EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to the request made by the Government of Uruguay, the IAEA organized and carried out this evaluation of the operational aspects of the radiation protection of workers from June 28 to July 5, 2010. The national counterpart of the mission was the Authority National Radioprotection Regulator (ARNR) of Uruguay.

The mission was designed to independently study and assess the occupational radiation protection program at end-user facilities and the capacity of technical service organizations, as well as the radiation protection-related regulator occupational.

The purpose of the mission was to help the institutions to evaluate the protection program occupational radiology and, where appropriate, provide guidelines for its improvement.

REGULATORY BODY
- ARNR-Autoridad Reguladora Nacional en Radioprotección (National Regulatory Authority in Radioprotection)

TECHNICAL SERVICE
- CIN
- MEDIRAD
- Hospital de Clínicas (Hospital of Clinics)
- Laboratorio Secundario de Calibración (Secondary Calibration Laboratory)

END-USERS
- Ferrari, Ferrando y Páez
- Médica Uruguaya (Uruguayan doctor)
- Asociación Española Primera de Socorros Mutuos (First Spanish Association of Mutual Aid)
- Clínica Leborgne (Leborgne Clinic)
- Hospital Italiano (Italian Hospital)
- CUDIM
- ANCAP
- CIN
- ARNR

On July 5, 2010, the ORPAS Group presented the broad conclusions and recommendations of assessment to all mission participants.

Regarding the end users, technical service providers and regulatory authority; there exists a general limitation of the provision by management of financial and personnel resources appropriate for establishing and maintaining general radiation protection programs for all radioactive facilities.
The application of radiological protection in practice is often left to enthusiastic and interested staff members.

There is a general lack of application of the quality management systems necessary to ensure the constant availability of appropriate and up-to-date training systems, information and record keeping on radiation protection for all employees performing tasks related to ionizing radiation.

Although dosimetry and calibration service providers are generally working at an acceptable level. Additional resources are needed to ensure accuracy and constant traceability of reported dose results and calibrations.

Although there are some training activities on radiation safety for specific practices involving exposure to ionizing radiation. There is no policy and national framework for providing initial and continuing training to all employees who need it.

The management of all radioactive facilities should comply with all national regulations and international authorities regarding guaranteeing the radiological protection of workers through the provision of appropriate financial and personnel resources and the implementation of adequate radiological protection programs.

Dosimetry and calibration service providers should work together with the regulatory authority to ensure the constant provision of dosimetry and calibrations that are accurate and traceable. Furthermore, they should participate in national and international intercomparisons.

The regulatory authority should work together with training providers to establish a national protection training policy and radiology framework, including up-to-date training, for all workers who are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation.