

ASN expectations and lessons learned from the IRRS mission

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Requested by ASN in 2005.

Performed

- from 5 to 17 November 2006
- by 16 international experts and 2 observers

Coordinated by 6 IAEA staff members

At the time when ASN changed status.

1st full scope mission covering all activities of ASN including provisions for public information.

France IRRS mission

The IRRS team identified:

- 40 good practices
- 49 suggestions
- 35 recommendations

The full extent IRRS audit report is available on www.asn.fr website.

ASN action plan

ASN action plan launched beginning of 2007:

~ 100 actions (1/3 important) spread over the following topics:

- Legislative and governmental responsibilities (6%)
- Responsibilities, functions, organization and management of ASN (15%)
- Activities of the regulatory body (79%):
 - Regulations and guides (25%)
 - Review and assessment (20%)
 - Inspection and enforcement (15%)
 - Authorization (13%)
 - Emergency preparedness (5%)
 - Infrastructure for radioactive waste management (1%)

Followed-up regularly by the DG.

Internal audit of all the recommendations made by the IRRS team set-up end of september 2008 → mid-november 2008.

IRRS follow-up mission

- Will take place March 30 → April 3rd 2009.
- Team of 10 international experts.
Same team leader: L. Creswell.
Same IAEA coordinator: G. Carruso.
- Preparatory meeting 14 November 2008 in Paris with the team leader and the coordinator.

IRRS follow-up mission

- 1) action plan follow-up
- 2) review on specific topics
- 3) policy discussions

1) **action plan follow-up:**

- ASN internal audit → allows ASN to get ready
- report will be transmitted to IAEA
- ~ 2 months before the follow-up mission

2) **review on specific topics:**

- ✓ Radiotherapy (regulatory activities)
- ✓ Security of radioactive sources (full scope)

3) Policy discussions:

ASN suggestions:

- nuclear medical issues
- responsibility distribution between an independent regulatory body, the government and the parliament
- conditions in which a regulatory body calls another regulatory body or a foreign TSO

Expectations

ASN had 3 main expectations from the IRRS mission:

- To review its organization and practices
- To share its good practices
- To support IRRS mission program.

Globally satisfactory.

Lessons learned

- To review its organization and practices in order to improve ASN efficiency
→ **the follow-up mission is important.**

- ASN status changed at the time of the mission. The IRRS team recommendations accompanied the transformation
→ **an IRRS mission brings helpful outputs when/after an important change happens**

- Part of the recommendations concern several entities
→ **need of internal coordination**
[work to be completed on the review and preparation of orders and guides to further incorporate IAEA standards and WENRA reference levels]

- Transparency → **the follow-up audit report will be available on ASN website.**

Conclusions

- ASN supports IRRS program
- The whole IRRS process is important (full scope mission + follow-up mission) and should be renewed periodically (6-10 years). Targeted mission in case of important change.
- Importance for the safety authorities to provide experts for the IRRS teams
- Optimization between audit reports and national reports for the review meetings of the Convention on nuclear safety
- The importance to receive an IRRS mission could be stressed in a European directive