

RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY: INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND VOLUNTARY REPORTING



BERLIN, GERMANY
September 12th, 2016

The **World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS)** and the **Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI)** are pleased to announce a one-day workshop on *Radiological Security: Increasing Transparency and Voluntary Reporting*. The workshop will take place at the Novotel Berlin Mitte on September 12, 2016, in Berlin, Germany, in preparation for and on the margins of the International Workshop on *Nuclear Security Gift Basket - Enhancing Radiological Security* (September, 13- 15, 2016, also in Berlin).

INTRODUCTION

In 2006, the IAEA and Member States formalised a process for a periodic exchange of information and lessons learned from implementing safety and security measures for radioactive sources. In particular, they agreed to hold an international meeting every three years to review progress in implementing the Code of Conduct, including sharing experiences, lessons learned, and good practices and identify existing and future challenges. In addition, the Nuclear Security Summits provided from 2010 to 2016 further opportunities of exchanges and improvements through national reports and statements. The IAEA also convenes an International Working Group of Radioactive Source Security to bring together experts on radiological security. To date, four international meetings have been held. One of the key objectives of instituting a formalized process for information sharing is to enable States to learn from the experiences of others, and to evaluate their own progress on implementation. States can identify common trends and common areas for further bilateral, regional, and international assistance and cooperation, and provide input on the prioritization of the IAEA assistance programs.

During the last Code of Conduct review meeting (May 2016), the IAEA Secretariat prepared detailed *Guidelines Regarding National Papers on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct* to assist in the preparation of national reports; optimize resources for their preparation; improve consistency of the information; and to facilitate comparisons between States' reports. States were also encouraged to conduct a thorough self-assessment of the level of implementation of the Code.

Various IAEA tools and information management systems are available to States to facilitate this process, namely the Nuclear Security Information Management System (NUSIMS), the Radiation Safety Information Management System (RASIMS) and the Code-specific module of Self-assessment of the Regulatory Infrastructure for Safety (SARIS) tool. However, less than half of the participating countries provided papers in advance of the meeting, which were made available to all participants, or shared the results of the various self-assessment tools provided by the IAEA.

The meetings on the Code of Conduct convened by the IAEA routinely draw experts from 60 to 100 countries. However, in line with the non-legally binding and flexible nature of the Code and other international meetings, both participation and presentations are voluntary and vary in level of attendance and information exchange. In addition, representatives from regulatory organizations compose most of the audience and only a limited number of other stakeholders that have a stake in supporting radiological security attend such meetings. Another major limitation is that while these annual meetings typically produce a summary report that identifies key shortcomings, these findings are not formally adopted by participating states and not submitted to the IAEA's policy-making organs for adoption and action. Additionally, support for these meetings and recommended actions are funded through extra-budgetary contributions.



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OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The aim of the workshop is to identify the existing mechanisms and forums to report achievements, challenges, and best practices in the area of radiological security, to assess their relevance and effectiveness, and to explore further opportunities for sharing experiences and progresses.

The workshop sessions will review the reporting practices performed through the IAEA channel or auspices, and will examine the various reporting approaches taken by selected States and other stakeholders (e.g., industry and end-users, law enforcement, professional associations, academia, etc.) involved in the security of radioactive sources. This event will also be an opportunity to listen to other practices, in particular regarding the safety of radioactive sources or the security of other dangerous materials, and to explore the benefits of developing integrated reporting mechanisms.

The discussion will identify areas and information which characterize radiological security (e.g., effectiveness of the regulatory body and functions; operational implementation of security measures by licensees) and how their status could be measured, reported, and used as a benchmarking tool between organisations and countries. The discussion will explore how transparent reporting and benchmarking can create incentives for better security. The workshop will primarily explore the voluntary aspects of reporting, but will offer a discussion on opportunities and conditions to make certain aspects binding to selected stakeholders. The discussion will identify information that might be considered sensitive (classified) and will cover possible options to address this issue during the reporting process.

The key findings of the workshop will be shared during the International Workshop on *Nuclear Security Gift Basket - Enhancing Radiological Security* that will take place in Berlin, Germany, from 13 to 15 September, 2016 (Please see www.nss2016-berlin.com for further information on this event).

TARGETED AUDIENCE

- Organisations that use high activity radioactive sources (medical, academic, and industry);
- Radioactive source producers, device manufacturers, and service (maintenance) companies;
- Carriers and other organisations involved in the transport of sources;
- Regulatory authorities and technical support organisations;
- Law enforcement agencies;
- Professional associations and international organisations;
- Civil Society representatives.

FACILITATED WORKSHOP

The workshop will be held in English. Participation will be limited, so please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to attend this event.

Attendees will be expected to meet their own costs for travel and accommodation, but all the workshop related costs will be met by the organisers. **No registration fee is required.**

This event will be interactive and professionally facilitated. The workshop will be built around a number of presentations and group discussions to further explore the topics. Discussions will be subject to “Chatham House” rules (what was said can be reported but not attributed).

