Ensuring the Resilience and Sustainability of Radioactive Source Security

WINS | World Institute for Nuclear Security

The **World Institute for Nuclear Security** (WINS) and the US Department of Energy's **Office of Radiological Security (ORS)** are pleased to announce a Regional Workshop on Ensuring the Resilience and Sustainability of Radioactive Source Security.

Vienna, Austria
Wolke 21 in the Saturn Tower

13–14 February
2019

INTRODUCTION

In the last few years, many States have markedly increased the security of their radioactive sources. Multiple factors have contributed to this progress. For example, most of these States are fully aware of the consequences that could result from a malicious use of sources; therefore, they have issued and enforced regulatory requirements for the security of their sources. These regulations, based on the international recommendations and guidance published by the IAEA, have provided a framework to permit effective regulatory oversight of security for radioactive materials, greatly enhancing the possibility that these systems will be sustained. In addition, the international community, through bilateral and multilateral efforts, has directly supported many States to strengthen their regulatory framework and enhance security provisions implemented for sources in use, storage or transport.

Although such efforts and initiatives have greatly increased source security in many States, it is now essential to demonstrate the resilience and sustainability of these arrangements over a period of years. Fundamentally, sustainability requires the proper management of sources throughout their lifecycle—from the moment the sources are being produced and the security systems that protect them are being designed to proper disposal at the end of their lifecycle. To increase resilience, strict control over the sources in use must be enforced, a strong security culture must be fostered, and careful planning and exercising must take place to ensure the response is as effective as possible if an event occurs. And of course, a strong legislative and regulatory framework, security regulations, and incentives to adopt alternative technologies whenever feasible play a fundamental role.

Radioactive source security sustainability and resilience requires close communication and cooperation among a wide range of stakeholders, including regulators, licensees, law enforcement, security vendors, education and training organisations and international agencies.

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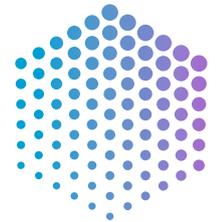
AIMS OF THE WORKSHOP

The primary objective of the workshop is to identify and discuss the criteria and parameters at the state level that promote and demonstrate sustainable security of radioactive sources. Workshop discussions will build on the best practices countries have adopted to ensure sustainable and resilient radiological security arrangements. To accomplish this objective, participants will be encouraged to:

1. Define and discuss what is meant by resilient and sustainable radiological security;

2. Review the key elements and prerequisites for creating a comprehensive radiological security framework;

3. Identify criteria demonstrating that an effective and sustainable national framework for the security of radioactive sources has been achieved;

4. Discuss how regulators can promote site-level effectiveness and sustainability through regulations, inspections, and coordination with response agencies;

5. Identify practical tools for assessing the performance of security systems and procedures;

6. Identify training opportunities to improve the competency of staff;

7. Share best practices for effective engagement of law enforcement agencies and response to incidents involving sources;

8. Explore options to permanently reduce the risk (i.e. replacement or disposition);

9. Develop a common understanding of what an effective security culture looks like and how it can mitigate threats; and

10. Identify common sustainability challenges and share practical solutions.

The workshop will also give participants the opportunity to reflect on what still needs to be done and to share their experiences, perspectives and lessons learned.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

Mid- to senior-level staff from European regulatory bodies and interior ministries.

FACILITATED WORKSHOP

This interactive, professionally facilitated workshop will be held in English. Its format will incorporate several presentations from experts with hands-on group discussions that enable participants to further explore the topics. Note that the number of attendees will be limited and that **the workshop is by invitation only**, so please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

An Instant Electronic Voting system will be used that allows participants to use keypads to anonymously share their views on questions put to the workshop. Discussions will be subject to Chatham House rules (what is said can be reported but not attributed).

WORKSHOP LOCATION

**Wolke 21 in the Saturn Tower
Leonard-Bernstein-Straße 10
1220 Vienna**

CONTACT INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

**If you wish to register or obtain more information on this event, please contact:
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PROGRAMME OUTLINE

DAY 1 Wednesday, 13. 2. 2019

OPENING SESSION

- Welcome remarks, objectives of the workshop and participant expectations
- Presentation on the key elements for creating a sustainable, effective radiological security framework
- Presentation on establishing a strong security culture and why is this key to effective security

SESSION I:
DEVELOPING A ROBUST NATIONAL REGIME: EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED BY REGULATORS

- Presentation on the development and enactment of adequate security regulations: sharing experience and lessons learned
- Discussion to address audience insight into challenges when developing new regulatory requirements
- Break-out groups to identify and discuss the roles and responsibilities of regulators in promoting site-level sustainability

SESSION II:
SECURITY INSPECTIONS PLANNING

- Presentation on effective licensing, inspection and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance
- Panel discussion to obtain various national perspectives
- Break-out groups to identify best practices for inspecting security arrangements and enforcing regulatory requirements

SESSION III:
SECURITY IN THE TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

- Presentation on challenges and risks associated with the transport of radioactive sources
- Panel discussion on lessons learned from implementing security measures for radioactive sources in transport
- Break-out groups to discuss strategies to mitigate the risk of transporting radioactive sources

SESSION IV:
NATIONAL RESPONSE ENGAGEMENT

- Presentation on examples of practices supporting the development of response capabilities
- Group discussion to identify challenges and explore options to engage effectively with response organisations and to identify key steps leading to an effective national response plan

DAY 2 Thursday, 14. 2. 2019

SESSION V:
BUILDING COMPETENCIES

- Presentation on identifying skills and competencies required of individuals accountable for radiological security
- Group discussions to address the means to develop/ strengthen skills and competencies for various stakeholders

SESSION VI:
EFFECTIVELY MANAGING DISUSED SOURCES

- Presentation on options for the management of disused sources and associated security challenges
- Panel discussions to obtain various national perspectives

SESSION VII:
THE WAY FORWARD- ENSURING SECURITY EFFECTIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Panel discussion on aspirations and challenges in sustaining improvements to security effectiveness
- Topic-based break-out groups to identify best practices for promoting effective and sustainable security systems
- Exploring the role of alternative technologies for permanently reducing the risk

CONCLUSION SESSION

- Consolidating and discussing the key findings of the workshop
- Workshop evaluation and closing remarks