

Pursuant to Article 8(1)(a) and in connection with Article 9(1) of the Law on Radiation and Nuclear Safety in Bosnia and Herzegovina (*Official Gazette of BiH* 88/07) and Article 17 of the Law on the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina (*Official Gazette of BiH* 30/03, 42/03, 81/06, 76/07, 81/07, 94/07 and 24/08), upon the proposal of the State Regulatory Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at its 10th session of 12 June 2012, adopted the:

**POLICY
ON THE SAFETY OF IONISING RADIATION SOURCES
IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

PART ONE – GENERAL POLICY OBJECTIVES

- (1) The objective of the 'Policy on the safety of ionising radiation sources in Bosnia and Herzegovina' is to establish an efficient and transparent radiation protection system ensuring the basis for protection of people and the environment from harmful effects of ionising radiation in accordance with international standards.
- (2) The objective of the 'Policy on the safety of ionising radiation sources in Bosnia and Herzegovina' is to establish a framework for regulatory activities of the State Regulatory Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety (hereinafter: Agency) under the Law on Radiation and Nuclear Safety in Bosnia and Herzegovina (*Official Gazette of BiH* 88/07) (hereinafter: Law), and to establish guidelines on regulatory activities of the Agency in accordance with the main objectives, the main safety and security principles of the International Agency for Atomic Energy (IAEA), and the European standards.
- (3) The policy is based on the main objectives and principles of the safety and security of ionising radiation sources.

PART TWO – MAIN OBJECTIVE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

- (1) The main safety objective is to protect people and the environment from harmful effects of ionising radiation, and it applies to all circumstances that might give rise to increased radiation risks. The safety covers nuclear safety, radiation safety, safe management of radioactive waste, and safe transport of radioactive material.
- (2) The main security objective is to prevent unauthorised access to, loss, theft or unauthorised transfer of radiation sources; to reduce the likelihood of exposure to such sources; to reduce the likelihood of malicious use of such sources to cause harm to individuals, society and the environment; and also to mitigate and minimize radiological consequences.
- (3) It is necessary to develop safety infrastructure and security infrastructure in a well coordinated manner as far as possible, taking into account the commonalities and the differences between safety and security of ionising radiation sources. The synergy between safety and security must be developed so

that they complement and enhance each other, and that security measures do not compromise safety and safety measures do not compromise security measures for ionising radiation sources.

PART THREE – MAIN SAFETY AND SECURITY PRINCIPLES

The main safety and security principles shall apply throughout the lifetime of all radiation facilities and practices, both the existing and the new ones that are utilized for peaceful purposes.

Principle: Prime responsibility

The prime responsibility for the safety and security of radiation sources shall rest with the authorisation holder. The authorisation holder is a legal person authorised under the applicable regulations for carrying out a practice involving ionising radiation sources that give rise to increased radiation risk.

Principle: Role of institutions

- (1) Under the Law, the Agency is responsible for the establishment of a secondary legislation framework for nuclear safety, radiation safety, safe transport of radioactive material, safe management of radioactive waste, and also security of radioactive and nuclear material.
- (2) Where necessary, the Agency shall cooperate with other relevant national and entity institutions through agreements in order to establish a more efficient system of protection against ionising radiation in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (3) In accordance with its obligations, the Agency submits the annual report on radiation and nuclear safety in the country to the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, and the regular annual report on its work to the Council of Ministers of BiH.

Principle: Management

- (1) Legal persons that own facilities and carry out the activities that might give rise to increased radiation risk shall establish and maintain a system for managing safety and security at the highest possible level.
- (2) The system for managing the safety and security of ionising radiation sources shall be integrated into the overall management system, ensure regular assessment of safety and security, and promote the safety and security culture.

Principle: Justification of practices

- (1) Practices involving radiation sources that give rise to increased radiation risk shall be justified.

- (2) The justification means that the requirements and authorisation for carrying out the existing and the future authorised practices involving radiation sources and those involving safe management of radioactive waste shall be established and assessed against economic, social and other benefits they produce for society in relation to the radiation risk that can result from such activities.
- (3) The Agency shall assess the justification of the existing and the introduction of new practices involving ionising radiation sources. In particular, for medical exposure, justification shall be assessed against clinical judgement of the benefit from a specific diagnostic or therapeutic procedure for patients on a case-by-case basis.

Principle: Optimisation of protection

Optimisation of protection against ionising radiation shall imply carrying out any practice so as to keep exposure to ionising radiation as low as reasonably achievable, economic and social factors being taken into account.

Principle: Limitation of risks to individuals

- (1) Measures for controlling radiation risks shall ensure that no person bears an unacceptable risk. The practice involving radiation sources shall be planned so as to always keep individual exposure below authorised limits, that is, below the dose limit set as a legal upper boundary of acceptable exposure to ionising radiation.
- (2) The dose limit shall be prescribed both for occupationally exposed workers and the public as a whole.

Principle: Protection of present and future generations

- (1) The public and the environment shall be protected against radiation risks.
- (2) Since radiation risks transcend national borders and can persist for a long time period, the possible consequences of current activities involving ionising radiation sources shall be assessed in relation to broad population and future generations.

Principle: Prevention of emergencies

All necessary measures shall be taken to prevent and mitigate nuclear and radiation emergencies.

Principle: Emergency preparedness and response

- (1) All necessary plans for preparedness and response to emergencies, that is, nuclear and radiological emergencies shall be prepared, adopted and implemented.

