

# Response and Assistance Network (RANET)

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**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

# Assistance Convention



- Parties to Assistance Convention have undertaken to cooperate among them and with IAEA to facilitate prompt provision of assistance in case of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency
- 108 Parties
  - Member States and International Organizations

# Assistance Convention



- Places specific legal obligation on Parties
- Assistance Convention - Article 2, paragraph 4:

*“States Parties shall, within the limits of their capabilities, identify and notify the Agency of experts, equipment and materials which could be made available for the provision of assistance to other States Parties in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency as well as the terms, especially financial, under which such assistance could be provided.”*

# Assistance Convention



- Defines legal responsibilities and functions of IAEA
- IAEA must respond, in accordance with its Statute and the Convention, to a request for emergency assistance by making available:
  - Appropriate resources, information and advice through different mechanisms

# What is RANET



- Response and Assistance Network (RANET) was established in 2000
- Operational tool to support the practical implementation of the Assistance Convention

RANET is network of States:

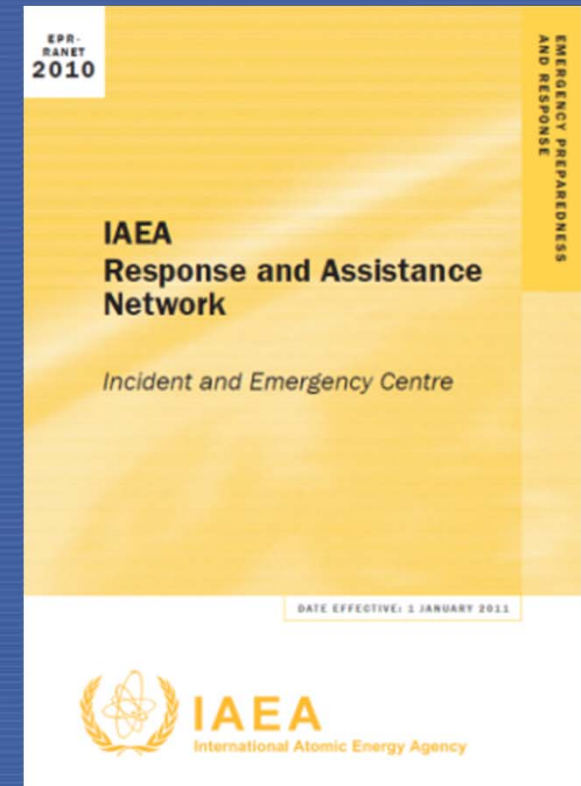
- Capable and willing to provide specialized assistance
- Trained, equipped and qualified personnel with
- Ability to respond quickly and effectively

to radiation emergencies



# Aim of RANET

- To facilitate
  - Provision of requested international assistance (preferably on regional basis)
  - Enhancement and harmonization of response capabilities
  - Exchange of relevant information and feedback of experience



# Scope of RANET

- Nuclear accidents or radiological emergencies in context of Emergency Conventions
- Nuclear or radiological incidents
- Radiological consequences that exceed State's response capabilities

# Responsibilities within RANET

- Requesting State
  - Overall direction, support and supervision of any assistance within its territory  
(Article 3 of Assistance Convention)
- Member States' Resources
  - Identify capabilities, expertise and resources
    - National Assistance Capabilities (NAC)
    - that can be activated by CA to provide assistance
  - To designate NAC Coordinator



# Responsibilities within RANET - IAEA

- Provides managerial, organizational, logistics and financial support
- Declares official termination of assistance
- Establishes follow-up mechanisms if deemed appropriate
- Serves as focal point for following RANET preparedness activities
  - Performs official registration of MS's NAC
  - Maintains RANET Registry
  - Biennially requests MS's CA certification of continued NAC resource availability
  - Periodically provides information on RANET's status and activities

# Form of Assistance

- **Assistance Mission**
  - Group of qualified experts providing assessment, advice, radiological monitoring, medical assessment and treatment, etc
- **Joint Assistance Team**
  - In more complex situations Joint Assistance Team is formed comprising of Field Assistance Teams
- **External Based Support**
  - Any support provided from assisting party offices or facilities

# Functional Areas

- Source Search and Recovery (SSR)
- Radiation Survey (RS)
- Environmental Sampling and Analysis (ESA)
- Assessment and Advice (AA)
- Decontamination (DE)
- Medical Support (MS)
- Dose Assessment (DA)



# Recent Assistance Missions

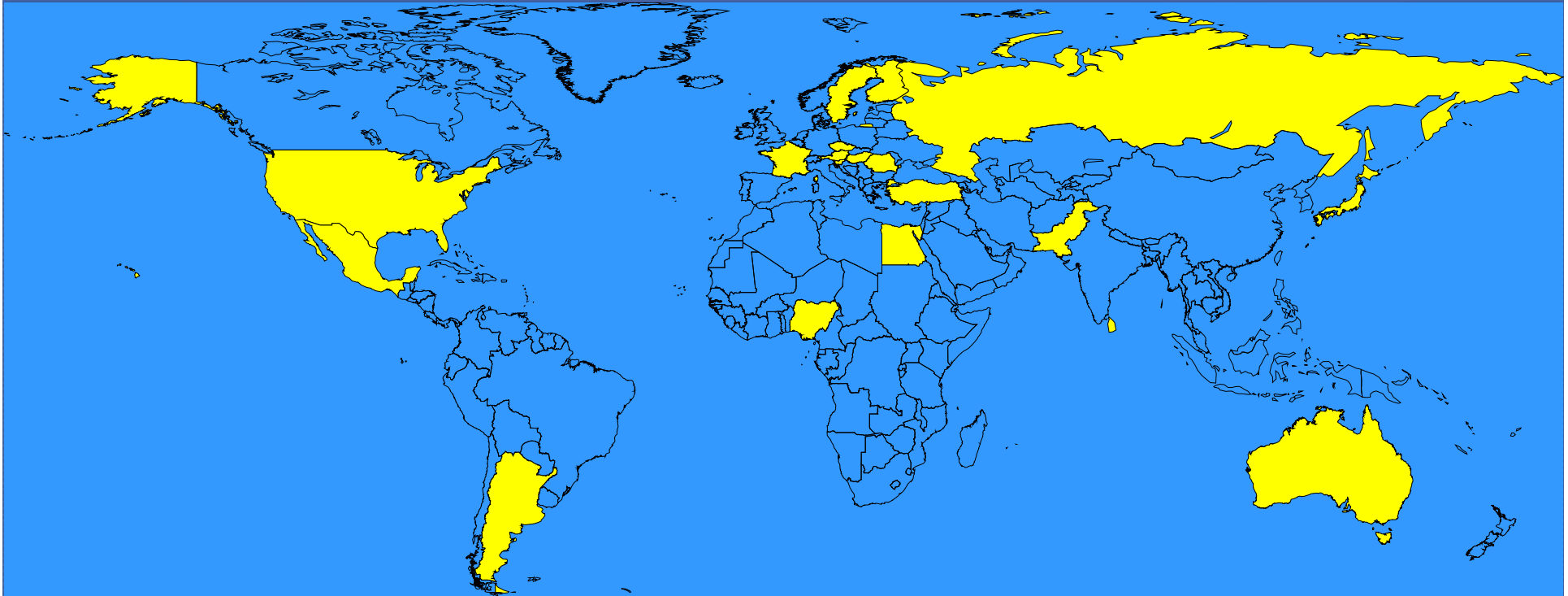
Requesting State	Nature of event	Mission Date	Assisting RANET State(s)	Functional Areas
Venezuela	Overexposure from industrial source	June-2010	France Argentina	Dose Reconstruction, Biodosimetry and Medical Support
Venezuela	Overexposure from industrial source	July-2010	France	Medical Support
Honduras	Lost source	October-2010	Mexico	Source Search and recovery and dose reconstruction
Bulgaria	Overexposure from industrial source	June 2011	France	Dose Reconstruction and Medical Support
Bulgaria	Overexposure from industrial source	June-2011	France	Medical Support
Trinidad and Tobago	Medical overexposure	January-2012	USA	Medical Support
Peru	Overexposure from industrial source	January-2012	France	Dose Reconstruction, Biodosimetry and Medical Support
Peru	Overexposure from industrial source	January-2012	France	Medical Support
Cambodia	Sources not recovered into medical device	February-2012	Australia	Source Search and Recovery and Dose Reconstruction

**Every Assistance Mission since 2010 has used RANET**

# Preparedness of RANET capabilities

- NAC members must be trained on and be aware of international guidelines
- Prepared to respond
- Conduct effective drills and exercises focusing
- When possible and appropriate participate in
  - international exercises such as ConvEx or
  - intercomparison exercises

# Countries Registered in RANET



 Registered Member States

April 2012: 19 countries with registered capabilities

# RANET Registration

- **Step 1:** Decide to register your assistance capabilities
- **Step 2:** Make a list of capabilities
- **Step 3:** Check consistency with RANET Technical Guidelines
- **Step 4:** Prepare registration form and send it to IEC

**REGISTRATION OF NAC RESOURCES**

IN THE RESPONSE AND ASSISTANCE NETWORK – RANET

**PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION**

**1. Applying State/International Organization**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Competent Authority**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Web site: \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

**3. NAC coordinator**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Org: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 2: STATEMENTS**

**4. Compliance with the requirements/conditions**

a) By submitting this application for registration, the State agrees to comply with the RANET requirements as stated in the EPR-RANET publication.

b) These requirements shall not supersede any national requirements/regulations of the Party providing assistance.

c) Financing NAC maintenance and preparedness is the responsibility of the State.

d) Financial assistance to a response will be specified in the Assistance Action Plan.

# Conclusion

- Assistance Convention is the sole Legal Basis for provision of International Assistance
- RANET is the operational tool to implement the Assistance Convention
- RANET has been used effectively in every Assistance Mission since 2010
- The continued success depends on:
  - Capabilities registered in all FAs
    - On a regional basis
    - Both FAT and EBS
  - Regional distribution
  - Preparedness to respond promptly
  - Extension of capabilities, expertise and resources



