



Select IAEA Activities for Uranium Production Legacy Sites : Two Important Initiatives

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Worldwide Regulatory Challenges of Radioactive Legacy Sites



Contents

- International Forum for the Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites (RSLs)
- Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites (CGULS)



IAEA General Conference Safety Resolutions

- 65. *Encourages relevant Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate the uranium mining legacy sites in Central Asia, supports the Agency's involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator and requests the Secretariat to report on further developments; notes the conclusions of the International Conference on Remediation of Land Contaminated by Radioactive Material Residues in Kazakhstan in May 2009, and supports, as recommended by the conference, the development of an international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy sites; [GC(53)/RES/10, 18 September 2009]*
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- 54. *Notes the successful completion of the baseline document that identifies the need and priorities for environmental impact assessments at legacy uranium production sites in Central Asia, encourages interested Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate those sites, supports the Agency's involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator, encourages Member States to participate in the technical meeting to launch an international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy contaminated sites in October 2010, and requests the Secretariat to report on further developments; [GC(54)/RES/7, September 2010]*
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- 55. *"Notes the baseline document that identifies the need and priorities for environmental impact assessments at legacy uranium production sites in Central Asia, encourages interested Member States to participate in a multilateral initiative to remediate those sites, supports the Agency's involvement in this international initiative as technical coordinator, and encourages Member States to participate in the international working forum for the regulatory supervision of legacy contaminated sites that was launched in October 2010;" [GC(55)/ RES/9, September 2011]*
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- 64. *"Requests the Secretariat to provide technical coordination for multilateral initiatives to*
- *remediate legacy uranium production sites, notably in Central Asia;" [GC(56)/ RES/9, September 2012]*

Objective of the International Forum for the Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites (RSLs)

- The overall objective of the RSLs is to promote effective and efficient regulatory supervision for the management of legacy sites, consistent with the IAEA Fundamental Principles, Safety Standards and good international practices.



Topical Areas for RSLs

IAEA initiative aimed at:

- Strengthening the Regulatory Regime;
- Safety Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments;
- Professional Development of Regulators

Three working groups addressing issues in each of these areas



Scope of Work and Associated Activities

- The scope of RSLs activities includes all types of nuclear legacy sites
- Support development of regulations and guidance through technical exchange on topics such as:
 - Licensing (all phases)
 - Inspection and Monitoring
 - Environmental Impact Assessment ; Safety Assessment
 - Remediation
 - Long term surveillance and maintenance

Activities to Deliver RSLs Objectives

- Technical exchange
- Scientific visits
- Workshops and Technical Meetings



International Forum for Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites (RSLs)

Scientific Visit and Workshop



RSLs Group



Participation

- RSLs participants are:
 - Members: appointed from Authorities responsible for regulation , and/or supervision of radiation and environmental safety at legacy sites; and
 - Other stakeholders in legacy site management, such as international organisations, site operators, technical support organisations.



Organization

- RSLs convene an annual Technical Meeting
- The RSL is led by a Chairperson in charge of communication and coordination matters, and also chairs the Steering Committee.
- The Chairperson was elected by the RSL members, for an initial period of three years.
- The Chairperson is assisted by a Secretariat provided by the IAEA.



Status

- Initial focus on uranium legacy sites
- Three Technical Meetings Held
- 1 Scientific visit (28 MS reps from 20 countries)
- 1 Workshop
- Technical Document in preparation



<http://www/ns.iaea.org/projects/rsls/default.asp?s=8&l=99>

Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites

CGULS



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Background

- In 2004 the Central Asian Republics of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan approached IAEA with the request to receive technical assistance and expert advice to deal with the legacy sites of the former Uranium industry. In response to this request IAEA has initiated several projects in Central Asia (both regional and national)

Central Asia



IAEA

Background-Central Asian Initiative

- The legacy of Uranium mining in CA is of great extent resulting from 50 years of exploitation
- Sites typically located in areas with high seismic activity, steep mountainous terrain and extreme weather conditions
- The area is prone to mudslides and landslides
- Production ceased abruptly without adequate remediation
- The legacies are the source of concern for local and national populations, the authorities, and neighboring countries
- These countries have limited resources and have requested international assistance



Background-Central Asian Initiative

- Many organizations involved
- They all address the problem of the former Uranium production mines from various perspectives. However there is a need to begin to coordinate and integrate these efforts to maximize the overall impact and to optimize the resources involved



Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites (CGULS)

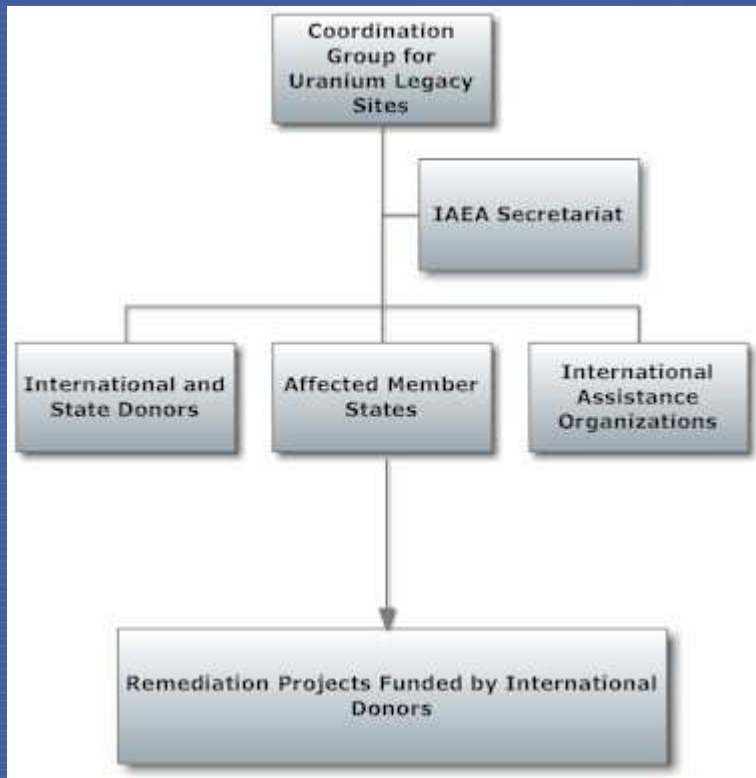
- Project developed in response to IAEA Member States and international organizations to identify and prioritize activities needed to address the uranium legacy problems and provide technical coordination for remediation related activities primarily in Central Asia



CGULS

- Coordination group comprised of national and international stakeholders
 - Provide forum for information exchange
 - Support project planning and implementation issues
 - Address radioactive waste management issues
 - Coordination mechanism to avoid duplication of efforts and optimize resources
 - Provide targeted technical support
- Technically supported by IAEA secretariat

Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites



Current Status

- TM held in June 2012-Vienna
- ToR presented and adopted by participants

IAEA to provide secretariat

Rotating chairperson from affected MS's

Establishes coordination body

Coordination Meetings

Provides a mechanism for targeted technical assistance

CGULS meeting to be held in Bishkek in June 2013

Questions?