- (2) Under the Law, upon the proposal of the Agency, the Council of Ministers of BiH shall adopt a national action plan for emergency cases of protecting the population against ionising radiation in case of an emergency event, a nuclear accident or occurrence of nuclear damage.

Principle: Protective actions

Protective actions to reduce existing or unregulated radiation risks shall be justified and optimized.

Principle: Graded approach

- (1) Regulatory requirements for safety shall be based on a graded approach, taking into account the complexity of the practice involving radiation sources and the magnitude of radiation risk.
- (2) Regulatory requirements for security shall be based on a graded approach, taking the threat assessment into account.

Principle: Threat assessment

Competent authorities shall assess the threat to the security of ionising radiation sources, based on assessing possible endangerment of the source through malicious use, unauthorised access, loss or theft.

Principle: Multilevel protection measures

The safety and security requirements shall be based on the concept of combining several levels and methods of protection (structural, technical, personnel and organizational) that should prevent malicious use of ionising radiation sources.

Principle: Confidentiality of information

All measures necessary to protect confidentiality of the information that can endanger the security of ionising radiation sources due to unauthorised access to such information shall be established and implemented.

PART FOUR – SPECIFIC POLICIES

I. Radiation safety policy

- (1) The Agency shall establish a regulatory framework for radiation safety in BiH, based on the international standards for radiation protection, the safety of ionising radiation sources, and the relevant European directives (EURATOM).
- (2) The regulatory framework for radiation safety shall include notification and authorisation of practices, risk assessment for practices involving radiation sources and radiation facilities, regulatory inspection, enforcement measures in

case of failure to meet regulatory requirements, regulatory activities regarding emergencies, and consultations with users and the public as needed.

II. Nuclear safety policy

- (1) The Council of Ministers of BiH and the Agency shall establish a regulatory framework relating to the implementation of measures to mitigate the consequences of a nuclear incident that might affect Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (2) Under the Agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina and IAEA for the Application of Safeguards in Connection with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the Additional Protocol to the Agreement, the Agency shall establish a regulatory framework for the safety and regulatory control of nuclear material used in BiH.

III. Policy on the safe management of radioactive waste

- (1) In accordance with international standards, the Agency shall establish a regulatory framework for the safe management of radioactive waste generated in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (2) The Agency shall authorise technical services for safe management of radioactive waste. Such authorised services shall be responsible for the implementation of measures and activities relating to the radioactive waste management, including collection, transport, packaging, handling, conditioning, storage and final disposal of the waste.
- (3) All activities relating to the radioactive waste management shall be carried out openly and transparently, and the public shall have access to the information insofar as it does not violate national laws, security and defence.
- (4) The responsibility for radioactive waste shall rest with the authorisation holder until the radioactive waste is taken over by a technical service authorised for radioactive waste management. The authorisation holder generating radioactive waste shall be responsible for the implementation of measures with a view to generating minimal amounts of radioactive waste.
- (5) Radioactive waste shall not be imported in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (6) The Agency shall seek to resolve the issue of permanent disposal of radioactive waste.
- (7) Specific sealed radiation sources shall be imported provided that they will be returned to a supplier after the authorisation holder has discontinued their use.

IV. Safe transport of radioactive material

- (1) The Agency shall establish a regulatory framework for the safe transport of radioactive material in accordance with the relevant international documents.

- (2) The regulatory framework shall apply to all types of transport, including road, sea and air modes of transport, and it shall cover all operations involved in the movement of radioactive material, such as design, production, maintenance, repair of packaging material, and also preparation, loading, temporary storage and reception of radioactive material at its final destination.

V. Security of radioactive and nuclear material

- (1) In cooperation with the Agency, the relevant government institutions shall define the type of radiation threat and carry out a vulnerability assessment in relation to the threat to various ionising radiation sources in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (2) In accordance with the relevant IAEA documents, the Agency shall establish a regulatory framework for the security of radioactive and nuclear material to ensure that the sources are secure during and after their use.

PART FIVE – POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- (1) All actors in the field of safety and security shall be engaged, fulfil their obligations and be responsible in the policy implementation. The Council of Ministers of BiH shall encourage and promote active participation of all actors in the implementation.
- (2) Regulatory policy implemented by the Agency shall ensure all needed information about the safe management of radiation and nuclear practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (3) Regulations adopted by the Agency shall define responsibilities of the authorisation holder to ensure complete fulfilment of legal provisions relating to safety and security.
- (4) The Agency shall ensure that the authorisation holder fulfils its obligations under the Law and regulations, which is achieved by:
 - a) establishment and publication of clear regulatory requirements, monitoring, enforcement measures, and relevant assistance to the authorisation holder to improve the safety and security of ionising radiation sources;
 - b) making independent, objective and consistent regulatory decisions;
 - c) economic performance, with regulatory actions based on the radiation risk for people and the environment;
 - d) transparent work with full responsibility to the Council of Ministers of BiH, the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, and citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (5) Activities on the policy promotion and implementation shall be reviewed through Agency's regular action plans.
- (6) Particular attention shall be paid to the improvement of knowledge and skills of all actors in the radiation protection system in terms of promoting and adopting

the concepts of safety culture, security culture, quality assurance system, and rational use of radiation sources.

**PART SIX – STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLANS,
AND TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

- (1) Implementation of the policy shall be ensured through appropriate strategic and operational plans.
- (2) The policy shall enter into force on the day of its adoption and be published in the *Official Gazette of BiH*.

CoM no 89/12
12 June 2012
Sarajevo

Council of Ministers of BiH
Chair
Vjekoslav Bevanda