1st Steering Committee meeting of the
Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN)
2-4 April 2012

IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS)

Abida Khatoon
Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
Regulatory Activities Section
Overview

- IRRS and IAEA Action Plan
- GNSSN/RegNet/IRRS Website
- IRRS Collaboration Space
- Future activities and challenges
Overview

• IRRS and IAEA Action Plan
• GNSSN/RegNet/IRRS Website
• IRRS Collaboration Space
• Future activities and challenges
Strengthening nuclear safety in light of the measures proposed in the IAEA Action Plan include the following 12 main actions:

1. Safety Assessments in the light of the accident at TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station;
2. IAEA peer reviews;
3. Emergency Preparedness and Response;
4. National Regulatory Bodies (Strengthen the effectiveness of national regulatory bodies);
5. Operating Organizations (Strengthen the effectiveness of operating organizations with respect to nuclear safety);
6. IAEA Safety Standards (Review and strengthen IAEA Safety Standards and improve their implementation);
7. International Legal Framework;
8. Member States planning to embark on a nuclear power programme;
9. Capacity Building;
10. Protection of people and the environment from ionizing radiation;
11. Communication and Information Dissemination; and
12. Research and Development.
Overview

- IRRS and IAEA Action Plan
- GNSSN/RegNet/IRRS Website
- IRRS Collaboration Space
- Future activities and challenges
Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network is a set of existing networks and information resources that support work related to nuclear safety and security.

RegNet is an information and collaboration platform of the GNSSN. It is a web-based international cooperation among nuclear safety and security regulators.

provides supports to sharing of regulatory knowledge, practices and information and in fostering collaboration on nuclear safety and security matters among regulators.

collaboration platform for

Regional Regulatory Networks
International Organizations & Bodies
Member States Area

Contact
• GNSSN Administrators; IAEA Official Mail; IAEA RegNet Coordinator
Highlights of the Lessons Learned from IRRS Missions 2006-2010

http://gnssn.iaea.org/default.aspx

What is Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network

The globally accessible GNSSN website is a set of existing networks and information resources that support work related to nuclear safety and security. GNSSN provides open access to general information on nuclear safety and nuclear security on a common, collaborative platform designed so that experts can exchange and share information easily and quickly. (More>>)

Upcoming Events

Title
Technical Meeting on Establishing, Developing and Maintaining Capacity Building in Member States, 16-20 April 2012, Vienna Austria
1st GNSSN Steering Committee (SC) Meeting, 02-04 April 2012, IAEA HQ, Vienna, Austria

International Atomic Energy Agency, Department of Nuclear Safety, Wagramerstrasse 5, 1400 Vienna, Austria
Email: GNSSN Administrators - IAEA Official Mail
The International Regulatory Network (RegNet)

RegNet is the Portal for web-based international cooperation among nuclear safety and security regulators. RegNet supports national and international actors in sharing of regulatory knowledge, practices and information and in fostering collaboration on nuclear safety and security matters. (More >>)

Upcoming Events

Title

There are no items to show in this view of the "Announcements" list.

International Atomic Energy Agency, Department of Nuclear Safety, Wagramerstrasse 5, 1400 Vienna, Austria

Email: GNSSN Administrators - IAEA Official Mail - IAEA RegNet Coordinator
Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS)

The IAEA’s Legal and Governmental Infrastructure (LGI) peer review services are aimed at providing advice and assistance to Member States upon request with a view to strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of their regulatory infrastructure and fostering effective, independent regulatory bodies.

The Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) offers a comprehensive and consistent review of all aspects of the LGI and regulatory activities. The service is based on the IAEA Safety Requirements on Legal and Governmental Infrastructure for Nuclear, Radiation, Radioactive Waste and Transport Safety (IAEA Safety Standards Series publication GS-R-1) and focuses on the following areas: legislative and governmental responsibilities, responsibilities and functions of the regulatory body, organization of the regulatory body, authorization process, regulations and guides, review and assessment, inspection and enforcement and management systems. The IRRS also reviews regulatory effectiveness in respect of all regulated facilities and activities. IAEA Safety Standards on Nuclear, Radiation, Waste and Transport Safety are used as thematic requirements for this review.

