



GREEK ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

GREEK NATIONAL REPORT

for the

“Second CNS Extraordinary Meeting (August 2012)”

2012

Table of Contents

A. Introduction	3
B. Topic 4 – National Organizations	4
C. Topic 5 - Emergency Preparedness and Response and Post-Accident Management (Off-site)	5
D. Topic 6 – International Cooperation	6
E. Annex	7

A. Introduction

Greece has signed the Convention on Nuclear Safety, which entered into force in 1997 by parliamentary ratification. Greece participated in the previous review meetings of the contracting parties.

This report concentrates on the actions, responses and new developments in Greece, that have been initiated or influenced by the accident at the Fukushima Daichi NPPs, following the decision of the contracting parties at the fifth CNS review meeting.

The report has been structured by topic, rather by individual articles of the Convention, as was asked by the General Committee, and obeys to the Guidance for National Reports.

Greece has no nuclear power plants and no intention to built any in the foreseeable future. Therefore, the report covers only the topics 4, 5 and 6. As was asked by the General Committee, a summary table, according to the Guidance for National Reports, is also provided (Annex).

B. Topic 4 – National Organizations

In Greece the authority responsible for radiation protection and nuclear safety is the Greek Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC). Since 1987, GAEC is an autonomous, decentralized, civil service supervised by the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs. GAEC is governed by a seven member Board, appointed by the Minister.

Following the accident in Fukushima Daichi NPPs, GAEC, according to its statutory role, proceeded to the following actions:

- issue, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of recommendations and instructions regarding travelling to Japan and the protection of the Greek citizens and ships in the vicinity of Fukushima;
- extension of the daily operation to 18 hours in the period from 12 March to 26 March and to 12 hours from 27 March to 17 April 2011 (week-ends included);
- monitoring of individuals arriving from Japan;
- teams in Athens and Thessaloniki international airports for information provision and radioactivity measurements;
- whole body and laboratory measurements in GAEC premises;
- environmental radioactivity monitoring (telemetric network for air gamma radiation and aerosols);
- laboratory radioactivity measurements of environmental samples (grass, milk, water etc.);
- activation of the collaborating laboratories network in order to perform sampling and measurements covering the whole country. Provision of a common platform to upload measurement results and comments;
- collaboration with the Hellenic Food Authority (EFET) for organizing sampling and measurements of imported foodstuff and feedstuff, following relevant EC recommendation;
- continuous connection with international and European networks (ENATOM, ECURIE) for getting information regarding the accident evolution and its consequences;
- public information (issue of press releases, mass-media interviews, continuous update of the web page, special phone line);
- Government information;
- Parliament information.

It is worthwhile to mention that within the above period the public and politicians interest was increased; indicatively, the number of visits to GAEC website has substantially increased.

The global assessment of GAEC actions was positive. Issues like staff response, collaboration with other national organizations, measurement capabilities, communication channels, were tested with satisfying results. However, some issues for further improvement have been identified, such as:

- need for additional GAEC staff training on nuclear technology, like severe accident phenomenology;
- staff redundancy.

C. Topic 5 - Emergency Preparedness and Response and Post-Accident Management (Off-site)

Greece might be affected in the event of a radiological emergency at a nuclear power plant only outside of its borders. Radiological emergency preparedness is provided in Annex "P" (Greek letter rho) of the General Civil Protection (Emergency) Plan (GCPP). GAEC is the authority responsible for the activation of Annex "P".

Based on our observations from the Fukushima accident and on the recommendations of the forthcoming IRRS Mission in GAEC (20-30 May 2012), the emergency plan will be reviewed. GAEC has already initiated discussions with the General Secretary of Civil Protection for the update and improvement of the emergency plan. The discussions will be finalized after the end of the IRRS mission, in order to incorporate in the revised plan the peer review team findings. The need to organize more frequently exercises internally or with the participation of other organizations, has been raised.

A particular aspect that has been recognized as a potential point of GAEC operational preparedness strengthening, concerns its technical ability to perform evaluation of radiological consequences following a nuclear accident in another country. In this framework, GAEC has already decided to improve the operational capabilities of its atmospheric dispersion models incorporating the estimation of short term population doses, and, in the extent feasible, its own source term estimation. GAEC staff has already been charged with this duty in cooperation with other national organizations.

D. Topic 6 – International Cooperation

Greece participates at International and European organizations and networks (ENSREG, HERCA etc.). Additionally, Greece participated in the Stress Tests of the European NPPs by appointing two experts in the stress test peer review process.

Greece invited an IRRS mission almost three years ago. The mission is scheduled for 20-30 May 2012. The regulatory framework in Greece will be thoroughly examined and the compliance with international standards will be evaluated, including the emergency preparedness and response system. The relevant legal framework and its implementation as well as GAEC operational capabilities will be reviewed, during the IRRS mission.

GAEC has taken the initiative to further enhance and strengthen bilateral cooperation with the authorities of neighboring countries operating NPPs.

E. Annex

Summary Table

Activity	Activities by the Regulator		
	Item 3.a	Item 3.b	Item 3.c
Topic 4 – National Organizations			
Additional GAEC staff training on nuclear technology, like severe accident phenomenology	planned	No	No
Staff redundancy	ongoing	End 2012	No
Topic 5 – Emergency Preparedness and Response and Post-accident management (Off-site)			
Review of the national emergency plan	Ongoing	June 2013	No
Improvement of the operational capabilities of GAEC concerning models for radioactivity atmospheric dispersion and short term consequences estimation	Ongoing		No
Organize more frequently exercises internally or with the participation of other organizations	Taken	May 2012	Not yet
Topic 6 – International Cooperation			
Strengthen bilateral cooperation with neighboring countries operating NPPs.	Taken		Yes
Participation in stress test meetings and review process.	Taken		Yes