subject to legal vetting (Q2 2017). To be entered into force in Q3 2017. BSSD draft legislation under finalization – to undergo public consultation Q2 2017.

Follow Up Status: Closed

2.2 Suggestions

There were no Suggestions identified for Cyprus during the 6th CNS Review Meeting.

3. Measures to improve safety

3.1 Changes to the regulatory framework and the national nuclear programme

Since the last Review Meeting, the Country Group took note of the following changes to the regulatory framework:

- The RA has signed a bi-lateral agreement with the Greek Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC), which covers all issues of cooperation concerning ionizing radiation, including nuclear safety.
- New set of Regulations, The Protection from Ionizing Radiation and Nuclear Safety, Responsible and Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste, Regulations of 2014, P.I. 178/2014.
- New set of Regulations, The Protection from Ionizing Radiation and Nuclear Safety, Protection of the Health of the General Public with regard to Radioactive Substances in Water Intended for Human Consumption, Regulations of 2016, P.I. 54/2016.
- New legislation is currently under public consultation to introduce/strengthen provisions on, among others: functional separation of the RA and legal powers and human and financial resources necessary for RA.
- Cyprus expressed its political commitment to the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and to act according to its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and appointed a PoC (2015).
- Cyprus has ratified the Amendment of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and the associated Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- The revised National Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (in case of radiological or nuclear accidents/events), in accordance with IAEA Safety Standards for protecting people and the environment, GSR Part 7 (2015) and in light of lessons identified from the response to the Fukushima accident and to other non-nuclear emergencies, has been adopted and put into force.

3.2 Safety improvements for existing nuclear power plants

Cyprus has no nuclear power reactor units. Therefore, this section is not applicable.

3.3 Response to international peer review missions

Cyprus has conducted a self-assessment and invited an international peer review of its regulatory authority and of its national system on radiation safety and protection, Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS), which took place in Nicosia in the period 12-22 February 2017.

4. Implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety (VDNS)

Cyprus has no nuclear installations and no plan for construction of such. Therefore, the country did not provide information on the implementation of the VDNS.

Cyprus reports, though, that the national legislation is in line with the IAEA standards and recommendations and the EURATOM Acquis. In addition, the EURATOM Treaty and all relevant European regulations and decisions, Conventions or other instruments ratified or signed by the EU apply in Cyprus as a full member of the EU.

5. Results of the Review

5.1 General Quality of the National Report

Contracting Parties and officers were invited to provide general comments on the Cyprus's implementation of the obligations of the CNS (e.g., report submitted on time), addressed all articles, addressed the Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety, and addressed all Challenges and Fukushima lessons learned, the general quality of its National Report, transparency issues, and the compliance with the CNS guidance documents and special peer review topics identified in the previous CNS Review Meeting or specified by the President of the CNS (reporting on the management of spent fuel on site and radioactive waste on site - especially for CPs not signatories of the Joint Convention and if relevant on the use of the templates for articles 17 and 18).

Cyprus has no nuclear installations and no plan for construction of such. Therefore, the country did not provide information on the implementation of the VDNS.

Cyprus has acceded the Joint Convention. Cyprus does not operate nuclear installations and does not possess spent fuel. The existing legislation covers the provisions of Article 19.

Cyprus does not operate nuclear installations nor does Cyprus possess spent fuel. The existing legislation covers the provisions of article 19 regarding radioactive waste and spent fuel. Cyprus, as member to the EU, approved a set of Regulations, The Protection from Ionizing Radiation and Nuclear Safety (Responsible and Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste) Regulations of 2014, P.I. 178/2014, under the radiation protection and nuclear safety laws of 2002 to 2011, for the transposition of the directive 2011/71/EURATOM on responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste.

With regards to the general quality of the National Report and transparency issues, the members of the Country Group made the following observations:

- The Report is qualified to be comprehensive and reader friendly.

With regards to the compliance with the requirements of the CNS and its Guidelines, the members of the Country Group made the following observations:

- The Report was submitted before the deadline of 15 August 2016.
- The content and structure of Cyprus's National Report complies with the CNS guidance.
- The directions of the Summary Report of 6th Review Meeting were taken into consideration.
- The directions given by the President of the 7th Review Meeting were mostly followed.

5.2 Participation in the Review Process

With regards to Cyprus's participation in the Review process, the members of the Country Group made the following observations: Cyprus

- did not post questions to Contracting Parties.
- delivered answers to the questions of Contracting Parties on time.
- delivered its national presentation.

5.3 Challenges

The Country Group identified the following Challenges for Cyprus.

- **Challenge 1:** To introduce new legislation with provisions on, for example, functional separation of the RA, legal powers and human and financial resources necessary for the RA, information to be made available to the workers and the general public in relation to safety. (new)
- **Challenge 2:** To establish an integrated management system in accordance with IAEA safety standards. (new)
- **Challenge 3:** To implement the IRRS action plan. (new)
- **Challenge 4:** Further strengthening of the Regulatory Authority (RA) and Supporting/Co-operating institutions (Staffing and training, Equipment and other resources)

5.4 Suggestions

The Country Group identified the following Suggestion(s) for Cyprus.

- **Suggestion 1:** To report status of actions taken on the Challenges from the CNS 7th Review Meeting in the National Report for the 8th Review Meeting.

5.5 Good Practices and Area of Good Performance

During the peer review of Cyprus's National Report, the Contracting Parties were invited to recommend Good Practices and to highlight Areas of Good Performance.

The Country Group identified no Good Practices.

The following Areas of Good Performance of Cyprus were commended by the Country Group:

- **Area of Good Performance 1:** National radiation EPR Plan covers all potential scenarios, including nuclear/radiological terrorism, and is integrated within the General Crisis National EPR Plan, which is aligned with IAEA Safety Standards for protecting people and the environment, GSR Part 7.
- **Area of Good Performance 2:** RA's cooperation or consultation with/involvement of the country's other competent authorities, relevant stakeholders including social partners, employer representatives, professional associations etc., for coordinated implementation of legislation.
- **Area of Good Performance 3:** RA has a system in place for establishing and addressing the competence and training needs among its staff aimed at improving their contribution to achievement of organizational goals.

6 Fulfilment of CNS Review Requirements

The Country Group concluded that Cyprus

- Submitted a National Report, and therefore complies with Article 5 and in time following Rule 39 of INFCIRC/573 Rev. 6.
- Attended the 7th CNS Review Meeting, and therefore complies with Article 24.1
- Held a national presentation and answered questions, and therefore complies with Article 20.3