**Bases For IRRS Mission**

IAEA Fundamental Safety Principles provide the basis for IAEA safety standards and the IAEA’s safety related programmes. In order to support effective regulation, the IAEA has established Safety Standards in the thematic area of legal and governmental infrastructure for nuclear, radiation, radioactive waste and transport safety. These Safety Standards that govern the IRRS review. The core review areas of an IRRS reflect the IAEA Safety Standards Series publications GS-R-1 Legal and Governmental Infrastructure for Nuclear, Radiation, Radioactive Waste and Transport Safety and GS-R-3 the Management System for Facilities and Activities. Other IAEA Requirements and Safety Guides are also used as appropriate in order to cover the detailed scope of regulatory responsibilities for safety of nuclear installations and for emergency preparedness, radiation, radioactive waste and transport safety. These may be used in conjunction with GS-R-1 and GS-R-3 in order to conduct a thorough review against international requirements and guidance.

**How to Invite and Organize an IRRS Mission**

An IRRS is usually initiated through a formal Governmental request to the IAEA. However, in some cases, it may be appropriate for the IAEA to suggest to a Member State that an IRRS should be considered.

When a State requests information about an IRRS, the IAEA responds by forwarding a copy of the IRRS Guidelines to the appropriate official. If the State subsequently requests an IRRS mission, the IAEA reviews the request and conducts a dialogue with the State. Alternatively, for countries for which the IAEA believes an IRRS would be beneficial, a recommendation for an IRRS and a draft proposal may be forwarded to the country.

The State determines the tentative scope of the IRRS and proposes any specific policy issues to be included. The initial scope of the IRRS will be discussed with the IAEA and is determined very early in the process. The scope may evolve during the mission, taking into account any newly identified issues arising from the State’s self-assessment and upon evaluation of specific regulatory areas.

Upon receipt of a request for an IRRS, the IAEA Team Coordinator designated by the IAEA contacts the host Regulatory Body in order to:

- identify the liaison officer for the mission;
- arrange a date for an optional preparatory meeting with the organization(s) involved;
- discuss the scope and expectations for a regulatory self-assessment in preparation for the review mission.

At the same time, the host regulatory body and other organizations involved nominate potential counterparts in each review area who during the review will be the primary contact with the reviewers in each specific area.
Overview

- IRRS and IAEA Action Plan
- GNSSN/RegNet/IRRS Website
- IRRS Collaboration Space
- Future activities and challenges
IRRS Collaboration Space

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- History
- Structure and Processes
- Self Assessment
  » Self Assessment Process
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- Reference Documents
- IRRS Reports
- Schedule
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- How to Invite an IRRS
Under the terms of Article III of its statute, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has the mandate to establish or adopt, in consultation and, where appropriate, in collaboration with competent organizations, standards of safety for protection of health and minimization of danger to life and property (including such standards for labour conditions), and to provide for the implementation of these standards to its own operations as well as to assisted operations and, at the request of the parties, to operations under bilateral or multilateral arrangements or, at the request of a State, to any of that State’s concerns regarding peaceful nuclear and radiation activities. This includes the publication of a set of Safety Standards, whose effective implementation is essential for ensuring a high level of safety. As part of its providing for the application of safety standards, the IAEA provides Safety Review and Appraisal Services, at the request of Member States, which are directly based on its Safety Standards.