FURTHER INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

If you wish to register or obtain more information on this event please contact:

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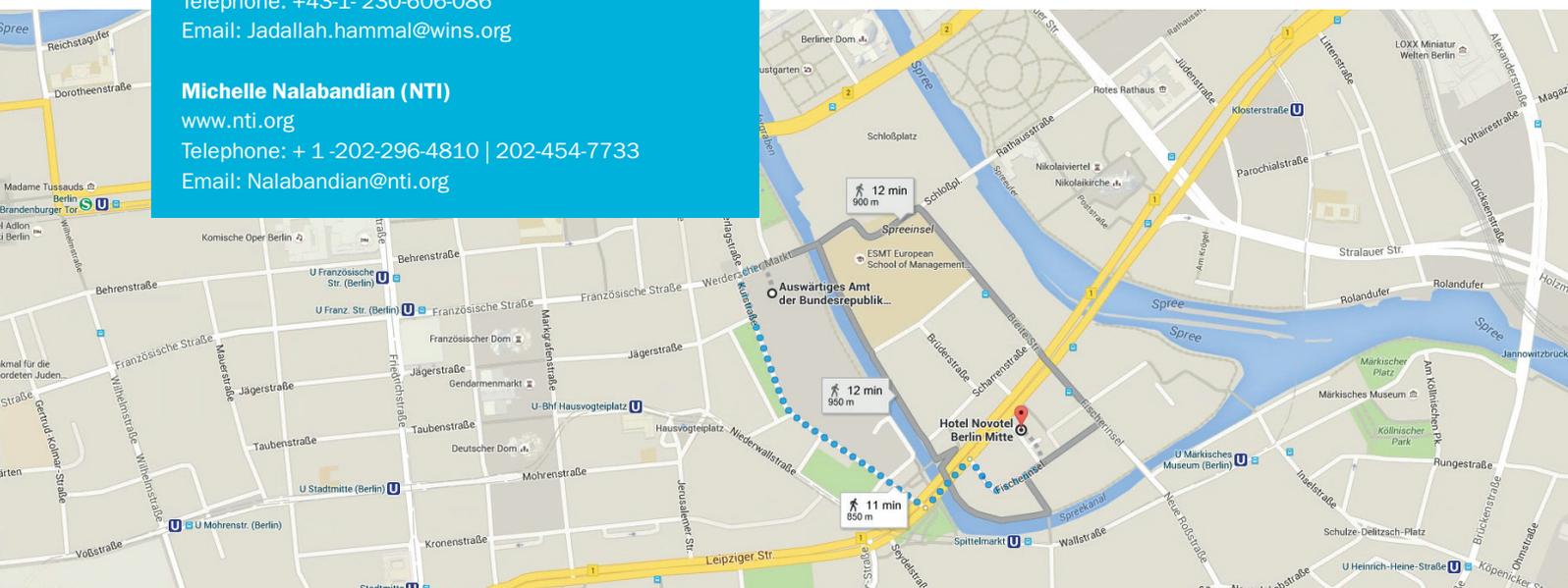
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PROGRAMME OUTLINE

OPENING SESSION

- To present the objectives of the day and introduce the participants;
- To discuss how transparency, reporting, and benchmarking can create incentives for better security and increase confidence in the effectiveness of the security arrangements;
- To discuss how mandatory and voluntary reporting complement each others;
- To identify usual challenges associated with transparency and reporting, and possible ways to overcome them.

IDENTIFYING RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY INFORMATION TO BE MEASURED AND REPORTED

- To identify the key international and national stakeholders for the security of radioactive sources and to discuss their roles and contributions;
- To identify areas, information and indicators which effectively characterize radiological security and the contribution of each stakeholders;
- To review the process of measuring such indicators;
- To address the issue of confidentiality and of reporting sensitive information
- To explore options for benchmarking the performance of selected stakeholders.

REVIEWING CURRENT PRACTICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- To review the existing mechanisms and forums to report achievements, challenges, and best practices in the area of radiological security;
- To listen to other experiences (radioactive source safety reporting; other sectors, such as the chemical industry, etc.);
- To assess the relevance and effectiveness of existing mechanisms, assess possible gaps, and to explore further opportunities for sharing experiences and progresses.

ENCOURAGING EXCHANGES, REPORTING AND BENCHMARKING

- To identify incentives for strengthening exchanges, reporting, and benchmarking;
- To identify - for each stakeholder - the most relevant processes and forums for exchanges, reporting, and benchmarking;
- To discuss options for optimising the reporting process and preventing duplication of efforts.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

- To consolidate the key findings of the day;
- To discuss actions to be taken to strengthen transparency and voluntary reporting;
- To prepare a summary and recommendations to be shared during the International Workshop on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources to be conducted in Berlin, Germany from 13 to 15 September 2016.