In the regulatory framework and activities of the regulatory bodies, the IAEA had previously offered five distinct peer review and appraisal services applicable to a Member State’s legal and governmental infrastructure, comprised of reviews based on regulatory, radiation safety, transport safety, nuclear security and emergency preparedness. These included: (a) the International Regulatory Review Teams (IERT) programs that provided advice and assistance to Member States in strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of their legal and governmental infrastructure for nuclear safety; (b) the Radiation and Safety Infrastructure Appraisal (ReSSIA) that assessed the effectiveness of the national regulatory infrastructure for radiation safety including the safety and security of radioactive sources; (c) the Transport Safety Appraisal Service (TRANSAIS) that appraised the implementation of the IAEA’s Transport Regulations; (d) the Emergency Preparedness Review (EPREV) that reviewed emergency preparedness in the case of nuclear accidents and radiological emergencies and the appropriate legislation; and (e) the International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) that reviews the effectiveness of State systems of physical protection and to provide advice and assistance to strengthen and enhance these systems.

The IAEA recognized that these services and appraisals had many areas in common, particularly concerning the requirements on a State to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework within its legal and governmental infrastructure and additional regulatory activities as for countries embarking on nuclear power. Consequently, the IAEA’s Department of Nuclear Safety and Security has developed an integrated approach to the conduct of missions on legal and governmental infrastructure to improve their efficiency, effectiveness and consistency and to provide greater flexibility in defining the scope of the review, taking into account technical and policy issues.

The IRRS concept was developed at the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety and Security and then discussed at the 3rd review meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in 2005. The IRRS was strongly supported during the Boards of Governors and the IAEA General Conference. The IAEA regulatory peer reviews are now recognized as a good opportunity to exchange professional experience and to share lessons learned and good practices. The self-assessment performed prior to the IAEA peer review mission is an opportunity for Member States to assess their regulatory practices against the IAEA safety standards. These IAEA peer review benefits were further discussed at the International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems in Moscow in 2006, at which note was taken of the value of IRRS for the development of the Global Nuclear Safety Regime by providing for the sharing of good regulatory practices and policies for the development and harmonization of safety standards, and by supporting the application of the continuous improvement process. All findings coming from the Convention and from the Moscow conference are inputs for the IRRS to consider when reviewing regulatory technical and policy issues.

At the moment, the IRRS missions fall into only two categories: Reduced Scope and Full Scope, both follow the same process defined in the IRRS Guidelines: preparatory meeting, self-assessment phase, conduction of the mission, and follow-up mission after 18 to 24 months of main IRRS mission.

The development of the IRRS started following the joint peer review mission (IRRST and ReSSIA) to Romania in January 2006. A reduced scope IRRS covering all nuclear facilities and activities in France, was carried out in November 2006. In 2007 and 2008, Japan, Spain, Germany, Mexico, Australia; in 2009, Follow-up to France, Canada, Russia, Vietnam; two workshops on the lessons learnt from previous IRRS missions have been carried out in 2007 and 2008 which come out very positive results and valuable feedback to improve the future IRRS missions.

IRRS Missions have been conducted since 2006 and more requests are coming for the upcoming years; IAEA is currently in the process of compiling information on findings from these missions to be used by the IAEA for development and harmonization of safety standards and by the Member States for continuous improvement in the regulatory practices and policies.
The second level, which is optional (\(\ast\)), is related to the content of the regulations and guides issued by the regulatory body. In other terms, it analyses the compliance of the provisions of technical regulations/guides with the provisions of the corresponding IAEA safety requirements/guides.

In order to be called an IRRS mission, the mission scope shall always cover the following review areas:

- Modules 1 to 10 (which constitute the core areas of the IRRS);
- Policy issues.

At the request of the host country, review of the regulatory control of the following facilities/activities (where present in a country) may also be included in the scope of the IRRS:

- Radiation sources applications;
- Research reactors;
- Nuclear power plants;
- Fuel cycle facilities;
- Waste management facilities;
- Decommissioning.

The IRRS has a modular form divided into various sub-sections (or elements) which correspond to all the requirements set out in GSR Part 1. Some modules and elements are pre-selected because they form the minimum scope of any IRRS mission (\(\ast\)), whereas other modules or elements are optional (\(\ast\)).

Modules 5 to 9 of this matrix represent five core regulatory processes. Each of these regulatory processes (namely, "Authorization," "Review & Assessment," "Inspection," "Enforcement" and "Regulations & Codes") can be applied to any regulated facility and activity namely, Radiation sources applications, Research reactors, Nuclear power plants, Fuel cycle facilities, Waste management facilities and Decommissioning.

However, in order to avoid duplications, every IRRS module includes a section dedicated to "cross-cutting issues" (issues which are not related to any specific facility or activity and which may be applied to all of them). Thus, issues specific to a particular facility or activity will be separately addressed in other sections of the module.

Module 9 is of a slightly different nature compared with modules 5 to 8 since it comprises two different levels of analysis:

The first level, which represents a core area (\(\ast\)) of the IRRS, is related to the process of developing regulations and guides, and addresses requirements K32 to K34 of GSR Part 1.
The regulatory self-assessment is an integral part of the IRRS process and is conducted by the host country in preparation for an IRRS mission. The implementation of self-assessment by regulatory bodies, as part of the overall management system, has been set forth as a requirement in the IAEA Safety Requirement GS-R-3, “Management System for Facilities and Activities”.

Self-assessment is a learning and investigation process and an integral part of the continuous development of any regulatory body seeking to become an excellent organization. The hosting State undertakes a comprehensive self-assessment of the current status of its regulatory infrastructure against international standards. The outcomes of the self-assessment form the basis of peer discussions during the IRRS review itself. The IAEA provides training, questionnaires to facilitate this complex undertaking.

The IAEA has developed an objective, evidence-based methodology as described in the Self-assessment Guidelines. It provides a framework for the regulatory framework, functions, performance, effectiveness, efficiency and activities. This method is compatible with the IAEA Safety Requirements GS Part 1, GS R 3, and other Safety Standards.

Pre-requisites for Self-Assessment:

i. Management commitment:
   - to allocate adequate resources for completion of the self-assessment project;
   - to encourage staff to perform self-assessment in a frank and honest manner in a blame free environment;
   - to consider the self-assessment conclusions in a transparent way.

ii. The self-assessment process should be formally part of the Regulatory Body management system and used as a tool periodically for self-improvement.

iii. Self-assessment is a process repeated at regular intervals (at least once in 3 years).

iv. A set of dedicated self-assessment guides, procedures and tools should be prepared and regularly revised.

v. Involvement of all staff member for a successful self-assessment.
Download the Safety Assessment Tool (SAT)

A valid email is required before downloading the SAT file (350mb zip).
A password will be sent to your email for use during installation.

Email address

Download
IRRS Self-Assessment

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The IAEA has developed an objective, evidence-based methodology as described in the Self-assessment Guidelines. It provides the processes and tools to facilitate self-assessment of the regulatory framework, functions, performance, effectiveness, efficiency and activities. This methodology is questionnaire-based and is compatible with the IAEA Safety Requirements GS R Part 1, GS R 3, and other Safety Standards.

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What Self Assessment is about? The Self-Assessment Cycle

Self-Assessment Model

[Diagram showing the self-assessment cycle with stages: Preparation, Answering, Action Plan, Analysis, and Follow Up. It also shows the relationship to IAEA documents and standards.]
Self Assessment for Safety Infrastructure

IAEA has drafted the safety guide "Establishing the Safety Infrastructure for a Nuclear Power Programme" DS424 providing guidance to establish progressively a Safety Infrastructure for a Nuclear Power Programme, based on IAEA safety standards. In order to enable the development of the safety infrastructure by the Member States, DS424 presents 200 safety-related actions to be taken in the first three phases of the development of a national infrastructure, out of the five total phases. These phases correspond to the following stages in the development of a power programme:

1. Before a decision to launch a Nuclear Power Programme is taken;
2. Preparatory work for construction of a nuclear power plant (NPP);
3. Implementation of the first NPP;
4. Operating time of a NPP;
5. Decommissioning, including radioactive waste management, of the NPP.

The 200 actions, classified by phase 1, 2 or 3, are organised around 20 safety elements in accordance with the structure of the IAEA Safety Standards Series (National policy and strategy for safety, Legal framework, emergency preparedness and response, etc.).

Since 2006, a self-assessment methodology, developed by IAEA, has been trialled extensively in Member States (MS) in establishing, maintaining and improving a regulatory infrastructure for nuclear, radiation, radioactive waste and transport safety. Supporting tools, comprising question sets and software, were developed in parallel with the methodology and released in March 2010. The self-assessment methodology and tools are fully compatible with the IAEA safety standards, regulatory review programme, including IRRS, and should be used in preparation for such reviews, which have been mainly conducted for Member States having already a (well-developed) national safety infrastructure. The purpose of this project is to develop a new Self Assessment Methodology and a Self Assessment Tool (SAST), to be used by the Member States embarking on a new Nuclear Power Programme, for assessing and reviewing the status of the existing safety infrastructure against the IAEA Safety Standards. The development of SAST is based on DS424 guidance and therefore, the self-assessment should be performed against the IAEA safety standards. In addition, the methodology adopted is compatible with the existing self-assessment methodology used in preparation for IRRS missions.
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Self-Assessment Tool DS 424

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## Mission Reports

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Open Access Public Area

- IRRS Reports - Executive summaries (non-restricted only)
- IRRS related IAEA Safety Standards documents (list of the documents + link)
- IRRS Guidance documents: IRRS guidelines, Self-Assessment, Methodology, guidance on Fukushima module
- Good Practices from the past missions– list by Modules and host country denoted
Future Activities and Challenges

Open Access Public Area

• Results of the analysis of the past missions and other IRRS related issues
• Notifications /Announcements on IRRS Events
• Chairman’s Report on the IRRS Events
• Presentations held on IRRS International events: Lessons Learned Workshops
• List of past and future IRRS missions
• “How to request a mission?” List of contacts—description in nutshell
• Frequently asked questions
Area restricted to IAEA Experts and the Host Country

- Work Area for Actual Missions
- Discussions Area for Actual Missions
- Links to key stakeholders
- List of designated points of contacts
- Frequently asked questions
Future Activities and Challenges

Area restricted to IAEA

- Guidance for IAEA Assistants (internal guidance)
- Programs for future missions (dates and experts)
- List of Experts with short CV’s
- Results of related consultancies and workshops evaluated for future use.
- IRRS-related program management documents
- IRRS-related work programs and results
- Internal presentations and result-documents
Future Activities and Challenges

- There is an increasing demand from Member States embarking on nuclear power program for increased assistance and communications with the IAEA and other donor Member States.
- The IAEA Nuclear Safety Action Plan contains Action 8 related to activities for embarking MSs and Action 11 for communication and exchange of information and transparency, which are aligned with GNSSN objectives.
- A Platform has to be created on REGNET/IRRS and be populated with sufficient information and guidance.
- Support from GNSSN Steering Committee is requested for addressing the identified challenges.
Proposed Format and Contents of the IAEA Web-pages for presenting the SAFETY MODULES related to SSG 16

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<tr>
<td>Safety Module Title &amp; Contents</td>
<td>Presents the title of the module, the main topics addressed and the relevant actions in SSG 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA Safety Services</td>
<td>Identifies relevant IAEA safety service with the links to the specific webpages maintained by that service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Standards</td>
<td>Identifies relevant IAEA safety requirements and guides and their hyperlinks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial Material</td>
<td>Lists relevant tutorial material developed by the IAEA and provides hyperlinks for downloading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>List of workshop titles that the IAEA will provide for each one of the syllabus, the appropriate NPP phase (1-3) for the workshop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you for your kind Attention

NS/NSNI/RAS, Vienna, Austria, 2-4 April 2012