



ITALY



Convention on Nuclear Safety

Ninth Italian National Report

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The present report has been prepared, on behalf of the Italian Government, by the National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN) in coordination with other national involved Administrations and Organizations

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Section A. Introduction

A.1 Introductory Remarks

This Report is intended to provide an updating of the Italian eighth National Report issued in 2019. To organize its content, the following aspects have been considered:

- the changes in policy as well as in national nuclear safety regulatory framework, legislation, regulations and practices;
- the safety issues identified through the eighth Review cycle;
- the progresses made on challenges and suggestions from seventh and eighth Review cycle;
- the experience with response to COVID-19 pandemic.

The above considerations led to prepare a self-standing document. To this aim, the Report provides a general update of the “article-by-article review”, as applicable to the Italian scene, with Annexes integrating information provided in the main text.

In accordance with the communication of 23 June 2021 of the President of the 8th and 9th Review meeting of CNS, the Report updates information on matters covered in the previous Reports, reporting the relevant changes occurred in national nuclear safety legislation, regulations and practices since 2019, the safety issues identified through the eighth Review cycle, the progresses made on challenges and suggestions raised from eighth Review cycle and the experience to face COVID-19 pandemic. Following the request from the President, to facilitate the identification of the major developments since 7th and 8th Review meetings, the information on major developments in the above mentioned topics have been collected in Section D of the Report.

This National Report, pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety which entered into force on 24 October 1996, describes the official actions that the Government of the Republic of Italy, as a Contracting Party to the Convention since 15 April 1998, has taken in order to fulfil its obligations as specified in Articles 6 through 19 of the Convention.

A.2 Italy’s Nuclear Activities Policy

Since the abandonment of the national programme to use nuclear energy for electricity production followed to the referendum of November 1987 and the consequent definitive shut-down of the four Italian nuclear power plants (i.e. Garigliano, Latina, Trino and Caorso), no significant changes of policy occurred on the matter until 2009, when the Government decided to reopen the nuclear option by envisaging the construction of new installations in the coming years. A new legislation was promulgated in July 2009 (Act No. 99/2009), followed by an implementation decree (Legislative Decree No. 31/2010), in order to regulate the process to start a new nuclear programme. In the aftermath of the Fukushima Daichi NPP accident and as result of a national Referendum, the process to start a new nuclear programme was stopped and the new legislative provisions consequently amended.

Taking into account that no plans to build NPPs exist, the current national programme is addressed to NPPs operated in the past to manage their waste and to conduct the related decommissioning programme.

The national policy is essentially aimed at maintaining effective nuclear infrastructures suitable to ensure a safe conduct of the decommissioning activities, safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, investigation of safer nuclear plants concepts and participation in international debate on nuclear safety so as to contribute to improve the global nuclear safety regime. In addition, a proper consideration was given to keep up structures and technical competencies in order to maintain adequate emergency preparedness capabilities, in particular in relation to nuclear accidents potentially affecting reactors located in the neighbouring countries.

The decommissioning of the four Italian NPP's definitely shutdown in the '80s is managed, since 1999, by SO.G.I.N. (Società Gestione Impianti Nucleari) S.p.A., whose single shareholder is the Ministry of Economy and Finance. In 2003 also the fuel fabrication and the experimental fuel cycle installations licences were transferred to SO.G.I.N.. The primary mission of SO.G.I.N. is the decommissioning of all Italian nuclear installations up to the final state with the unconditional release of the sites (green field), as well as the safe management of the spent fuel and radioactive waste. Strategic and operational directives are given to SO.G.I.N. by the Italian Government.

According to Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, SO.G.I.N. has been also entrusted of siting, construction and operation of the Technological Park, a nuclear installation comprising the national radioactive waste repository for low and intermediate level waste, the long term storage facility for high level waste and a research centre for the management of radioactive waste and spent fuel.

A special fund allocation for financing all these activities is ensured by means of a specific levy on the price of the electricity.

Until 1999, a safe enclosure strategy had been adopted for the decommissioning of the NPPs after their definitive shutdown. Following the subsequent governmental decision to move into a decommissioning strategy until the unconditional release of the sites, new plans were submitted by the licensee to the involved authorities for approval and authorization.

To date, the decommissioning licensing processes have been completed for all four NPPs and the decommissioning authorizations were granted in 2012 for Trino and Garigliano NPPs, in 2014 for Caorso NPP and in 2020 for Latina NPP.

The status of the decommissioning activities at the four NPPs is reported in the Annex 1.



Figure 1: Location of Italian NPPs

An important factor to implement the defined decommissioning strategy is represented by the construction and operation of a National Repository for the L-ILW disposal and long term storage of HLW. (additional information are reported in Section B)

A.3 Policy Developments

A.3.1 Decommissioning policy

No significant changes in the decommissioning policy occurred since the last review meeting. The current national decommissioning policy was established in 2004 when the Ministry of Economic Development (now Ministry of Ecological Transition) (i.e. Ministerial Decree of December 2004) updated strategic objectives assigned to SO.G.I.N. according to the following main actions:

- a) treatment and conditioning into certified form of all liquid and solid wastes, ready to be delivered to the national repository;
- b) completion of all the actions needed for satisfying existing spent fuel reprocessing contracts;
- c) feasibility evaluation of temporary export of the spent fuel still present in NPPs' for its reprocessing and of interim storage on the sites - evaluation of the short and long term costs, of the safety and environmental protection requirements and of the time needed - implementation of the necessary actions;
- d) a single step decommissioning of all nuclear power plants and nuclear fuel cycle facilities pending the operation in due time of a national facility for disposal and long term storage of radioactive waste.

It has to be noted that the Italian legislation regulates the decommissioning of nuclear installations as a comprehensive set of actions and the authorisations can be granted either in several steps (phases) accomplished in planned intermediate states or in a single phase. The multiple phase approach, however, is accepted on condition that the proposed subdivision into phases is shown to be part of an overall decommissioning plan leading up to the unconditional release of the site (green field) and defining, inter alia, the destination of resulting radioactive waste. This is the case for Latina NPP, a gas cooled reactor whose decommissioning overall plan foresees a two phase decommissioning plan:

- the first phase, with the dismantling of all plant systems and structures but the reactor building, ending up with a plant configuration having all the waste stored on site in dedicated interim storage facilities and the reactor building containing the graphite;
- the second phase, addressed to the completion of the reactor building dismantling and to the transfer of all radioactive waste to the National Repository and the subsequent release of the site without radiological constraints.

In addition, current regulations require that the decommissioning plans are authorised only after the positive closure of the environmental impact assessment procedure. The experience resulting from the management of NPP's shutdown since many years clearly indicated some priorities before starting the bulk of the dismantling activities, in particular the need to remove the spent fuel still present in the pools and to manage operational waste (conditioning and storage) already existing on the sites. To this aim, as discussed more in detail in the following sections, the transfer abroad for reprocessing of the spent fuel was completed. Only 13 tHM of spent fuel stored in a dedicated facility (Avogadro Fuel storage facility) outside NPPs still remain to be transferred. As far as existing waste concerns, several conditioning projects are in progress and new interim waste storage facilities on the sites have been realized or planned. These facilities are in several cases also intended to accommodate decommissioning waste for the period between the completion of their conditioning process and their transfer to the National Repository.

Legislative provisions establish the possibility to authorize specific activities related to decommissioning and dismantling before the approval of the overall decommissioning plan (decommissioning licence), provided that benefits to safety and radiation protection are properly demonstrated and the overall decommissioning plan has been submitted. These activities are mainly related to the treatment and conditioning of existing waste, to the decontamination of some systems and components, to the removal of piping isolation, to the modification of obsolete equipment to the preliminary dismantling of systems and components. They are however not related to the nuclear island whose dismantling is strictly connected to the availability of adequate storage capacity for the resulting materials. The building and operation of associated interim storage facilities is authorized according to the provisions of the national legislation.

For those NPPs for which the decommissioning licence has been granted several decommissioning projects are in progress or planned, as envisaged in the attachments to the licence.

The Technical Guide on decommissioning of nuclear installations, based on WENRA (Western European Nuclear Regulators Association) Safety Reference Levels and IAEA standards, has been issued by ISIN in May 2022. In this regard it has to be mentioned that for those installations whose decommissioning authorization was granted before the issuing of Technical Guide, the compliance with WENRA Safety Reference Levels and IAEA standards has already been taken into account in the review and assessment of the decommissioning application and required in the conditions attached to the decommissioning licences.

A.3.2 Spent fuel management policy

No significant changes in the spent fuel management policy occurred since the last review meeting.

Since the beginning of its nuclear programme, Italy had pursued the option of reprocessing abroad the spent fuel produced in its NPPs. After the political decision to stop all nuclear power activities, the shipments abroad of spent fuel for reprocessing were suspended with the last shipment to UK occurred in 2005, in the frame of a service agreement already in place.

The opposition of local communities to the adoption of an on-site dry storage strategy led the Government to consider again the option of reprocessing abroad the spent fuel still present (Directive of the Ministry of Economic Development, March 2006).

In particular, apart from the Uranium/Thorium fuel stored at the ITREC facility, SO.G.I.N. was entrusted to establish reprocessing agreements for all the remaining spent fuel stored in Italy, including the Italian part of spent fuel resulting from the Superphoenix experience.

Such a decision led the Inter-Governmental Agreement signed with the French Government on November 26, 2006, which resulted into a contract that SO.G.I.N. S.p.A. assigned to ORANO (previous Areva) on May 9, 2007. The Agreement envisages the return to Italy of the radioactive waste resulting from the reprocessing activity. In connection with the Agreement a road map has been also defined concerning the timing of the spent fuel transfer operations to France and the return of waste to Italy, as well as the different actions to be implemented on the legislative and implementation side to make available a storage facility for the waste returning from France.

With regard to the NPPs, spent fuel had been removed from Garigliano and Latina NPPs since many years. Under the intergovernmental agreement between Italy and France the transfer campaign from the Caorso NPP to France for reprocessing was completed in June 2010 and the transfer campaign from the Trino in 2015. Only 13 tHM of the spent fuel originated from past operation of NPPs, are still present in the Avogadro AFR storage facility. Its safe management continues to be performed according to existing licence conditions and technical specifications.

A.3.3 Radioactive waste management policy

With reference to the policy on radioactive waste management it has to be mentioned that on December 2019 has been published the National Programme for radioactive waste management

and spent fuel management adopted by the Ministry for Economic Development and the Ministry of Environment, now joined in the new Ministry of Ecological Transition.

The National Programme is based on the following objectives:

1. implementing the decommissioning of nuclear installations, until the release of the sites without radiological constraints;
2. treatment and conditioning of all the liquid and solid radioactive waste located on site, in a suitable form for the transfer to the National Repository;
3. annual update of the national inventory of radioactive waste and spent fuel;
4. safely dispose of the radioactive waste generated in Italy, as priority, on the national territory, as established by Directive 2011/70/Euratom;
5. identify the location for, construct and operate the National Repository for radioactive waste generated in the country, originating from industrial, research and medical activities, from the decommissioning of nuclear plants and fuel cycle facilities and from their past operation, within a Technology Park that will include a study and experimentation centre, as specifically defined in article 27 of Legislative Decree No. 31 of 15 February 2010;
6. dispose of LLW and short lived ILW in the National Repository;
7. store within this National Repository the long lived ILW and the HLW, including the spent fuel not intended to be reprocessed, in a long-term storage facility;
8. shipment abroad of the spent nuclear fuel still present in the country, for reprocessing, and successive return of the residues coming from reprocessing;
9. ensure respect for the commitments between the Republic of Italy and EURATOM on the management of radioactive waste in the Joint Research Centre of Ispra (VA);
10. establish a R&D programme for the safety of spent fuel and radioactive waste management;
11. ensure transparency and public participation in the decision-making processes concerning the spent fuel and radioactive waste management.

Most of the radioactive waste existing in Italy has been produced during the past operation and performed decommissioning activities of the nuclear installations. The future waste will come from the prosecution of the decommissioning activities, as well as from the returning in Italy of the conditioned high and intermediate level waste resulting from the reprocessing abroad of the spent fuel.

At present, waiting for the availability of the National Repository, radioactive waste is being stored in the nuclear installations of origin. Action plans are in progress to enhance the safety level of waste by implementing specific treatment and conditioning projects, by refurbishing existing buildings or by realizing new storage facilities on the sites. The implementation status of the above referred action plans is reported in the Annex 1 (list and status of nuclear installations in Italy). Conditions and technical specifications related to waste management are attached to NPPs decommissioning licence.

In this context, the Technical Guide N.30 on safety criteria for storage of radioactive waste and spent fuel was issued by ISIN in October 2020. Moreover, the Technical Guide No.32 on safety criteria for near surface disposal facilities, always based on WENRA Safety Reference Levels and IAEA standards, was issued in July 2022,

Several initiatives have been taken in the past years to investigate the possible solutions for the siting of the National Repository.

The already mentioned Legislative Decree No. 31/2010 (articles 27, 28 and 28-*bis*) establishes the following licensing processes:

1. approval of the National Chart of suitable areas
2. approval of the selected site
3. authorization for construction and operation
4. authorization for closure.

According to the Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, SO.G.I.N., the national implementer responsible for the siting, construction and operation of the National Repository, taking into account the criteria established in the Technical Guide No. 29, issued by the Nuclear Department of ISPRA, now ISIN, as well criteria established in the pertaining IAEA safety standards, has prepared a proposal of a National Chart of Potentially Eligible Areas (CNAPI). In 2015 this proposal has been verified and validated by ISIN (ex ISPRA), which has transmitted the results of its review and assessment to the Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection and to the Ministry of Economic Development (now merged in the Ministry of Ecological Transition), entitled to grant an authorization to SO.G.I.N. to publish the Chart in order to initiate a public consultation phase. Subsequently, on the basis of updates of the databases used for the preparation of the proposal of the national chart, ISIN verified and validated several proposals of the chart submitted by SO.G.I.N.. Last validation was performed in March 2020.

On January 5th 2021 the proposal of CNAPI was published by SOGIN.

After a rigorous process of exclusion according to the siting criteria established in the Technical Guide n.29, 67 areas (representing less than 0,1% of the Italian territory) have been included in the CNAPI. With the publication of the CNAPI, all involved stakeholders have been invited to formulate observations and proposals and to participate in the debate at the National Seminar, in particular in relation to the compliance of the CNAPI with the siting criteria of Technical Guide n.29.

During the public consultation:

- the observations were formulated by the stakeholders from the date of publication of the CNAPI to 15.01.2022;
- the National Seminar, according to the Legislative Decree n. 31/2010, took place from September 2021 to November 2021, involving all the stakeholders also at regional level.

On 15th December 2021 SOGIN published the report about the contents of the Seminar: 318 stakeholders presented observations/technical proposals/ administrative and political local acts.

After the conclusion of the Seminar, SOGIN elaborated the so called CNAI – National Chart of Eligible Areas, taking into account the conclusion of the public debate. ISIN will formulate the technical advice on the CNAI by September 2022 to the Ministry of Ecological Transition for approval, taking into account the contents of the public consultation. The steps foreseen and the timeline considered for the implementation of the national repository have been established by the Legislative Decree n. 31/2010 and the exact timeline for the implementation of the national repository depends on the possibility to find agreements with the regions involved.

A.3.4 Institutional and regulatory framework

In the past three years the following developments regarding the legislative and institutional framework took place.

Regarding legislative framework in 2020 the Legislative Decree n.101/2020 which transposes the Directive 2013/59/Euratom, laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionizing radiation, was published; this Decree entered into force on 27 August 2020 and it repeals the Legislative Decrees n° 230/1995, n° 187/200, n° 241/2000 and n° 52/2007. Legislative Decree n° 101/2020 has also incorporated Directive 2006/117/Euratom on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and spent fuel and introduces new provisions regarding the management of radioactive waste: all operators in the sector (transport activities, radioactive waste production, treatment and storage) have to register on the ISIN institutional site and to transmit information relating to each operation carried out, the type and quantity of the sources involved in the operation and all relevant information on the radioactive waste transported, produced, treated or stored.

With regard to the institutional framework, it has to be highlighted that in 2021 the competencies in the nuclear and radiation protection fields in charge to the Ministry of Economic Development have been shifted to the new Ministry of Ecological Transition (MiTE) that replaced the previous Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection.

A.4 List of nuclear installations in Italy

A short description of the status of the four NPPs is reported in Annex 1.

Background historical information on Italian Nuclear Programme are summarised in Annex 2.

A.5 Italian participation in international activities to enhance nuclear safety

As referred in the previous Reports, Italy has traditionally been active in international nuclear cooperation within IAEA, OECD/NEA, G7, EU and FORATOM as well as in bilateral contexts. An active contribution to these activities is considered to be important to keeping up-to-date the national competencies and capabilities in the safety and in the technology of nuclear installation as well as the promotion of maintaining and updating the nuclear safety culture at national level.

At the same time, Italy continues to ensure a wide participation in international activities as aimed at contributing to the establishing of a Global Safety Regime for achieving and maintaining a high level of nuclear safety worldwide.

A.5.1 Participation of the Competent Regulatory Authority

In the framework of a regulatory system, it is recognized that the international cooperation provides also a significant contribution to the quality of the national safety and radiation protection regulatory work. In such a context international cooperation activities conducted by ISIN have primarily regarded regulatory issues dealt with in the International Organizations. In addition to the activities performed to fulfill the above obligations on the Conventions, it is mentioned the participation of ISIN experts in the development and updating of IAEA safety standards as members of the safety standards Committee (NUSSC, WASSC, RASSC, TRANSSC, EPRReSC). As member of the EU Institutions committees facing the nuclear regulatory issues, ISIN fully takes its responsibility in contributing to the enhancing of the nuclear safety as a main objective of the EU international policy, not only through an active participation at level of production of Commission binding instruments (i.e. WPAQ of the Council) but also through direct participations in all the fora where cooperation actions in the nuclear safety field are proposed and evaluated. In its Competent Regulatory Authority institutional role, ISIN is member of the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) and actively participates in all its activities. In this context it has to be mentioned that since 2017 ISIN chairs the ENSREG Working Group 2 on waste management and decommissioning.

In addition, ISIN is member of the Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA) and has actively participated in the comparison of safety requirements of the different member countries, against agreed reference levels, as basis for harmonisation.

Together with all the other WENRA Members, ISIN has used the outcomes from this project for establishing the national action plan to correspondently update its technical guides, mainly addressing issues related to decommissioning and waste management.

A.5.2 International support programmes

Italy has continued an active technical participation in international cooperation programmes such as the INSC program promoted and funded by the EC - which replaced the former PHARE and TACIS Programs launched on early 90 in the post-Chernobyl - extended to third countries of other regional areas (Balkans, Mediterranean, Latin America, Asia) and recently IRAN.

Among recent or in progress examples, technical participation of ISIN in such a program is mainly related to the areas of decommissioning and waste management, radiation protection, emergency preparedness and response, knowledge management and communication. In the same context, training and tutoring activities on decommissioning and waste management performed by ISIN in the last years at its head quarter and at NPPs sites has to be reported.

Equal importance has been traditionally assigned by Italy to bilateral cooperation. In this regard cooperation agreements established in 2010-11 with Regulatory Authorities of neighbouring countries (Switzerland/ENSI, France/ASN and Slovenia/SNSA) in the field of nuclear safety and EP&R are in place. As a relevant example of a long lasting tradition in international bilateral cooperation, a cooperation arrangement on nuclear safety matters with the US.NRC, in place since 1975 and renewed in 2019, has to be mentioned. In this context, the renewal of the Bilateral Agreement between ISIN and the related national competent authority of Switzerland ENSI had been signed in 2019.

In addition to the ISIN cooperation in the regulatory assistance projects, the national nuclear industry participated in realisation activities and supply of major components to new reactors and on-site assistance programmes (e.g.: ANSALDO for NPPs in Romania, Slovenia, France, UK, China, JRC-EU, Russia).

ENEL participation in abroad nuclear activities includes 70% of ENDESA, Spain.

A further significant participation of the Italian industry to an international project is represented by CIMOLAI of Pordenone, a steel manufacturing company which fabricated and supplied the arch elements of the NSC for the Chernobyl sarcophagus. The national participation in the international nuclear research projects is primarily ensured by ENEA, involved in particular in EU research programmes.

Section B. Executive Summary

B.1 Executive Summary

This National Report, pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety which entered into force on 24 October 1996, describes the official actions that the Government of the Republic of Italy, as a Contracting Party to the Convention since 15 April 1998, has taken in order to fulfil its obligations as specified in Articles 6 through 19 of the Convention.

This Report is the ninth National Report. It represents a revision to the eighth Report submitted by Italy in 2019 for the eighth Review Meeting. This eighth National Report was prepared in accordance with the *“Guidelines Regarding National Reports under the Convention on Nuclear Safety”* and in accordance with the communication of 23 June 2021 of the President of the 8th and 9th Review meeting of CNS. It contains updated information on matters covered in the previous Reports, reporting the relevant changes occurred in national nuclear safety legislation, regulations and practices since 2019, the safety issues identified through the eighth Review cycle, the progresses made on challenges and suggestions raised from eighth Review cycle and the experience to face COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides an updated “article-by-article” review. This Report is the first national report in which all NPPs are under decommissioning and from this 9th Review cycle of the CNS Italy cannot be considered a nuclear country.

In fact, nuclear installations covered in this National Report are land based civil nuclear power plants under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Italy complying with the definition given under the Article 2i. As just previously said, all the four Italian NPPs (Garigliano, Latina, Trino and Caorso) were definitively shut down more than 30 years ago and all the fuel elements have been permanently removed from the plants. At present, all four NPPs are under decommissioning and at the date of the present report they cannot be any more considered “nuclear installations” under the definition given in Article 2i of the Convention.

In this regard it has to be mentioned that, due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which, as above said, are all under decommissioning with spent fuel removed from the site, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable in the national situation.

Among major developments occurred since the 8th Report it has to be mentioned that the lack in staff resources remains a challenge but it's on the way to be solved with the ongoing public recruitment: 23 new staff is foreseen to be hired by the end of 2022.

Moreover, the Technical Guides by ISIN to regulate storage of radioactive waste, decommissioning of nuclear installations and near surface disposal facilities were published in 2020 and 2022. The public consultation of the Technical Guide on management of radioactive waste is going to be conclude by September 2022 and the public consultation of the Technical Guide on criteria for clearance of materials is foreseen to be launched by 2022.

With reference to the siting process of the centralized radioactive waste disposal facility, the development on the siting process since the seventh and eight Report have already been presented in Section A under “Radioactive waste management policy” paragraph.

With reference to the challenges identified during 7th and 8th review meeting, the actions performed to solve them are reported in SECTION D.

As strongly encouraged in chapter II item 18 of the INFCIRC/572/rev.5, an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission hosted by ISPRA, now ISIN, took place in Italy in November 2016 and the related feedback were reported during the 7th review meeting. The IRRS mission was a full scope one covering modules on responsibilities and functions of the Government, global nuclear safety regime, responsibility and functions of the regulatory body, management system of the regulatory body. It has been addressed to radiation sources, research reactors, radioactive waste facilities and NPP under decommissioning. The mission provided useful recommendations and suggestions for improvements and the final report is on ISIN website.

Even if it lay down under Joint Convention, it has to be mentioned that in August 2020, Italy formally submitted a request to IAEA for an ARTEMIS peer review mission for the evaluation of the implementation of the National Programme, as requested by the Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom, to be held in 2023.

This National Report was prepared on behalf of the Italian Government by the competent regulatory authority in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection ISIN – National Inspectorate for nuclear safety and radiation protection.

Section C. Compliance with articles 4 to 19

Article 4. Implementing measures

Each Contracting Party shall take, within the framework of its national law, the legislative, regulatory and administrative measures and other steps necessary for implementing its obligations under this Convention.

The Italian Legislative and Regulatory framework has been long in force (since the early 60^{ties}), as discussed in detail in the first seven Reports and summarized in the present Report. It is considered that this framework is quite complete and updated according to the national nuclear programme and EU Directives, taking into account the Vienna Declaration principles. Considering that existing NPPs are in decommissioning and that there is no plan to build new NPPs, no further steps are necessary to implement the obligations of the Convention.

Article 5. Reporting

Each Contracting Party shall submit for review, prior to each meeting referred to in Article 20, a report on the measures it has taken to implement each of the obligations of this Convention

The present Report constitutes the ninth Italian Report issued in compliance with Article 5 of the Convention.

Article 6. Existing Nuclear Installations

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that the safety of nuclear installations existing at the time the Convention enters into force for that Contracting Party is reviewed as soon as possible. When necessary in the context of this Convention, the Contracting Party shall ensure that all reasonably practicable improvements are made as a matter of urgency to upgrade the safety of the nuclear installation. If such upgrading cannot be achieved, plans should be implemented to shut down the nuclear installation as soon as practically possible. The timing of the shut-down may take into account the whole energy context and possible alternatives as well as the social, environmental and economic impact.

6.1 Overview of major events since the last Report

As indicated in all previous Reports, Italy decided the shutdown of all its NPPs in 1987. The installations were not shut down for specific safety reasons but following a decision of the Government taken on the basis of the results of a national referendum. All spent fuel has been removed from the NPPs sites.

Safety issues currently of concern for the four Italian NPPs are therefore those related to decommissioning activities as well as to the safe management of radioactive waste on the sites, which are covered under the Joint convention on the safety of spent fuel and radioactive waste management.

More information on the state of activities performed at NPPs is reported in Annex 1.

For all national NPPs of Trino, Garigliano, Caorso and Latina the decommissioning license was granted.

In the context of the licensing process the overall safety status of the installation is reassessed taking into account the decommissioning operations to be conducted. The decommissioning license also establish specific conditions according to which activities having relevance for nuclear safety and radiation protection have to be approved by the competent regulatory authority on the basis of specific Detailed Projects or Operational Plans with the pertaining safety analysis. The SAR report is also requested to be maintained updated.

On the bases of what is reported in this section, due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which are under decommissioning with spent fuel removed from the site, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable in the national situation.

Article 7. Legislative and Regulatory Framework

1. Each Contracting Party shall establish and maintain a legislative and regulatory framework to govern the safety of nuclear installations.
 2. The legislative and regulatory framework shall provide for:
 - i. the establishment of applicable national safety requirements and regulations;
 - ii. a system of licensing with regard to nuclear installations and the prohibition of the operation of a nuclear installation without a licence;
 - iii. a system of regulatory inspection and assessment of nuclear installations to ascertain compliance with applicable regulations and the terms of licences;
 - iv. the enforcement of applicable regulations and of the terms of licences, including suspension, modification or revocation.
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7.1 Nuclear safety legislation and regulatory framework

The current Italian legislative and regulatory framework related to nuclear safety and radiation protection is the result of an evolution of rules and provisions that begun in the early 60^{ties} and that took into account the experience of licensing and operation of NPPs of different types and generations and of other nuclear installations.

The Italian regulatory system is made up of three types of rules of different legal force depending on their origin:

- legislation proper, that are Acts, legislative decrees and governmental or ministerial decrees;
- technical guides;
- technical standards.

It has to be noted that an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission hosted by ISPRA, now ISIN, took place in Italy in November 2016. The IRRS full scope mission covered modules on responsibilities and functions of the Government, global nuclear safety regime, responsibility and functions of the regulatory body, management system of the regulatory body, and has been addressed to radiation sources, research reactors, radioactive waste facilities and NPP under

decommissioning. The mission provided useful recommendations and suggestions for improvements and the final report was published on institutional website.

As conclusions of the IRRS mission good practices and recommendations were identified as reported in the 8th National Report.

The Action Plan for the implementation of the recommendations is under implementation.

The IRRS report was published either in the IRRS portal of IAEA web site and in the ISPRA (now ISIN) web site.

7.1.1 Legislation and ministerial decrees

In the Italian regulatory system, the source of legally binding rules must be either an Act of Parliament or a Legislative Decree issued by the Government thus empowered by Parliament. The Government can also issue governmental or ministerial decrees binding in law. The practice of laying down numerical limits and minute regulations in decrees issued by the Executive is very frequent in particular areas relative to radiation protection. An important feature of legally binding rules concerning nuclear safety and radiation protection in Italy is that contravention to obligations by operators and/or users constitutes a misdemeanour and entails a penal sanction; compliance can be enforced by means of criminal proceedings after due process of law.

The main corpus making up, inter alia, the Italian system are itemised below, as regards Acts and Legislative decrees:

- **Act No. 1860 of 31 December 1962:** published in the Italian Republic's Official Journal No. 27 of 30 January 1963, as amended by the President's Decree No. 1704 of 30 December 1965 and by the President's Decree No. 519 of 10 May 1975;
- **Act No. 393/1975:** which contains Administrative rules on the selection of the site for NPPs;
- **Presidential Decree No. 1450/1971:** which contains Requirements and procedure for the acquisition of the operational personnel licences;
- **Presidential Decree No. 519/1975:** "Civil responsibilities in the field of nuclear safety";
- **Legislative Decree No. 241/2000:** which has transposed European Union (EU) directive 96/29/Euratom laying down basic safety standards for the radiation protection of workers and the public; the standards laid down in the directive incorporate the 1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP) into EU radiation protection legislation.
- **Legislative Decree No. 257/2001:** which modified certain details in Legislative Decree No. 241/2000 concerning requirements for notification and authorisation of non-nuclear installations where ionising radiation is used for industrial, research and medical purposes;
- **Legislative Decree No. 23/2009:** which has transposed EU directive 2006/117/Euratom on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and spent fuel;
- **Act No. 99/2009,** related to the process to start the new nuclear programme.

- **Legislative Decree No. 31/2010** The Decree includes provisions for the site selection procedure of the national repository for the long term radioactive waste management, giving the responsibility to SO.G.I.N. and defining the relevant authorization procedure.
- **Legislative Decree No. 185/2011** which transposes the EU Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations.
- **Act No. 27/2012** on the economic development, through the Art. 24, establishes a new procedure to reduce the timing of the licensing phases for decommissioning activities, with a strengthened involvement of local administrations.
- **Legislative Decree No. 45/2014** which transposes the EU Directive 2011/70/EURATOM establishing a community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste. Legislative Decree No. 45/2014 establishes the National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN) as the new competent regulatory authority in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection and establishes the roadmap for the development of the National Program for radioactive waste and spent fuel management.
- **Joint Ministerial Decree 7/8/2015** which establishes a new classification for radioactive waste more in line with the recommendations of the IAEA standards.
- **Act. No. 58/2015** on the ratification of the Amendment to the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear installations.
- **Legislative Decree n° 137/2017** which transposes the Directive 2014/87/Euratom on nuclear safety which modify the EU Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations.
- **Legislative Decree n.101/2020** which transposes the Directive 2013/59/Euratom, laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionizing radiation, was published; this Decree entered into force on 27 august 2020 and it repeals the Legislative Decrees n° 230/1995, n° 187/200, n° 241/2000 and n° 52/2007. This decree establishes safety rules in order to protect people from radiation hazards and disciplines:
 - the protection of public and workers subject to any type of exposure to ionizing radiation,
 - the maintenance and promotion of continuous improvement of the safety of civil nuclear facilities,
 - the safe management of nuclear spent fuel and radioactive waste,
 - the control of the shipments of spent fuel, radioactive waste and radioactive materials.

On the consequences of the Fukushima accident, the Referendum held on 12 June 2011 definitely sanctioned the abandon of the nuclear power development programme in Italy started in 2009 and the following legislative provisions were issued:

- **Legislative Decree No. 41/2011** amended the Legislative Decree No. 31/2010 with reference to the future nuclear development in Italy.
- **Act No. 75/2011** that modifies all the provisions given in the Act No. 99/2009 and in the Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, as amended by the Legislative Decree No.41/2011, concerning the development of new NPP in Italy, relinquishing the nuclear development in Italy. The provisions for the development of the national site for LLW disposal and ILW-HLW interim storage has been confirmed. Furthermore, the Act No. 75/2011, modifies the regulatory process by cancelling of the “Technical Commission on nuclear safety and radiation protection” entitled to formulate an independent technical advice to the Regulatory Body during the assessment process connected to the granting of licences, authorizations and approval of detailed designs.
- **Act No. 214/2011** that abrogates the Nuclear Safety Agency (created with the Act No. 99/2009, but never applied) and the functions have been assigned to ISPRA and then to ISIN.

A series of Governmental and Ministerial Decrees have also been issued to implement the Act No. 1860/1962.

The main functions of the Regulatory Body, as better identified under article 8, were in the past entrusted to the Directorate for Nuclear Safety and Health Protection (DISP) of CNEN, later on ENEA. Such functions, together with staff, technical structures, equipment and financial resources of DISP, were transferred to ANPA, then APAT, ISPRA, and now ISIN.

The Acts of legislative force on the institution and subsequent re-organisations of the competent regulatory authority are listed below:

- **Act No. 933/1960:** on the establishment of the National Committee for Nuclear Energy (CNEN);
- **Act No. 84/1982:** on the establishment of the State Agency for new technologies, energy and environment (ENEA);
- **Act No. 61/1994:** on the establishment of the National Agency for the Environment Protection (ANPA).
- **Legislative Decree No. 300/1999 and President of the Republic Decree No.207/2002:** on the establishment of APAT, by merging ANPA with other national Technical Services;
- **Act No. 286/2006:** on the reorganisation of APAT as a legal entity of public administration, endowed with new institutional Organs;
- **Act No. 133/2008:** on the establishment of the Institute for the Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA);

- **Legislative Decree No. 45/2014:** on the establishment of the National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN) as the new competent regulatory authority in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection.
- **Legislative Decree n° 137/2017** which transposes the Directive 2014/87/Euratom on nuclear safety which modify the EU Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations.

7.1.2 Technical Guides

Issuing of technical guides is assigned to ISIN, according to article 236 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 and by art. 6 of Legislative Decree n. 45/2014.

Technical guides set up technical criteria to be taken into account by Operators in the siting of nuclear installations, submittal of specific projects for approval, conduct of operations as well as rules of good practice. Technical guides represent a minimum set of safety requirements the operators have to comply with; in case of non-compliance, the licensee is requested to demonstrate that the safety case fulfil alternative equivalent or higher requirements. Compliance with Technical Guides is assessed during licensing process and inspection activities. A set of 32 technical guides have been issued on nuclear safety and radiation protection matters ranging from licensing procedures to detailed technical guidance.

In addition, the existing wealth of international recommendations, such as those reported in IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) and ICRP (International Committee on Radiological Protection) publications, is largely used in the Italian system.

The list of the most important Technical Guides is reported in Annex 3. A programme to update these technical guides is under implementation, essentially based on the national action plan established in the framework of WENRA activities related to the development of safety reference levels:

- the Technical Guide on safety criteria for the siting of a near surface disposal facility for low and intermediate level radioactive waste was issued in June 2014,
- the Technical Guide on safety criteria for interim storage facilities for radioactive waste and spent fuel was issued in October 2020,
- the Technical Guide on safety criteria for decommissioning of nuclear installations was issued in May 2022,
- the Technical Guide on safety criteria for near surface disposal facilities was issued in July 2022.

The public consultation of the Technical Guide on management of radioactive waste is going to be conclude by September 2022 and the public consultation of the Technical Guide on criteria for clearance of materials is foreseen to be launched by 2022.

7.1.3 Technical standards

These standards are mainly published by UNI (Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione), the Italian National Standards Body. Selected standards for decommissioning are listed in Annex 3.

Other Standards often used were those published by CEI (Comitato Elettrotecnico Italiano) and by ISO (International Standards Organisation).

Standards documents are developed within an Expert Group and approved by UNI and/or CEI Technical Committees.

Standards developed within the above mentioned Bodies are intended to reflect the broad consensus of industry and research experts in the specific fields. These standards are thought to represent industrial good practice.

Moreover, in the design, construction and operation of nuclear installations, other rules such as the ones concerning firefighting, pressure components integrity, labour and health are applied. Among the other, foreign technical standards are often adopted and endorsed, on a case by case basis.

A wider list of the main different rules which comprise national Legal and Regulatory framework is reported in Annex 3.

7.2 National safety requirements and regulations for radiation protection

Information reported under article 7.1 and in Annex 4 provide a comprehensive picture of the national safety requirements and regulation for radiation protection.

7.3 Licensing System

Article 6 of Act No. 1860/1962 establishes that the operation of nuclear installations has to be authorized by the Ministry of Industry (now Ministry of Ecological Transition). Authorization is granted according to provisions established in Title IX of the Legislative Decree n. 101/2020, based upon the technical advice of ISIN, which is formulated as result of the assessment of the safety case developed by the applicant. Title IX also define the licensing procedure relevant for each phase of the nuclear installation life (i.e. from siting to decommissioning). In relation to the current status of all the nuclear installations, the decommissioning licensing procedure is hereinafter described in detail.

7.3.1 Licensing process for decommissioning

The decommissioning of a nuclear installation is subject to prior authorization of the Ministry of Ecological Transition (decommissioning license).

The authorization is granted on the base of a binding technical advice of ISIN which includes conditions and technical specifications formulated taking into account observations of other relevant administrations (Ministries of Interior, Labour and Health) and the Region concerned.

The entire decommissioning process is regulated by articles 98-100 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

The applicant for a decommissioning license shall submit the Overall Decommissioning Plan to justify the selected decommissioning strategy and to provide demonstrations that the decommissioning operations will be safely implemented. The decommissioning authorization can be issued for intermediate phases leading up to the planned final state of the site. The current strategy for all national nuclear installations to be decommissioned is to reach unconditional release of the site. This possible subdivision into intermediate phases must be shown to be part of an overall decommissioning plan, to be submitted with the application for the authorization concerning the first phase.

Art. 98 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 requires that the Overall Decommissioning Plan shall include:

- a description of the installation status, including the radiological characterization of plant systems, structures and components;
- a description of the expected status of the installation at the end of the decommissioning (or of each phase);
- the inventory of the radioactive materials (contaminated and/or activated) on the plant;
- the identification of the waste management and disposal;
- the safety analysis for the operation to be performed;
- the evaluation of the environmental impact of the decommissioning activities,
- a radioprotection program for normal, abnormal and accidental conditions;
- a proposal for a step by step dropping of mandatory operating constraints coming from the license.

The licensing process establishes the following steps (see also the attached scheme):

- the documentation attached to the decommissioning applications shall be transmitted to the different relevant administrations (Ministries of Interior, Labour, Health, and the Region concerned);
- after receiving the documentation, the above administrations transmit their observations to ISIN;
- taking into account the above comments and the results of its own review and assessment activities, ISIN issues a technical report which contains a safety and radiation protection assessment and identifies conditions and specifications for the conduct of the decommissioning activities. During review

and assessment activity it is the case that ISIN may formulate to the applicant requests of clarifications and additional information;

- ISIN transmits its technical report to the involved administrations which should formulate and send to ISIN their final observations;
- ISIN transmits its final advice, together with technical specifications and conditions, to the Ministry of Ecological Transition;
- the authorization process is concluded by the Ministry of Ecological Transition who grants the decommissioning license prescribing the compliance with conditions and technical specifications established by ISIN. Before being issued the scheme of the authorization decree with associated documentation is submitted to a public consultation phase.

If necessary, in order to gather the observations of the involved administrations, the Ministry of Ecological Transition can convene the so called “Conference of Services”, attended by all the administrations as specified under the article 98 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

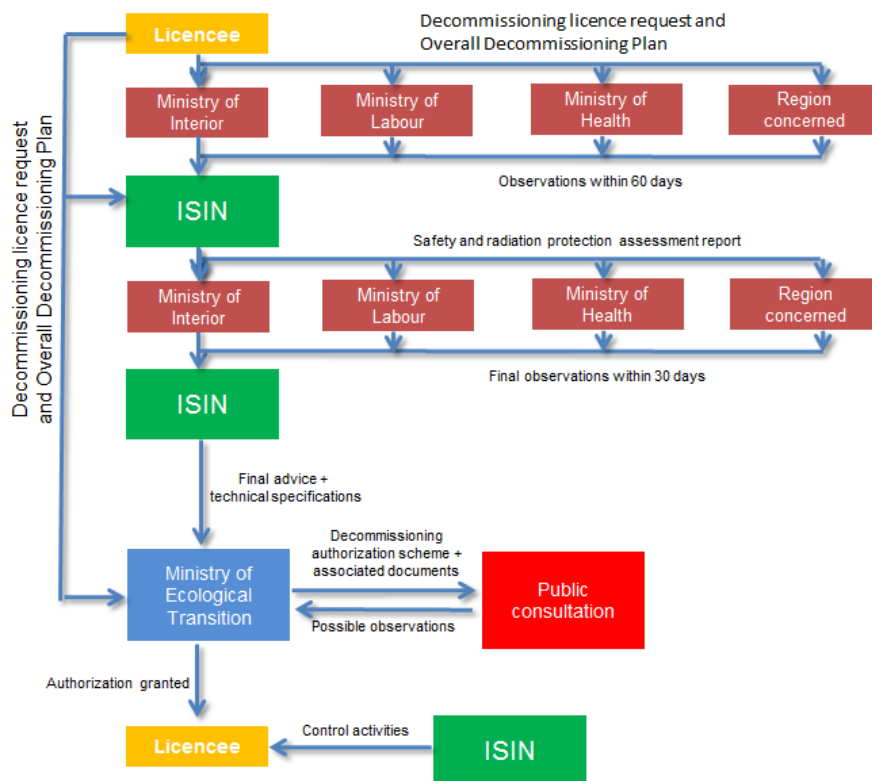


Figure 2: Licensing process for the decommissioning of nuclear installations.

Annex I to the decommissioning license contains the specifications for the decommissioning operations which are subdivided in:

- management conditions and specifications which identify the records to be kept and archived, the modality to carry out the operations, the list of the mass and surface activity limits for clearance for all type of materials and each

radioisotopes present in the plant as resulting from the plant characterization documents, the requirements for a safety waste management, etc ;

- technical specifications stated to assure the operability of structure, systems and components relevant for the plant safety.

Annex II to the decommissioning license lists the decommissioning projects which describe all relevant activities for nuclear safety and radioprotection (e.g. dismantling of reactor building, modify or rearrange interim storage facilities, etc...) by identifying *Detailed Projects (DP) and Plans of Operations (PO)* to be approved by ISIN before performing specific activities. The decommissioning project list can be updated if necessary.

The information to be included in DPs and POs are described in Technical Guide No. 4 issued by ISIN and plant management specifications (Annex I to decommissioning license), respectively. Typical requested information is: description of the system (including design and data sheets), norms and standards to be applied, design criteria, safety and seismic classification, accident analysis, test programs (including mock-up realization if necessary), dose optimization analysis, etc.

Furthermore art. 100 of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, requires that:

- at the end of decommissioning activities, the licensee has to issue and submit to ISIN one or more reports describing the performed activities and the final state of the site;
- ISIN, on the basis of the performed controls and on the assessment performed on the reports submitted by the licensee, issues the technical report with possible technical specifications to be sent to the Ministry of Ecological Transition and the other involved administrations;
- the Ministry of Ecological Transition, in consultation with ISIN and other involved Administrations, issues a Decree with technical specifications related to the status of the installation and the site at the end of the operation.

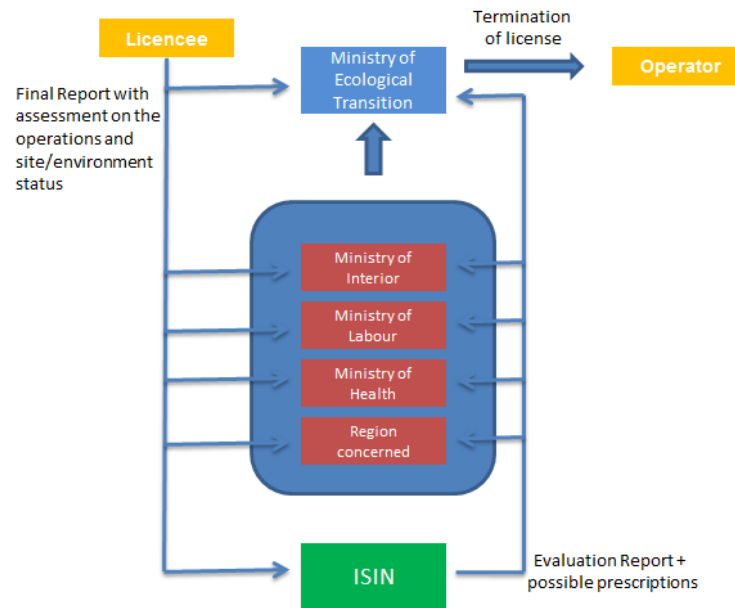


Figure 3: Licence termination process

After an application for the decommissioning licence has been submitted and in the wait of the completion of the licensing procedure, according to art. 233 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, some operations related to decommissioning may be authorized in order to achieve a more effective radiation protection (e.g. building of a radioactive liquid waste treatment facility, interim storage facility, waste management facility and maintenance or upgrade of auxiliary systems).

A separate Environmental Impact Assessment evaluation is performed always under the coordination of the Ministry of Ecological Transition.

7.4 Regulatory Inspection and Assessment

The purpose of the regulatory inspections during the NPPs life (from the construction to the decommissioning) is to verify the fulfilment of the rules coming from the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 and of the technical specifications which are part of the licence conditions for the specific plant.

According to Art. 9 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, inspections are performed by ISIN inspectors having the authority to enter any area of the installation, as well as to have access to any relevant documentation. In case of infringement of specific rules of the nuclear act and licence conditions, including technical specifications, ISIN inspectors are entitled to report to the public attorney of the jurisdiction which the installation belongs to. The purpose of such inspections is to verify the fulfilment of binding rules having legal relevance. On-site controls are also frequently performed by other ISIN technicians with the purpose of achieving data, information and other technically relevant elements to be evaluated with respect to technical regulations. Inspection activities may be ordinary (planned in advance for each technical area) or extraordinary.

ISIN is entrusted with general inspection powers for installation falling under the provisions of the Act and the Decrees. In the fulfilment of their duties, ISIN inspectors are vested with police powers, that is, they even have power of seizure on installations deemed to be non-compliant with relevant provisions laid down in law.

Apart from ordinary powers given to police, other authorities such as Labour Inspectorate, local Health bodies and regional Agencies for the Protection of the Environment are vested with competence in the fields entrusted to their surveillance.

The Italian compliance and inspection system is based upon the fact that legislation provides for penal sanctions in cases of non-compliance; inspectors are required under law to communicate every case of non-compliance to the Office of Public Prosecution.

Review and assessment of applicant documentation are performed by ISIN that formulate binding technical specifications taking into account observations of other relevant ministries (Ministries of Interior, Labour and Health) and the Region concerned.

The applicant has to submit the documentation so that compliance with nuclear safety and health protection requirements may be verified. The requested documents are:

- preliminary plans of the installation complete with a topographical map, explanatory diagrams, drawings and descriptions of the installation and a preliminary study concerning the disposal of radioactive waste;
- preliminary safety report, indicating the envisaged safety and protection measures.

Annex II to the decommissioning licence lists the decommissioning projects which describe all relevant activities for nuclear safety and radioprotection (e.g. dismantling of reactor building, modify or rearrange interim storage facilities, etc...) by identifying Detailed Projects and Plans of Operations to be approved by ISIN before performing specific activities. The decommissioning project list can be updated if necessary. The information to be included in Detailed Projects or Operative Plans are described in technical guide n.4 and plant management specifications (Annex I to decommissioning licence), respectively.

The review and assessment of the documentation submitted is performed through national and international safety standards and national regulations (IAEA, ISO, UNI, ASME, IEEE, ASTM, NUREG, National Technical Guides), and the implementation of their outcomes are verified by frequent on-site controls and inspections.

The main topics reviewed and assessed by ISIN in the submitted documents are:

- radioprotection objectives;
- safety classification and design criteria of SSCs;
- radioactive waste management;
- structures systems and components;
- fire prevention and protection;

- safety analysis;
- radioprotection of people and workers;
- Quality Assurance Program.

After the DP or PO approval, for particular systems or structures whose malfunction can have a major impact on the safety and on the protection of workers and environment, in factory surveillance activities are performed through technical controls performed by ISIN experts.

Once the Structures, Systems and Components (SSC) foreseen in the DP or PO approved have been implemented, the operator has to send ISIN an “as built” document in which all changes compared to the DP or PO approved have to be reported with the relevant justifications. ISIN can decide to accept or not such changes, also requiring a different solution, in case safety requirements established in the approval are not satisfied.

Moreover, during the implementation of the decommissioning operations, QA/QC activities are performed on new SSCs during on-site controls through the documents the operator shall keep up to date, as requested by the Quality Assurance Program approved.

7.5 Enforcement

Article 101 of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 establishes the procedure according to which, in case of non-compliance with the conditions attached to the licence, the Ministry of Ecological Transition can suspend or revoke the licence or the authorization.

Enforcement of applicable regulations and of licence conditions is ensured on the bases of the sanction system as established in Title V of the Act n. 1860 and in Title XVI of Legislative Decree 101/2020. According to Art. 9 of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, ISIN inspectors have the authority to request any information they deem relevant to ascertain the compliance of the activities performed at the nuclear installations with the requirements established in the Legislative Decree and in the licence conditions. Inspectors are entitled to report the results of their inspections to the public attorney of the jurisdiction the nuclear installation belongs to.

7.6 Assessment of Compliance

The current national legal framework related to safety and radiation protection at nuclear installations is considered in line with obligations of Art. 7 of the Convention.

Article 8. Regulatory Body

Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework referred to in Article 7, and provided with adequate authority, competence and financial and human resources to fulfil its assigned responsibilities.

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure an effective separation between the functions of the regulatory body and those of any other body or organization concerned with the promotion or utilization of nuclear energy.

8.1 Authorities responsible for the application of the legislative framework

The key regulatory functions (rulemaking, licensing, assessment, inspection and enforcement) related to nuclear safety and radiation protection matters, related to NPPs (siting, construction, operation and decommissioning) as well as safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, are currently exploited by the following main bodies:

- a) The Ministry of Ecological Transition, in this report defined as the Licensing Body, is the authority which grants the licence/authorization for nuclear installations (from the design and construction to the decommissioning). Authorizations are granted on the basis of the technical advice provided by the competent regulatory authority ISIN and in agreement with the Ministries of Interior, Labour, Health and the Region concerned, after the issuing of the Environmental Compatibility Decree from the Ministry of Ecological Transition, when applicable;
- b) The National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation protection - ISIN, is the national competent regulatory authority in the fields of nuclear safety and radiation protection and is the governmental body responsible, among other functions, for the assessment and the inspection activities on nuclear installations, as well as for approving detailed designs of specific activities, which are part of authorizations granted by the Ministry of Ecological Transition, for approving the construction or changes of nuclear facilities, as well as for the controls on the implementation of decommissioning projects as established in the decommissioning licence. ISIN was established with the Legislative Decree n.45 in 2014 and entered in operation in August 2018 by transferring personnel and functions from the previous national competent authority, the Nuclear, Technological and Industrial Risk Department of ISPRA (National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research). ISIN

supervises the compliance with the requirements established in the legislation and the conditions and specifications established in the Ministerial authorization decrees throughout its inspection activity. ISIN inspectors are entitled by the law with the proper authority to request the licensee any information deemed necessary to ascertain compliance with legal requirements and licence conditions. In case of infringements, ISIN inspectors report to the Public Attorney of the jurisdiction the installation belongs to.

ISIN is also the competent body entitled to support the Governmental rule-making function in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection. ISIN is also entitled to issue technical guides pertaining the different operational aspects of the regulatory process. It has also to be mentioned that duties and responsibilities assigned to ISIN include supervision activities on safeguards and physical protection, the exploitation of a technical support function in the field of emergency preparedness and of a control function in the field of environmental radioactivity.

In the following scheme the current national regulatory system in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection is showed (Figure 4).

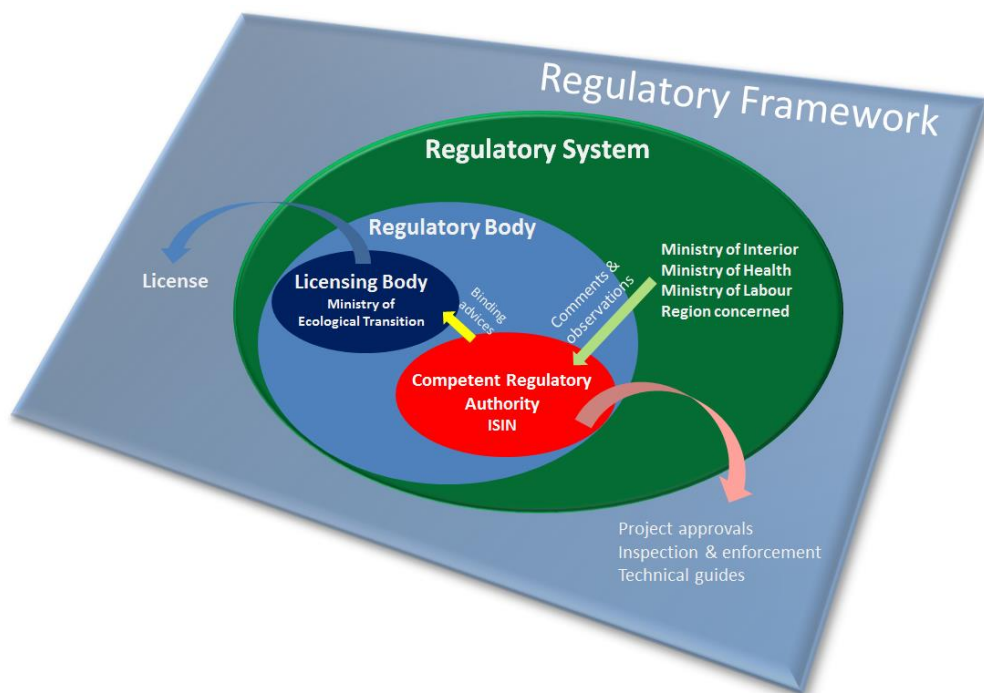


Figure 4: Regulatory system in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection

8.2 Competent Regulatory Authority

ISIN has regulatory, operational and administrative independence. The Director is nominated with a Decree of the President of the Republic following the designation by the Council of Ministers based upon the proposal of the Minister of the Ecological Transition with the Minister of Economic

Development, and following the positive advice of Parliamentary Commissions; the Advisory Board of 3 members has been nominated under the same procedure of the Director.

ISIN financial resources consist of four components:

- a) the resources previously allocated to the previous Nuclear, Technological and Industrial Risk Department of ISPRA;
- b) an *una tantum* budget for the startup phase;
- c) the resources coming from part of the levy on the electric bill allocated to cover costs of decommissioning activities of nuclear installations;
- d) the resources coming from the fees that ISIN is authorized to apply and collect from the license holders for the exploitation of its regulatory functions (under implementation).

According to the institutional law the staff assigned to ISIN comprises 90 units, 60 technicians plus 30 units with administrative and legal background.

The current staff is of 57 people, mainly coming from the previous Nuclear, Technological and Industrial Risk Department of ISPRA, which has previously carried out the functions of national competent regulatory authority on nuclear safety and radiation protection.

Technical staff currently counts 39 units. About 10 technical units will retire by 2024. To compensate the expected turn over in the short term a public recruitment is ongoing: 26 technical and 3 administrative hires are expected by the end of 2022.

ISIN has the possibility to get technical support of third, independent, expert organisations, in particular ISPRA (Institute for Environmental Research and Protection) and regional agencies for environmental protection. In this regard specific arrangements are in place.

8.3 Independence of the regulatory function

ISIN performs its regulatory functions in a fully independent and autonomous manner, being completely independent from any entity involved in the promotion and use of nuclear energy. As described in previous paragraph, the process for the nomination of the Director and the Advisory Board, strengthen the independence of ISIN in addition to the regulatory, operational and administrative autonomy. Due to the independence from political entity, ISIN is entrusted by law to transmit a yearly report to the Government and the Parliament on the activities performed and on the national status of nuclear safety.

The national nuclear implementer involved in the decommissioning and in the spent fuel and radioactive waste management of NPPs and other nuclear installations is SO.G.I.N. S.p.A.,

whose only shareholder is the Ministry of Economy and Finance, while the strategic and operational directives are given by the Ministry of Ecological Transition.

As previously said, licences are granted by the Ministry of Ecological Transition on the basis of the binding technical advice of ISIN. Moreover, any approval of specific safety related technical designs and operations are granted by ISIN, which may establish technical specifications.

ISIN inspectors are entitled by law with the authority to access to any installation where radiation sources are used or stored and to request any information in order to ascertain compliance with legislative requirements and licence conditions.

As already said, ISIN is also entitled to issue technical guides on specific aspects related to the regulatory process.

8.4 Assessment of Compliance

On the bases of what is reported in this section it may be concluded that Italy has adequate provisions to fulfil its obligations under Art. 8 of the Convention related to independence of the competent regulatory authority. Financial resources assigned to the competent regulatory authority have also been increased with the transposition of the amended EU Directive on nuclear safety.

With regard to human resources of ISIN the institutional law establishes in 90 units the assigned staff. Specific actions to increase the number of currently available personnel and to ensure the turnover of the staff which will retire in the near future are ongoing.

Article 9. Responsibility of the licence holder

Each Contracting Party shall ensure that prime responsibility for the safety of a nuclear installation rests with the holder of the relevant licence and shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that each such licence holder meets its responsibility.

9.1 Responsibility of the licence holder

According to Act No. 1860/1962 and the Presidential Decree No. 519/1975, the primary responsibility for safety is assigned to the licence holder. This is more clearly stated by art. 102 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

The licence holder is responsible of all the activities having direct influence on safety performed during design, construction, commissioning, operation as well as of all the activities performed during decommissioning and management of spent fuel and radioactive waste.

The regulatory system in place also ensures that appropriate supervision activity is exploited by ISIN to verify that the licence holder properly meets its responsibility.

9.2 Ensuring that the licence holder meets its responsibility for safety

The system of controls provided for in the Italian rules uses four tools:

1. the analysis of the safety reports and other relevant documents, the analysis on the results of tests and measurements, the performance of additional or repeated tests;
2. the inspection system, in order to verify compliance with applicable rules and constraints at all stages from design to operation of facilities as well as during the phases of decommissioning and during all stages of the management of the spent fuel and radioactive waste;
3. the performance of periodic audits to the applicant and to the licensee for the purpose of verifying, inter alia, that licensee maintains the capability in terms of staffing and competences adequate to completely undertake the activities during the lifetime of the facility from siting to decommissioning. Periodic audits to manufacturers, and suppliers in general were also conceived as an indirect tool of control of the applicant and of the licensee activities;
4. the sanctions in case of non-compliance either with provisions in Law or prescriptions in the licensing acts range from penal to administrative measures. The former may entail deprivation of freedom and fines, the latter consists in suspensions or revocation of the licences in worst cases. The penal sanctions are applied by Courts following reports from

Inspectors entitled as police officers in the Italian system. The administrative measures are applied by the Ministry of Ecological Transition. Before applying the administrative measures, the Ministry can issue an injunction to comply with applicable regulations and technical specifications.

9.3 Assessment of compliance

On the basis of what discussed about, it is considered that there are adequate provisions in the Italian legislative system to comply with the obligations of this article of the Convention.

Article 10. Priority to safety

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that all organizations engaged in activities directly related to nuclear installations shall establish policies that give due priority to nuclear safety.

With regard to the fulfilment of the requirement under this article of the Convention, it is to be firstly considered that Italy is a Contracting Party that relinquished the operation of its nuclear installations since 1987. In this way, any potential conflict between production and safety has been removed.

All the national Organisations have continued to operate with the only aim of maintaining the safety of the shut-down nuclear installations in view of their decommissioning. The principle of priority to safety is clearly addressed in art. 102, paragraph 1 of Legislative Decree No.101/2020.

On the implementation side it is addressed by requirements on: Quality Assurance, Operating Organisation rules and Authorisation procedures. Moreover, in the above frames, the licensees are required to issue appropriate documents on their policies on quality, environment and safety, establishing due priority to such topics.

It is anyhow recalled that also at the time of the development of the nuclear programme, the legislative framework and the Italian regulatory practice that have been long in use even before the publication of IAEA Safety Fundamentals, stimulated all the involved national Organisations to be committed to reaching and maintaining the highest priority in safety matters. Example of regulatory tools are:

- Legislative Corpus itself, which imposes a multi-step licensing process;
- General design criteria, requiring, inter alia, the application of the defence in depth principle;
- Regulatory guides, as listed in Annex 3;
- Preliminary, Intermediate and Final Safety Reports;
- Detailed designs;
- Quality Assurance Programmes;
- Safety relevant works Operational Rules;
- Technical Specifications;
- Operating Manual (e.g.: Procedures for normal and emergency condition);
- State exams for Operator Licences and State Certification for Plant Managers;
- Periodic assessment and reporting of performances;

- Inspections.

Since the inception of the Italian Nuclear Programme, the licence holder operates, maintains and modifies the systems of the nuclear power station by assigning the highest priority to the nuclear safety and so keeping the consequential risk to the public as low as reasonably achievable, economic and social considerations being taken into account; this basic principle was implemented even before it was laid down, significantly in artt. 1 and 2 of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020. On the operation side, the license holder is required by Law to set up a special Plant Safety Committee at each nuclear installation site, which has the responsibility to examine all the relevant decisions (e.g.: plant hardware or procedures modifications), in order to identify their safety relevance. The Plant Safety Committee, whose members are nuclear safety and radioprotection experts from the plant, have to be approved by ISIN.

All the national Organisations having competence in the nuclear field are involved in International fora dealing with nuclear safety. Consequently, the latest international achievements have been implemented in Italian applications.

Moreover, various Organisations, dealing with nuclear legislation and/or regulations, such as Ministries, besides ISIN itself, each give independent assessment to the documentation submitted by the applicant and to ISIN safety evaluations.

Today, the actual implementation of the priority to safety principle to the Italian nuclear installations regards mainly their safe management and the associated activities of decommissioning and spent fuel and radioactive waste management.

It has to be also highlighted that Legislative Decree n. 101/2020, establishes specific provisions on operators' obligations to continuously improve safety and to implement a management system based upon the necessary priority to safety.

10.1 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 11. Financial and human resources

1. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that adequate financial resources are available to support the safety of each nuclear installation throughout its life.
 2. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that sufficient numbers of qualified staff with appropriate education, training and retraining are available for all safety-related activities in or for each nuclear installation, throughout its life.
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11.1 Financial resources

The National Electricity Company (ENEL S.p.A.) decided to start accumulating decommissioning funds during NPP operation even without a formal obligation. At the time of the premature shut down of these plants however all the necessary decommissioning funds were not available. When in 1999 all the liabilities and assets related to nuclear power plants belonging to ENEL were transferred to the newly established company SO.G.I.N. S.p.A (Società Gestione Impianti Nucleari), soon new funding mechanisms were identified to finance the full decommissioning costs. Since January 2000 the financial resources are provided by a levy on the price of the kWh to the consumers in combination with the pre-existing ENEL funds that have been transferred to SO.G.I.N. S.p.A. which is responsible for performing decommissioning and waste treatment activities for all Italian nuclear installations. Funding of the fuel cycle facilities in decommissioning has been included in the above mentioned levy.

The new regulatory system, introduced by Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment (ARERA) in 2021, provides that SO.G.I.N. must send an updated report on the physical and economic progress of the decommissioning projects to the ARERA every year. The financing of the activities remains the contribution on the kWh (defined by the A2_{rim} component of the electricity bill), paid by the end users, which is adjusted every 3 months. In this way, any additional costs due to changes in the strategies and activities necessary for safety reasons can be financed by ARERA. In 2021, the annual withdrawal corresponds to approximately 3 Euro / year for the average consumer of electricity.

The main component of the total decommissioning costs is the waste management and, in particular, the waste disposal cost, which strongly depends on the fees that will be required for the disposal in the final repository.

On the subject of the final disposals it is outlined that in compliance with Decree 31/2010, Italy is progressing in the process of locating the site for the National Repository. On January 5, 2021, the “national map of potentially suitable areas” for the location of the National Repository (so called “CNAPI”) were published on the website www.depositonazionale.it together with the basic design of the facilities.

Then the public debate began and all interested parties were invited to participate in order to deepen the technical, safety, social and economic aspects of the program. On January 14, 2022, the public debate was closed.

On March 15, 2022, SO.G.I.N. sent the proposal for the new map of suitable areas (CNAI) to the Ministry of Ecological Transition, drawn up on the basis of the observations from the stakeholders during the public debate. The CNAI proposal is currently being examined by ISIN.

The program foresees that in 2029 National Repository will be in operation and VLLW and LLW waste will be started to dispose of in the surface disposal of the National Repository. At the same time, ILW/HLW waste, including reprocessing residues repatriated to Italy, will begin to be delivered to the “centralized long-term storage facility” within the National Repository area. The long-term storage is designed for safe waste management during a period of 50 years (renewable for a further 50), pending the disposal of ILW/HLW in an appropriate geological formation.

In the current phase, Italy, through its research and development bodies, is participating in community and international programs aimed at identifying a “regional” geological repository. With the start of the national surface disposal operation, Italy will also launch studies to identify an alternative national solution for the geological disposal of ILW / HLW waste to be implemented within a further 40 years (2070). The construction of the geological disposal can take place over the next 50 years.

The activities related to the location and construction of the National Repository are also financed by the A_{2rim} component of the electricity bill.

The following activities were taken into account in the decommissioning scope:

- Site care and safe management
- Project management and licensing
- On-site interim storage of spent fuel;
- Structure, systems and components decontamination aiming at maximizing conditional and unconditional recycling, re-use or free release;
- Radioactive waste treatment including volume reduction (e.g. compaction);
- Conditioning and packaging of historical/operational waste, e.g. sludge, ion-exchange resins as well as decommissioning waste;
- Dismantlement of power reactor/fuel cycle facility civil structures;
- Dismantlement of conventional plant buildings, e.g. turbine hall;

- Radioactive waste disposal;
- Disposal or recycling of non-radioactive waste material;
- Final site surveys;
- De-licensing of the site.

11.2 Human Resources

Since the inception of the National Nuclear Programme, the licence holder was committed to provide human resources throughout the entire life cycle of the plant in order to ensure a safe operation.

It is important to highlight that SO.G.I.N., the national company responsible for the NPPs decommissioning activities, is implementing a recruitment program of young professionals, in order to overcome difficulties due to the retirement of experienced staff.

National Laws state that the operating personnel for the NPPs must follow an appropriate training programme and their capacity to operate in a nuclear installation must be certificated. Qualified positions in the staff of the NPPs are approved by ISIN together with the Operation Rules. To certificate the qualification of the personnel coping specific safety position in the organization (plant director, supervisor, operator) for the conduction of the plant, a specific examination must be passed as stated in the Law No. 1450/1964.

Moreover, the position of Radiation Protection Expert requires to pass specific examinations depending on the level (3 levels are foreseen). For nuclear installations, the Radiation Protection Expert at level 3 (the highest one) is required. Art. 129 of Legislative Decree No.101/2020 establishes the national professional register where Radiation Protection Expert are recorded.

Today, staff qualification requirements for decommissioning and radioactive waste and spent fuel activities are the main focus of human resources management. Technical and operating staff undertake training regarding technical and legal issues, according to the specific policy of SO.G.I.N. established at corporate level. Moreover, staff qualification for the performance of any safety-related activity is among the relevant aspects that are assessed during the licensing process. In nuclear installations and facilities key positions, only licensed personnel can operate. In such installation the Operation Rules, required by the Italian law, establishes requirements about the organization and the roles of the technical and operating staff, to ensure a safe management of the installation (even regarding the activities related to waste management and dismantling operations) in ordinary and emergency conditions.

Among the main objectives of the mentioned safety strategic project by the Implementer SO.G.I.N., many internal activities related to human resources training are carried out by the SO.G.I.N. "Radwaste Management School" (RMS).

RMS has been operating since 2008, providing education and training to the staff of SO.G.I.N. and external companies. in accordance with international safety standards and requirements established by the Italian Safety Authority. In this way SO.G.I.N. ensures high-level professional updating, promoting managerial and technological innovation based on the experience and specialized know-how in the field of decommissioning and radioactive waste management. The development of highly specialized know-how is part of the SO.G.I.N. strategy to guarantee maximum safety and implement an integrated knowledge management, education and training system. This is done in the light of transferring skills to future operators and satisfying the increasing knowledge demand in the sector both at international and national level.

The Radwaste Management School aims to:

- train the resources of SO.G.I.N., with particular attention to the safety aspects and to the management of radioactive waste and nuclear fuel;
- promote, improve and extend best practices in the nuclear safety culture, radiation protection and environmental safeguard;
- ensure integration, enhancement and sharing of the knowledge management system;
- involve universities and national/international nuclear training centres;
- training the "operators of the future", for example university and high school graduates in the disciplines related to decommissioning and radioactive waste management.

In the last years, the Radwaste Management School has developed a series of partnerships with certified national and international training organizations, research & development institutes, universities and scientific associations in order to integrate educational programs.

The Radwaste Management School has been certified ISO 9001/2015 (Quality Management System), ISO 14001/2015 (Environmental Management System), CEPAS (Certification of Competence and Training) and OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems).

For the educational and training of SO.G.I.N. staff, RMS currently provides around one hundred courses for year, for a total of about 30,000 hours, in the following technical and scientific subjects: Nuclear Safety and Security, Decommissioning and Waste Management, Radiation Protection, Environmental and Legislative aspects, Work Safety, Technology of nuclear installations, Quality, Environmental and Safety management system.

Furthermore, as part of the IAEA Collaborating Centre, stipulated in Vienna on 19 September 2019 in order to promote the transfer of knowledge, education and training and innovation in the fields of decommissioning of nuclear power plants and nuclear facilities, management of radioactive waste and radiation protection, SO.G.I.N. has launched an extensive education and training program aimed at both international institutions and national bodies and internal resources, to ensure effective retention of knowledge and skills in the safety and decommissioning sectors.

11.3 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that the Italian licensee has overcome the lack of resources outlined in the previous Report and is actively operating in the area of training/retraining, and then Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 12. Human factors

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that the capabilities and limitations of human performance are taken into account throughout the life of a nuclear installation.

12.1 Methods to prevent, detect and correct human errors

The important role of human performance in all phases of the life of a nuclear installation, from design and operation until shut-down and decommissioning, has always been focused as an important safety concern. Adapted to the scope of the current national nuclear programme regarding the management of shut-down plants and the associated activities of decommissioning and spent fuel and radioactive management, these aspects include:

Safety relevant work Organization Rules

Operation Rules, on-site Organisation Chart, Roles and Responsibilities as summarised under the managerial and organisational issues in the following section.

Procedures development

Procedures development, in particular for the emergency situations, is performed by taking into the human factors issue. Procedures are verified with respect to technical accuracy, written correctness and usability.

Operator Training

SO.G.I.N. technical and operating staff undertakes training regarding technical and legal issues as dealt with in the previous paragraph on the human resources.

Good understanding and clarity of Technical Specifications (TS)

A great emphasis is given to human factors principle in order to ensure a clear understanding of technical specifications attached to the authorization. From the human factors point of view, particular attention is devoted to exclude conflicting interpretation of TS requirements and to provide the associated technical bases.

12.2 Managerial and organizational issues

According to the Italian law, the licence holder has to submit to the approval of the competent regulatory authority the organisational rules related to safety relevant works to be carried out in the installations. This document has to specify the organisation and functions of the staff under both normal and abnormal conditions, including the physical and medical surveillance of radiation protection at all modes of operation.

The competent regulatory authority has defined a Technical Guide on the contents of the safety relevant work Organisation Rules with several specific criteria for the approval of the Operator's document.

Safety of a nuclear installation, also in decommissioning phase, requires, from the human factors point of view, the maximum accuracy in the conduct of operation.

In order to assure full compliance to nuclear safety evolving regulations and to have and keep the highest safety standards in decommissioning, SO.G.I.N. in 2021 established its Nuclear Decommissioning Safety Board. Board's mandate is to support society Governance with any issue and improvement related to nuclear safety of decommissioning and waste management activities, knowledge recycling and diffusion, and any other matter related to, through independent analyses and advices, in a comprehensive and overlooking view. Board members are SO.G.I.N. Senior Technical Officers and/or former Plant Managers, which past work experiences are the basis of the Board advices.

Criteria of the competent regulatory authority require that activities, relevant to safety, are clearly defined, and properly assigned. These activities must also be executed according to predetermined and written procedures, carefully recorded, regularly supervised, and the whole system readily corrected when necessary.

12.3 Safety culture, Safety Management System and associated surveillance rules

Methods of assessing and improving safety culture which comply with proved international practices (e.g. focus groups) are being implemented.

Safety culture is stimulated and improved by a complex combination of education, training, behaviours and attitudes, management's commitment etc. In addition, a decommissioning process involves some specific challenges to manage the transition phases and maintain the safety culture of the internal and contractors' personnel.

Promotion and share of adequate behaviors among the personnel are the fundamental goals of SO.G.I.N.'s Radwaste Management School (RMS). In particular, in 2008 SO.G.I.N. first set up, after a Safety Culture Survey, a training course focused on safety culture among workers and managers in order to improve knowledge about human and organizational factors related to work and nuclear safety. This is a dynamic course, based on an interactive approach where teachers become coordinators of brainstorming sessions during which students, divided into work groups, participate in simulations aimed at making players aware of their roles in improving the organization's safety culture. The training course lasts two and half days. Participants are around twenty for each class. Involvement of managers and workers and of technical and administrative people gives classes the chance to interact in an actual and effective way in order to exploit

team's potentialities to address complex challenges represented by safety culture continuous improvement.

At the end of the course, students take part in a collective discussion in which each of them expresses his/her feelings and opinions about simulations, role-playing and interactions with the other participants and the actions he/she is thinking of taking to contribute to the improvement of his/her organization's safety culture.

The main goal of courses is to enhance knowledge and develop awareness of the importance of each individual's personal contribution to safety culture improvement among workers and managers. Contractors are also involved in training sessions focused in particular on waste management, radiation protection and safety issues related to decommissioning activities.

Training courses on Operational Experience Feedback are also carried out in order to provide SO.G.I.N.'s personnel tools and methods suitable for Root Cause Analysis according to SO.G.I.N.'s Safety Management System.

Furthermore, SO.G.I.N.'s Radwaste Management School (RMS) is going to implement a Knowledge Management System - based on international best practices - which will facilitate sharing of information, technical expertise and analysis methodologies with a particular focus on safety issues. In this way, SO.G.I.N. guarantees continuous improvement and updating of know-how and capabilities within the organization management systems.

Finally, SO.G.I.N.'s safety experts and trainers participate to workgroups and technical meetings organized by IAEA and other international agencies and scientific associations with the aim to be continuously updated about safety issues and share assessment and improvement methodologies with nuclear experts of different countries.

Partnerships exist with certified national and international training organizations, research and development institutes, universities and scientific associations in order to integrate educational programs of the Radwaste Management School.

Various training initiatives have been carried out with Italian Universities. In particular, RMS has supported "Piemonte Orientale" and Bari Universities in Master's degrees on Environmental aspects for the nuclear decommissioning and for medical, industrial and research related radioactive and hazardous waste management, Sapienza and Tor Vergata Universities of Rome in training activities related to "Strategy manager Management Systems" and "Protection against CBRNe events" respectively. In 2018, RMS has also collaborated with the Milan Polytechnic within a three-weeks course on the management of radioactive waste to representatives of the safety authority and nuclear operators of the People's Republic of China under the "Cooperation program for environmental protection" established between Italy and China.

Furthermore, SO.G.I.N. is a partner in the European ELINDER Project (European Learning Initiatives for Nuclear Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation), sponsored by the

European Union Joint Research Centers. In this context, RMS supports Ispra EC Joint Research Center in the International Summer School on Nuclear Decommissioning and Waste Management.

SO.G.I.N. is also involved, through RMS, in IAEA activities related to human development in decommissioning. In particular, SO.G.I.N. experts have been invited to be part of the steering committee of IAEA Technical Meeting on Human Development for Decommissioning, held in Vienna 18-22 July 2022, where RMS methodologies for interactive training have been presented to HR experts of nuclear operators and regulators.

12.4 Role of ISIN and of the Operator regarding Human Performances issues

ISIN, in the frame of its general duties, is also responsible for the controls on the training system and conducts the examinations on SO.G.I.N. operators working in nuclear installations.

ISIN established criteria for a self-corrective quality system, that has to be effective at various levels along the vertical axis of the operating organisation.

Plant Management Level

The institution of an Advisory Committee for Safety (called “Plant Council of Delegates for Safety”) is required on each plant. This Council is formed by plant technicians supervising the most relevant activities (e.g.: operation, maintenance, radiation protection) supporting the Plant Superintendent with the following consultative functions, according to the Italian Law:

- a) to review any proposed modification to the plant or to part of it and to express evaluations and advice on safety matters;
- b) to review any proposed modification to the operating procedures of the plant and to express evaluations and advice on safety matters;
- c) to review programmes of trials, tests, and other special activities to be carried out on the plant and to express evaluations and advice on safety matters;
- d) to review periodically the overall operation of the plant, and to express opinion and possible recommendations regarding safety and protection;
- e) to lay down the internal emergency drill for the plant and arrange for any necessary modification in consultation with the Provincial Fire Service Headquarters;
- f) to assist the emergency director (person qualified by state examination to the “Direction” of nuclear plant in normal and emergency conditions, in “on call availability shift”) or the plant superintendent in the adoption of the measures which may be necessary to deal with any unusual or abnormal condition which may constitute a danger for persons or goods.

Also the recent safety strategic project to be performed by the Implementer SO.G.I.N. for responding to ISIN requirements, will ensure that the capabilities and potential drawbacks in

human performance are properly taken into account, with special regard to decommissioning activities to be performed in the future.

12.5 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 13. Quality assurance

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that quality assurance programmes are established and implemented with a view to providing confidence that specified requirements for all activities important to nuclear safety are satisfied throughout the life of a nuclear installation.

Although the legislative system does not contain specific provisions regarding quality assurance in nuclear installations, QA requirements are detailed in specific Technical Guides issued by the Regulatory Authority since 70's and 80's, in the frame of a more general programme of development of technical guides to support the regulation of installations of the national nuclear programme. On the bases of the requirements established in the technical guides, licensees developed proper QA General programmes for conduct of operation and/or Quality Procedures Guidelines/Instructions under the supervision of the competent regulatory authority. Reference to a list of the major Technical Guides developed by the competent regulatory authority in matter of Quality Assurance is reported in Annex 3.

For installations which have submitted the request of licence for the decommissioning plan, conditions attached to the licence will establish the requirements for the licensee to perform the decommissioning activities according to a QA programme to be submitted and approved by the competent regulatory authority.

With regard to new facilities connected to the treatment and the storage of radioactive waste to be realized as preliminary activities for decommissioning, QA requirements (as defined in the Technical Guide No. 4 related to the standard content of applications for detailed design of relevant parts of nuclear installations) are applied. In particular, an adequate demonstration with regard to quality assurance related aspects is requested to be provided by the licensee in the specific safety case, developed according to the Technical Guide No. 1, submitted to support the authorization.

With reference to the current implementation level, it is to be mentioned that the QA system of SO.G.I.N., as the main national licensee involved in the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, is documented through two levels of documentation applicable for all projects:

- *Management System Manual* related to the main organization;
- *Quality Assurance Programme* related to the dismantling activities and operation of each site;
- *Quality procedures/Guidelines Instructions* and a third level of specific documentation for each project, related to Job Order documents.

Also for the establishment and the implementation of Q.A. safety requirements, the process put in place in Italy is a development process similar to the other safety requirements.

13.1 Regulatory control

In addition to the issuing of the above listed Technical Guides, the regulatory control during the licensing process is based on the analysis and review of QA Programmes submitted by the Applicant.

An additional primary tool of Regulatory Control is the possibility to perform periodic audits to the Applicant and to the Licensee.

13.2 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 14. Assessment and verification of safety

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:

- i. comprehensive and systematic safety assessments are carried out before the construction and commissioning of a nuclear installation and throughout its life. Such assessments shall be well documented, subsequently updated in the light of operating experience and significant new safety information, and reviewed under the authority of the regulatory body;
- ii. verification by analysis, surveillance, testing and inspection is carried out to ensure that the physical state and the operation of a nuclear installation continue to be in accordance with its design, applicable national safety requirements, and operational limits and conditions.

It has to be said that in relation to the decommissioning state of all NPPs, the preservation of high level safety conditions remains one of the key objectives of the regulatory oversight activity. In addition to that special attention is devoted by the competent regulatory authority to verify that the licensee performs in due time waste conditioning, final spent fuel management and dismantling activities relevant to improve safety, perform any activity in compliance with safety and radiation protection requirements and produces adequately conditioned radioactive wastes.

It has to be highlighted that following their definitive shutdown, preservation of high level safety conditions was primarily based on maintaining of rules established for operation, even though progressively adapted, according to a graded approach, as required by the new plants' state. As previously referred, the decommissioning license has been granted for all national NPPs Trino, Garigliano, Caorso and Latina. Due to the uncertainties on the availability of a national radioactive waste repository in short times, ISIN, in the framework of the authorization process, has clearly underlined the need for the identification, with the associated feasibility demonstration, of a clear strategy concerning the management and safe storage of radioactive wastes already existing and estimated to be generated during decommissioning activities. Among the alternative solutions to the current unavailability of a national facility for radioactive waste management, the construction of interim storage facilities for radioactive waste on site or the shift to a safe enclosure state of the remaining structures (e.g. as in the case of the Latina NPP core graphite structure) have been considered.

On that basis, being the programmes of decommissioning structured in three main stages (Annex 5) primarily addressed to safety priority interventions and preliminary operations, dismantlement

of the nuclear island, final radiological survey and site release, the respective authorizations are granted as:

- a general permit to pursue the overall decommissioning in the frame of a specific set of criteria and constraints;
- specific permits for well-defined short term activities;
- a request to present specific decommissioning projects for the subsequent relevant activities, for which a detailed definition is not yet available.

In this respect, the safety case documentation submitted for the decommissioning is addressed to define the selected decommissioning strategy, to provide a description of the plant state, the radiological characterization of the plant as well as the safety assessment in relation to abnormal events or accidents, the demonstration of technical feasibility of the proposed operations in compliance with nuclear safety and radiation protection requirements are presented. This is considered to be at the appropriate level of detail for a licensing process involving Authorities such as Ministries and Local Administrations, in accordance with the applicable articles of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 and taking into account the long lasting time necessary for the development of decommissioning operations.

Taking that into account, the decommissioning license establishes:

- a set of conditions and limits “specifications” either at management and technical level which will regulate the performance of the decommissioning operations up to their completion;
- a number of safety relevant decommissioning projects to be submitted to the approval of the regulatory authority.

In particular, a decommissioning project can be articulated in a “Detailed Project”, in the case of new installations necessary for the implementation of the authorized decommissioning strategy are concerned (e.g. new RW storage facilities, RW on-site treatment facilities, etc.). In case dismantling activities are concerned specific “Plans of Operations” are requested to be submitted to the competent regulatory authority’s approval.

Licensing documentation related to detailed projects and operational plans has to contain specific sections on safety assessment of pertaining decommissioning activities.

Taking also into account that the planned decommissioning operations will have a long lasting time of development, it is envisaged the need of defining those safety related activities whose detailed designs, with associated safety analysis, have to be submitted to ISIN for approval. In fact, for instance, the acceptability of design requirements for facilities to be built (i.e. storage facilities and systems), as well as of dismantling techniques and methods in line with the international state of the art, deserves adequate in depth review.

In this regard, on the basis of the lessons learned from Fukushima, it is mentioned that for the new interim waste storage facilities under construction at the NPPs sites a verification of existing margins against seismic events and an increased protection against flooding are requested in the licensing process.

A meaningful example refers to the complexity of the issue of the unconditional release of materials resulting from decommissioning; it is recognised that this activity must be duly prepared, well in advance, both from regulatory and licensee side. Appropriate clearance levels are identified and specific radiological characterization plans and procedures for radiometric verifications established. Qualified measuring laboratories have to be selected or set up in some cases and on site measuring capabilities have to be timely prepared.

Given the specific situation, it is also considered of utmost importance to maintain large margins for on-site waste storage capacity. In fact, the routine waste production for long periods, the possible unexpected needs of interventions on aged structures, the possible interventions on the wastes themselves (re-treatment/conditioning) call for the availability of large spare areas.

With the aim to provide an updating on the measures in place ensuring the maintenance of the safety and radiation protection provisions on all installations, specific information is reported in the Annex 1.

14.1 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention. On the bases of what is reported in this section, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable to the national situation.

Article 15. Radiation protection

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that in all operational states the radiation exposure to the workers and the public caused by a nuclear installation shall be kept as low as reasonably achievable and that no individual shall be exposed to radiation doses which exceed prescribed national dose limits.

15.1 Legislation and Regulatory Framework

The main Act that regulate radiation protection matters is the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, as previously described in Article 7.1.

Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 which transposes the Directive 2013/59/Euratom, laying down basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionizing radiation; this Decree entered into force on 27 august 2020 and it repeals the Legislative Decrees n° 230/1995, n° 187/200, n° 241/2000 and n° 52/2007.

The Legislative Decree regulates every aspect of the radiation protection in nuclear installations and in non-nuclear installations or facilities (accelerators, irradiators, hospitals and other medical uses of radiation sources). It establishes the ALARA principle as required by Euratom Directives and fixes dose limits for workers and public.

In relation to NPPs decommissioning activities, all projects submitted to ISIN, as described in the decommissioning plan, and in more detail in the implementation Detailed Projects and Plans of Operations, have to contain specific sections on the envisaged radiation protection programme, including doses evaluation and proper demonstration of the implementation of ALARA principle.

A detailed description of the Italian radiation protection system is provided in the Annex 4.

15.2 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 16. Emergency preparedness

- i. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that there are on-site and off-site emergency plans that are routinely tested for nuclear installations and cover the activities to be carried out in the event of an emergency.
For any new nuclear installation, such plans shall be prepared and tested before it commences operation above a low power level agreed by the regulatory body.
- ii. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that, insofar as they are likely to be affected by a radiological emergency, its own population and the competent authorities of the States in the vicinity of the nuclear installation are provided with appropriate information for emergency planning and response.
- iii. Contracting Parties which do not have a nuclear installation on their territory, insofar as they are likely to be affected in the event of a radiological emergency at a nuclear installation in the vicinity, shall take the appropriate steps for the preparation and testing of emergency plans for their territory that cover the activities to be carried out in the event of such an emergency.

16.1 On-site and off-site emergency plans

The off-site emergency planning of the Italian nuclear installations, and of the transportation of spent fuel, as well as the nuclear emergency national Plan are regulated by the Title XIV (Articles 172 to 197) of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020. In addition, the Legislative Decree No. 1/2018 is the Civil Protection Code regulating the purpose, activities and organization of the National Civil Protection Service, as well as the emergency response management in all cases of accidental events and disasters of any nature, is also applicable.

With regard to the on-site emergency planning above provisions are complemented with those reported in Articles 89, 90 and 92 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020, respectively related to:

- the approval by ISIN of the Operating rules, the document which specifies the plant organization and the duties of the staff in charge of the management, operation and maintenance of a nuclear installation and which contains also a specific section dealing with exceptional plant conditions that are those determined by the prediction or the occurrence of a nuclear emergency; the Operational Manual of the plant, to be submitted to the competent regulatory authority, which includes the Instruction Manual for

exceptional situations, reporting instructions and procedures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the consequences of the exceptional situation taking into account radiation protection of the workers and the coordination with the off-site emergency plan during all stages of the emergency. Moreover, the Instruction manual for exceptional situations identifies the operating personnel which must be assigned to emergency tasks in case of occurrence of exceptional situations;

- the Committee of delegates for plant safety, approved by ISIN, who has different tasks including, among other duties, the elaboration of the on-site emergency plan, the elaboration of the Instruction Manual for exceptional situations and provide advises to the plant Director in taking measures that are necessary to deal with exceptional events or abnormal plant operational condition.

Following the provision given by the Technical Specifications attached to the license, emergency exercises are regularly conducted typically on yearly base. As a part of the regulatory oversight activities, the emergency exercises are attended by ISIN officers.

As far as the off-site planning is concerned if the potential consequences of postulated reference events result to be manageable at local level (which means that the contribution of resources at the national level is not expected), the off-site emergency plan is prepared under the authority of the Prefect of the province where the installation is located, as required by the Article 177 and following provisions stated in Articles 179, 180 and 181 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

According to Article 178 of the same legislative decree, the technical basis for the plan (hazard assessment) are established by the Licensee and reviewed by ISIN. The content of the off-site emergency plan is defined in the Annex XXXII of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

Off-site emergency plans continue to be in force for the non-operational NPPs and nuclear fuel cycle facilities, until the ongoing decommissioning process will provide conditions for the lift of such emergency plans. Off-site emergency plans are in force for research reactors, for radioactive waste management and storage facilities, for spent fuel storage facilities, as well as for the Italian harbours where the presence of foreign nuclear powered ships is allowed.

Concerning the nuclear installation under decommissioning, the off-site emergency plans fulfils the same emergency functional requirements as those for operational plants but, of course, providing for a different size of the response and of the necessary emergency infrastructures. The off-site emergency plan is periodically reviewed and resized with reference to the progress of the different phases of the decommissioning process until its final withdrawal. A first updating of the off-site emergency plan is performed in the initial phase of the decommissioning process, following the authorization of the decommissioning plan, and in any case, following the removal of spent fuel from the site. This updating is based on safety analysis of the accident scenarios postulated for all the activities provided for the whole authorized decommissioning process.

Regarding the transportation of spent fuel (notably abroad for fuel reprocessing purposes), specific emergency plans are prepared, under the coordination of the Prefect of the province from which the transport will start according to the art. 186 of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020.

For cases where potential consequences of postulated reference events could affect larger parts of the national territory, provisions of the article 182 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 concerning the National Plan for the management of radiological and nuclear emergencies, apply as discussed in the following paragraph.

16.2 National Plan for the management of radiological and nuclear emergencies

Provisions of Article 182 of the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 require the preparation of a National Plan for the management of radiological and nuclear emergencies under the coordination of the Department of Civil Protection. Such a plan is aimed at protecting general public and environment in case of accidents affecting the whole national territory, which requires response coordinated at national level.

The current edition of the National Plan was approved in March 2022 by the Italian Government. The Plan was prepared by the Department of the Civil Protection of the Council of Ministers with the support of a Committee composed by representatives from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ISIN, Institute of Health, Custom Agency.

Technical bases (hazard assessment) of the plan was prepared by ISIN. The new hazard assessment confirms the reference accident considered in the previous version, namely an INES 7 accident with low probability of occurrence. The confirmation of the source term derives from the fact that the releases calculated at the time are compatible with those estimated for the Fukushima accident.

The Plan includes 3 accidents scenarios in foreign NPP. The first scenario considers accidents at a NPP less than 200 km far from national borders, the second one considers an accident at a NPP more than 200 km far from national borders, the third scenario considers an accident anywhere else in the world.

For the first scenario, in case a major accident, in order to protect the population living in the most affected areas, sheltering and ITB are envisaged as urgent protective measures; food ban and protection of livestock are envisaged as early protective measures. For the second scenario only early protective measures are envisaged.

Other issues considered in the new Plan are the protection of national citizens in the accident country, the returning of people from areas affected by the consequences of the emergency, the monitoring of the imported goods, the better definition of KI distribution mechanism as well as a better definition of the areas where these countermeasures should be prepared. Moreover, the

plan has a new emergency classification which is in line with international emergency classification. This issue was also a recommendation from IRRS Mission that took place in 2016.

Italian organisations involved in the implementation of the national Plan, regularly participate in emergency exercises organized at international level by EU (ECURIE), IAEA (EMERCON) and OECD/NEA (INEX). Within the framework of bilateral agreements, the participation is extended to the national exercises organized by neighbouring countries (participation to Swiss national exercise of nuclear emergency in 2013, 2015 and 2017, and to Slovenian national exercise in 2014).

It is finally to be mentioned that, at international level, Italy has ratified the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (1986) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (1987). Italy also established proper provisions to fulfil the requirements of European Union Council Decision No. 87/600/Euratom regarding the urgent exchange of information in case of radiological emergency.

16.3 Bilateral Cooperation

A plan to establish bilateral cooperation on nuclear and radiological emergencies with neighboring countries having NPPs was launched on late 2009 and concluded in 2010-11 as reported in the following paragraphs.

The implementation activity of such a cooperation expedited in the aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident.

Agreement with Switzerland

An Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Italian Republic on the rapid exchange of information in case of nuclear accidents was signed on 15th December 1989 and entered into force on 26th February 1990. On this basis regular communication drills take place between the respective national contact points.

Parties are committed to notify each other immediately about emergency situations that could have radiological consequences, as well as abnormal levels of radioactivity on their territory, which have arisen as a result of any kind of activity.

Information about the emergency has to be promptly forwarded by the interested Party and to cover date, time and place of the event, its nature and the measures planned or taken on own territory and any further available information relevant to minimize the radiological consequences on the population of the other Party.

The information exchange system has to ensure the receipt and transmission on H24 and that the operating procedures are periodically tested.

In order to complement the above State level Agreement, a cooperation Arrangement between the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI) and the Italian Regulatory Authority (it was ISPRA, now ISIN) on nuclear safety matters was concluded on June 2011. On November 2012 an Italian-Swiss Commission for the cooperation on emergency preparedness and response and on matter of nuclear safety was established with the task to coordinate the overall cooperation activity. The Arrangement has been updated in July 2019 as result of the establishment of ISIN.

In this context also the national emergency Organizations (Civil Protection Department of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers for Italy and the National Emergency Operations Centre of the Federal Office for Civil Protection of Swiss Confederation) attend the regular meetings scheduled under the cooperation Agreement.

Arrangement with Nuclear Safety Authority - ASN (France)

A cooperation Arrangement between ASN (the French nuclear safety Authority) and ISPRA (now ISIN), was signed on April 2010. The Arrangement is based on the early exchange of information in the event of a radiological emergency and on the co-operation in the field of the nuclear safety.

In case of an event that could endanger the population of the other country, the Party is committed to notify to the other one the event, its nature, the time and location of its occurrence and any further available information relevant to minimize the radiological consequences on the population of the other country.

The Agreement provides for the setting up a joint expert group with the task to provide a common identification of the set of specific data to be transmitted both at onset of the event and during the evolution of the accident, and the transmission method.

The points of contact of the Parties are to be available on 24h/7d bases and are to be put periodically under test.

Concerning the co-operation on nuclear safety matters, the Arrangement provides for the information exchange and cooperation in many areas of the nuclear safety regulatory matters, for example:

- legislation, regulation, safety guides and technical criteria regarding siting, design, construction, operation, decommissioning and waste management;
- licensing, inspection and enforcement procedures;
- regulatory procedure and assessment methodologies related to nuclear safety, radiation protection, quality assurance, emergency planning, environmental impact evaluation, waste management and transportation;
- major public information activities;
- information concerning research and development programs.

Arrangement with Nuclear Safety Administration - SNSA (Slovenia)

In May 2010 an arrangement between the (SNSA) of the Republic of Slovenia and ISPRA (now ISIN) for the early exchange of information in the event of a radiological emergency and co-operation in nuclear safety matters, was signed. This Agreement applies to the notification and provision of information for emergency response in case of the radiological emergencies which include accidents involving facilities or activities referred to in Article 1 of the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and also to exchange of information and cooperation for emergency preparedness and other nuclear and radiological safety matters. Also in the case of events not specified in the mentioned Article 1 but which are of potential interest, the Party may request information about the nature of the event, its consequences and on the undertaken countermeasures.

16.4 Assessment of compliance

Based on information reported above it may be concluded that Italy meets the requirements of this Article of the Convention.

Article 17. Siting

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that appropriate procedures are established and implemented:

- i. for evaluating all relevant site-related factors likely to affect the safety of a nuclear installation for its projected lifetime;
- ii. for evaluating the likely safety impact of a proposed nuclear installation on individuals, society and the environment;
- iii. for re-evaluating as necessary all relevant factors referred to in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) so as to ensure the continued safety acceptability of the nuclear installation;
- iv. for consulting Contracting Parties in the vicinity of a proposed nuclear installation, insofar as they are likely to be affected by that installation and, upon request providing the necessary information to such Contracting Parties, in order to enable them to evaluate and make their own assessment of the likely safety impact on their own territory of the nuclear installation.

Due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which are all under decommissioning, the requirements set out in the Convention are not directly applicable. It has however to be mentioned that existing legal provisions (namely Law 1860 of 1962 and the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020), provide the adequate basis to comply with the requirements established in this Article of the Convention.

Article 18. Design and construction

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:

- i. the design and construction of a nuclear installation provides for several reliable levels and methods of protection (defence in depth) against the release of radioactive materials, with a view to preventing the occurrence of accidents and to mitigating their radiological consequences should they occur;
 - ii. the technologies incorporated in the design and construction of a nuclear installation are proven by experience or qualified by testing or analysis;
 - iii. the design of a nuclear installation allows for reliable, stable and easily manageable operation, with specific consideration of human factors and the man-machine interface.
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Due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which are all under decommissioning, the requirements set out in the Convention are not directly applicable. It has however to be mentioned that existing legal provisions (namely Act 1860 of 1962 and the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020), provide the adequate basis to comply with the requirements established in this Article of the Convention. On the bases of what is reported in this section, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable in the national situation.

Article 19. Operation

Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:

- i. the initial authorization to operate a nuclear installation is based upon an appropriate safety analysis and a commissioning programme demonstrating that the installation, as constructed, is consistent with design and safety requirements;
- ii. operational limits and conditions derived from the safety analysis, tests and operational experience are defined and revised as necessary for identifying safe boundaries for operation;
- iii. operation, maintenance, inspection and testing of a nuclear installation are conducted in accordance with approved procedures;
- iv. procedures are established for responding to anticipated operational occurrences and to accidents;
- v. necessary engineering and technical support in all safety-related fields is available throughout the lifetime of a nuclear installation;
- vi. incidents significant to safety are reported in a timely manner by the holder of the relevant licence to the regulatory body;
- vii. programmes to collect and analyse operating experience are established, the results obtained and the conclusions drawn are acted upon and that existing mechanisms are used to share important experience with international bodies and with other operating organizations and regulatory bodies;
- viii. the generation of radioactive waste resulting from the operation of a nuclear installation is kept to the minimum practicable for the process concerned, both in activity and in volume, and any necessary treatment and storage of spent fuel and waste directly related to the operation and on the same site as that of the nuclear installation take into consideration conditioning and disposal.

Due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which are all under decommissioning, the requirements set out in the Convention are not directly applicable. It has however to be mentioned that that existing legal provisions (namely Act 1860 of 1962 and the Legislative Decree No. 101/2020), provide the

adequate basis to comply with the requirements established in this Article of the Convention. On the bases of what is reported in this section, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable in the national situation.

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**Section D. Topics of interest and major developments from 7th
and 8th review meetings**

Topics of interest and major developments from 7th and 8th review meetings

As stated in the Introductory Remarks of this Report, to comply with the request from the President of the 8th and 9th Review Meeting, to facilitate the identification of the major developments since 7th and 8th Review meetings, the major developments on the following topics have been reported in this paragraph:

- changes in national nuclear safety regulatory framework, legislation, and practices;
- safety issues identified through the eighth Review cycle;
- progresses made on challenges and suggestions from 7th and 8th Review cycle;
- experience with response to COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Changes in national nuclear safety regulatory framework, legislation, regulations and practices

Regulatory framework

The national nuclear safety and radiation protection regulatory framework foresees a Licensing Body that is the authority which grants the licence/authorization for nuclear installations and a National Competent Authority with the functions to give binding advices to the licencing body and perform control activities in the fields of nuclear safety, physical protection and radiation protection.

In this context, in 2021, the competencies in the nuclear and radiation protection fields of the Licensing Body, until 2021 in charge to the Ministry of Economic Development, have been shifted to the new Ministry of Ecological Transition (MiTE) that replaced the previous Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection.

Legislation

Legislative Decree No. 101/2020

On 27 august 2020 the Legislative Decree No.101/2020 which transposes the Directive 2013/59/Euratom, entered into force repealing the Legislative Decrees No. 230/1995, No. 187/200, No. 241/2000 and No. 52/2007, rearranging the legislation in the field of radiation protection.

Legislative Decree No.101/2020 laying down basic safety standards from Directive 2013/59/Euratom, establishes safety rules for the protection of workers and public against dangers arising from exposure to ionizing radiation and disciplines:

- the protection of public and workers subject to any type of exposure to ionizing radiation,

- the maintenance and promotion of continuous improvement of the safety of civil nuclear facilities,
- the safe management of nuclear spent fuel and radioactive waste,
- the control of the shipments of spent fuel, radioactive waste and radioactive materials.

National Plan for the management of nuclear and radiological emergencies

In March 2022 the new National Plan for the management of nuclear and radiological emergencies was approved by the Italian Government. The Plan was prepared by the Department of the Civil Protection of the Council of Ministers with the support of a Committee composed by representatives from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ISIN, Institute of Health, Custom Agency.

Technical bases (hazard assessment) of the plan was prepared by ISIN. The new hazard assessment confirms the reference accident considered in the previous version, namely an INES 7 accident with low probability of occurrence. The confirmation of the source term derives from the fact that the releases calculated at the time are compatible with those estimated for the Fukushima accident.

The Plan includes 3 accidents scenarios in foreign NPP. The first scenario considers accidents at a NPP less than 200 km far from national borders, the second one considers an accident at a NPP more than 200 km far from national borders, the third scenario considers an accident anywhere else in the world.

For the first scenario, in case a major accident, in order to protect the population living in the most affected areas, sheltering and ITB are envisaged as urgent protective measures; food ban and protection of livestock are envisaged as early protective measures. For the second scenario only early protective measures are envisaged.

Other issues considered in the new Plan are the protection of national citizens in the accident country, the returning of people from areas affected by the consequences of the emergency, the monitoring of the imported goods, the better definition of KI distribution mechanism as well as a better definition of the areas where these countermeasures should be prepared. Moreover, the plan has a new emergency classification which is in line with international emergency classification. This issue was also a recommendation from IRRS Mission that took place in 2016.

Regulation

ISIN has in place a programme to update his Technical Guides, essentially based on the national action plan established in the framework of WENRA activities related to the development of safety

reference levels. ISIN is developing the Technical Guides also taking into account IAEA safety standards. The to date status of implementation of the Technical Guides is reported:

- the Technical Guide No.30 on safety criteria for interim storage facilities for radioactive waste and spent fuel was issued in October 2020,
- the Technical Guides No.31 on safety criteria for decommissioning of nuclear installations was issued in May 2022,
- the Technical Guide No.32 on safety criteria for near surface disposal facilities for radioactive waste was issued in July 2022.

The Technical Guide No.33 on management of radioactive waste, that will replace the previous Technical Guide N. 26, is under public consultation foreseen to be conclude by September 2022. The issuing of the Technical Guide is foreseen by end 2022.

The Technical Guide No.34 on criteria for clearance of materials will be published for public consultation after the issuing of Technical Guide No.33.

Practices

In May 2020 the decommissioning authorization was granted for Latina NPP.

At present, all four national NPPs (Trino, Garigliano, Caorso and Latina) are under decommissioning and at the date of the present report they cannot be any more considered “nuclear installations” under the definition given in Article 2i of the Convention.

In this regard it has to be mentioned that, due to the status of the Italian NPPs, which, as above said, are all under decommissioning with spent fuel removed from the site, the principles stated in the Vienna Declaration adopted on 9 February 2015 are not directly applicable in the national situation.

2. Safety issues identified through the 8th Review cycle

Safety issues raised from 8th Review cycle, are related to the challenges identified during 7th Review meeting, so they are directly discussed in the next paragraph.

3. Progresses made on challenges and suggestions from 7th and 8th Review cycle

During 7th Review meeting and from 8th Review cycle, the Country Groups identified the following 3 challenges. For each challenge, the actions performed to solve them are reported.

- a. Completion of transition of the regulatory functions from ISPRA to the Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ISIN)

Transition of regulatory functions from previous competent regulatory authority ISPRA to the new one ISIN - National Inspectorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection was completed. Since 1st August 2018 ISIN is fully operative.

b. Increase human resources in the Competent Regulatory Authority and develop a staff turnover action plan to ensure the generation transition

Legislative Decree n.137/2017 that has been enacted to transpose the 2014/87/Euratom Directive on nuclear safety introduces provisions that establish additional human resources for ISIN: the number of the staff has been increased from 60 to 90 units, adding 30 units of personnel with legal and administrative background.

The current staff is of 51 people, mainly coming from the previous Nuclear, Technological and Industrial Risk Department of ISPRA, which has previously carried out the functions of national competent regulatory authority on nuclear safety and radiation protection.

Technical staff currently counts 33 units. About 2 technical and 2 administrative units will leave ISIN by 2022. There is therefore the need to complete the assigned staff and to compensate the expected turn over in the short term. This issue was also raised as a main recommendation by the IRRS mission in 2016. In this regard it has to be highlighted that a public recruitment is on ongoing and it is foreseen that 26 new technical staff and 3 administrative staff will be hired by 2022. It is foreseen that in case of financial resources availability, if the total number of the staff is not filled with the ongoing recruitment, it will be possible to recruit missing positions by scrolling the ranking.

c. Complete the process of siting and construction of national waste repository for disposal of low and intermediate level waste and long term storage of high level waste.

A centralized national repository for radioactive waste is a condition for the completion of the decommissioning process of the NPP's.

In June 2014 ISPRA (now ISIN) issued the Technical Guide No.29 (*Siting criteria for a near surface disposal facility of low and intermediate level waste*). The guide was issued after a peer review conducted by IAEA and the results of technical exchanges with competent regulatory authorities of France, Belgium, Switzerland and Slovenia. According to the Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, SO.G.I.N., the national implementer responsible for the siting, construction and operation of the National Repository, taking into account the criteria established in the Technical Guide No. 29 as well criteria established in the pertaining IAEA safety standards, has prepared a proposal of a national chart of potentially suitable areas (CNAPI). In 2015 this proposal has been verified and validated by ISPRA (now ISIN), which has transmitted the results of its review and assessment to the Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection and to the Ministry of

Economic Development, entitled to grant an authorization to SO.G.I.N. to publish the Chart, in order to initiate a public consultation phase. Subsequently, after the 7th review meeting, on the basis of updates of the databases used for the preparation of the proposal of the national chart, and taking into account a specific request of the Ministry of Economic Development on the seismic classifications of the proposed areas, in 2018 and 2019 ISIN has verified and validated the new proposals of the chart submitted by SO.G.I.N.

On January 5th 2021 the proposal of CNAPI, was published by SOGIN.

(To understand the changes of the Administrations involved in the siting process, it has to be highlighted that in March 2021, the competencies in the nuclear and radiation protection field of the Ministry of Economic Development, were shifted to the new Ministry of Ecological Transition (MiTE) that replaced the previous Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection.)

After a rigorous process of exclusion according the siting criteria established in the Technical Guide n.29, 67 areas (representing less than 0,1% of the Italian territory) have been included in the CNAPI. With the publication of the CNAPI, all involved stakeholders have been invited to formulate observations and proposals and to participate in the debate at the National Seminar, in particular in relation to the compliance of the CNAPI with the siting criteria of Technical Guide n.29. During the public consultation:

- the observations were formulated by the stakeholders from the date of publication of the CNAPI to 15.01.2022;
- the National Seminar, according to the Legislative Decree n. 31/2010, took place from September 2021 to November 2021, involving all the stakeholders also at regional level.

On 15th December 2021 SOGIN published the report about the contents of the Seminar: 318 stakeholders presented observations/technical proposals/ administrative and political local acts. After the conclusion of the Seminar, SOGIN elaborated the so called CNAI – National Chart of Eligible Areas, taking into account the conclusion of the public debate. ISIN will formulate the technical advice on the CNAI by September 2022 to the Ministry of Ecological Transition for approval, taking into account the contents of the public consultation. The steps foreseen and the timeline considered for the implementation of the national repository have been established by the Legislative Decree n. 31/2010 and the exact timeline for the implementation of the national repository depends on the possibility to find agreements with the regions involved.

4. Experience with response to COVID-19 pandemic

Since the beginning of 2020, ISIN decided to perform safety controls in nuclear installations by applying a graded approach taking into account sanitary restrictions introduced by the Government mainly regarding mobility restrictions.

In March 2020 ISIN requested all operating organizations to provide information on measures taken to face the pandemic situation in relation to:

- the availability of personnel covering safety related staff-position;
- restrictions introduced by the Government and related implications with plant management and decommissioning activities (subcontractors, supply chain).

During the period in which mobility restrictions were in force, the operating organizations were requested to send a weekly report on the status of the personnel and the plant activities.

Regulatory inspections were always ensured by ad-hoc mobility permission.

For those activities (tests of new systems and components, emergency drills, etc.) requiring ISIN presence, streaming connections were arranged.

Section E. List of acronyms

| | |
|------------------|---|
| AFR | Away From Reactor |
| ALARA | As Low As Reasonably Achievable |
| ANPA | National Environmental Protection Agency |
| APAT | National Agency for the Environment Protection and Technical Services |
| ARERA | Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment |
| BWR | Boiling Water Reactor |
| CEI | Comitato Elettrotecnico Italiano |
| CEVaD | Centre for Data Elaboration and Evaluation |
| CIPE | Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning |
| CNAPI | National Chart of Potentially Suitable Areas |
| DISP | Nuclear Safety and Health Protection Directorate |
| ENEA | Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Environment |
| ENEL | National Electricity Company |
| GCR | Gas Cooled Reactor |
| IAEA | International Atomic Energy Agency |
| ICRP | International Commission on Radiological Protection |
| ISPRA | National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research |
| LWR | Light Water Reactor |
| NEA | Nuclear Energy Agency of OECD |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| PWR | Pressurised Water Reactor |
| QA | Quality Assurance |
| SO.G.I.N. | Nuclear Installations Management Company |
| SMS | Safety Management System |
| UNI | Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione |
| WENRA | Western European Nuclear Regulators Association |

Section F. Annexes

Annex 1 – List and status of nuclear installations in Italy

The main general data of the four Italian nuclear installations are reported in the following table.

| Name & Location | Type | Owner and licensee | (MWe) | Date of start up | | Shut down |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | | | | First criticality | Comm. Operation | |
| Garigliano | BWR | (Enel) SO.G.I.N. | 160 | 05/06/1963 | 01/01/1964 | 08/08/1978 |
| Latina | GCR | (Enel) SO.G.I.N. | 210 (160) ¹ | 27/12/1962 | 01/01/1964 | 26/11/1986 |
| Caorso | BWR | (Enel) SO.G.I.N. | 882 | 31/12/1977 | 28/11/1981 | 24/10/1986 |
| Trino | PWR | (Enel) SO.G.I.N. | 270 | 21/06/1964 | 01/01/1965 | 21/03/1987 |

A.1.1 Garigliano NPP



The Garigliano NPP is located in a curve on the left side of the homonymous river, making the border between the regions of Campania and Lazio, about 7 km from the Tyrrhenian Sea, in the municipality of Sessa Aurunca (CE). The plant construction ended in 1963, the commercial operation took place from 1964 to 1978 and, presently, the plant is under decommissioning.

The Garigliano NPP has been designed as a dual cycle BWR plant, 506 MWt, 160 MWe. The main nuclear components are the reactor vessel, the steam drum separator, the associated risers and downcomers tubing, two U-tubes steam generators. The nuclear island is enclosed in a steel

¹ the power was reduced with respect to the design value

spherical containment, 22 mm thick, with penetrations for connecting water-steam pipes to the turbine building.

In 1978, since structural problems had been discovered in the steam generators and given the short residual life of the plant, the owner (ENEL) took the decision to definitely shutdown the plant. In this regard the Ministry of Industry, now Ministry of Economic Development, issued in 1985 a licence for the plant decommissioning based on a safe storage strategy. Plant operation was performed based on Surveillance Rules, Technical and Management Procedures of the Operation Manual, under a quality system regime.

In 1985-1987, the nuclear fuel (about 300.000 TBq) was moved from the plant, to the independent Avogadro pool in Saluggia (VC), for long term wet storage. Furthermore, extensive radioactive waste management activities related to low level waste were accomplished through treatment processes based on compaction and supercompaction. The intermediate level liquid waste from the reactor water chemical cycle and the activated solid waste were conditioned by cementation. The generated waste was stored in the turbine building and in other structures on the plant site.

Another important activity was aimed to reach the safe storage condition of the reactor building (the so called CPP – “Custodia Protettiva Passiva”): extensive decontamination of accessible areas and equipment was performed, many systems and equipment were disconnected or de-energized, the nuclear components and process systems were emptied of operating fluids, their openings and penetrations were closed, fire loads in the containment were minimized, an internal sealed zone including the containment rooms with nuclear components, served with a passive filtered ventilation, was established in the containment to maintain the confinement of the residual radioactivity and to avoid its diffusion outside.

In 2001, on the basis of the Government decision to change the decommissioning strategy from safe storage to a single step decommissioning of all nuclear installations in Italy, an overall decommissioning plan was issued for Garigliano NPP. Later on, other projects have been issued and in particular, a project to build a new 4-modules structure for the temporary storage of existing wastes (about 500 TBq) and the future wastes from the single step decommissioning (about 700 TBq).

Several preparatory decommissioning activities have been performed in the past years.

In September 2012 the decommissioning licence was granted to SO.G.I.N. for Garigliano NPP based on the immediate dismantling, single step strategy.

The following activities have been completed in the site:

- new access to controlled area,
- removal of asbestos from the containment,
- refurbishment of the pre-existing diesel generator building in a structure for interim storage of radioactive waste,

- realization of the “D1” new 1-module structure for interim storage of radioactive waste (as a modification of the 4-modules project previously mentioned),
- remediation of two (out of three) underground trenches used for storage of very low level technological waste;
- demolition of the old stack and commissioning of a new one;
- dismantling of part of big components in turbine building (generator)
- commissioning of a new system for the treatment of the liquid waste
- realization of a new water supply system in order to demolish of the piezometric tower,
- completion of the remediation of underground trenches used for storage of technological waste,

The following activities are under implementation:

- adjustment and recovery of reactor building auxiliary systems needed for decommissioning,
- adjustment and recovery of turbine building systems needed for dismantling of thermal cycle and electric system components (turbine, generator, condenser, heater, steam pipes and valves,.),
- refurbishment of two old interim storage facility,

construction of a new interim storage facility

A.1.2 Trino NPP



The “Enrico Fermi” NPP, a 270 MWe PWR plant supplied by Westinghouse, is located in the northern Italy, in the municipality of Trino (VC), on the left bank of the PO river. It was operated

by Enel from 1965 to 1987. Its operation was smooth, with the exception of two prolonged interruptions for implementation of important safety upgrades. After final shutdown, imposed by the Government after the Chernobyl accident, the decision was taken to put the plant in the safe storage condition in view of future decommissioning. In 1992 the reactor was defueled. All was removed from the plant.

In August 2012 the decommissioning licence, based on one phase strategy until the unconditional release of the site, was granted to SO.G.I.N. for Trino NPP.

In the Trino NPP significant activities on conventional parts were conducted during the safe store decommissioning phase, addressed to put out of service systems not any more necessary for the safe management of the plant.

Up to now several activities connected to decommissioning have been performed: removal of conventional parts, removal of asbestos, waste characterization and treatment, decontamination of steam generators, implementation of a new water supply system for the plant not derived from the Po river, modification of containment ventilation system; removal of material and equipment, located inside the controlled zone of the plant.

Other activities relevant to plant decommissioning or to maintaining the plant safety include: updating of the plant SAR, implementation of fire prevention and protection programme, updating of plant operation and management documentation.

At present the radioactive waste (about 1050 m³, 330 m³ of which is still to be conditioned) is stored in the two storage facilities of the NPP site. Some semi-liquid radioactive waste (resins and sludge) is still to be conditioned.

The following activities have been completed in the site:

- shipment of all remaining spent fuel abroad,
- restoration of reactor building ventilation system,
- treatment of LLW,
- commissioning of a new radioactive waste buffer building.

The following projects are ongoing:

- refurbishment of one of the two existing interim storage facilities,
- upgrading of the system for treatment of liquid waste.

A.1.3 Caorso NPP



Caorso NPP, a BWR unit (882 MWe), started its commercial operation in the year 1981 and was permanently shut down in 1986, just after the 4th refuelling.

Since 1998, the reactor core has been completely defueled and all the irradiated fuel elements were transferred to the spent fuel pools, in view of its shipping for reprocessing.

The NPP is actually regulated by the decommissioning licence granted in February 10, 2014.

The following activities have been completed in the site:

- decontamination of the circulation loops and of the clean-up system has been completed on February 2004,
- dismantling activities of RHR towers were completed in 2009 while the dismantling of thermal cycle and electric system components (turbine, generator, condenser, heater, steam pipes and valves,..) in turbine building and off-gas system respectively ended in 2009 and 2013,
- in May 2010, the permission to put into operation the Phadec plant for the chemicals decontamination of metallic materials, deriving from the dismantling inside the turbine and Off-Gas buildings was granted,
- in June 2010 the activities for removal and transport of all the spent fuel that were started in December 2007 for a total of 1032 spent fuel elements were completed,
- the over reduction of volumes of about 600 drums of technological radioactive wastes with 1.2 GBq of total radioactivity,

on the bases of an international contract signed from SO.G.I.N. with Sweden company (Studvick) for the supply of treatment and conditioning services for operational radioactive wastes, in the period between July 2011 and May 2012, was carried out sending 355 ton of low activity wastes

(1.84 GBq) of Caorso NNP to be incinerated and put up in the cement matrix. In August 2013 wastes treated and conditioned returned to the site.

- The operational radioactive waste (resins and sludge for a total of 1250 m³) have been shipped abroad at Bouniche plant in Slovakia for treatment. Last shipment was performed in April 2022.

The following activities are ongoing:

- realization of the waste management facility and storage buffer area in the turbine building,
- refurbishment of one existing interim storage facility,
- realization of a waste route.

The following main projects/plans of operations are under regulatory assessment:

- dismantling of systems and components in the reactor building;
- refurbishment of a second existing interim storage facilities,

A.1.4 Latina NPP



The 160 MWe GCR of Latina is located on the Tirrenian sea coast, around 70 Km south of Rome. It was operated by Enel since 1962 until 1986. The initial installed electrical power of 210 MWe was later downrated to 160 MWe, after a reduction of 30°C of coolant temperature to avoid oxidation of reactor internals. The plant was definitely shutdown in November 1986, after the Chernobyl accident, by Government decision.

Since then, all spent fuel has been removed from the plant and the primary circuit has been filled with dry air. At present, the radioactive waste derived from plant operation (about 1220 m³, 900 m³ of which is still to be conditioned) is stored in different facilities of the NPP site.

The NPP is actually regulated by the decommissioning licence granted on May 20, 2020.

The overall decommissioning licence is based on two phases:

- The first phase foresees the reduction of the height of the reactor building and the putting the reactor building in safe conservation.
- The second phase, to be implemented only after the commissioning of the national repository, foresees the dismantling of all structures with the aim to reach the green field end state.

The following activities have been completed in the site:

- commissioning of an interim storage facility,
- removal of large components stored in the spent fuel pond,
- removal and decontamination of blower shells,
- recovery of buried waste from KCFC trench,
- spent fuel pool sludge processing in the LECO facility.

The following main activities have been approved and are being performed:

- realization of a station for the treatment of materials derived from dismantling activities,
- realization of new facility for treatment of liquid waste (ITEA),
- removal of systems and components from reactor building and realization of storage facilities.

The following projects are under regulatory assessment:

- spent fuel pool decontamination,
- removal and treatment of steam generators.

Annex 2 – Background historical information on the past Italian nuclear programme

Commercial utilisation of nuclear power in Italy started in 1964 and within 1981 four nuclear power plants, namely the NPPs of Garigliano (BWR), Latina (Gas Grafite), Trino (PWR) and Caorso (BWR), and a LEU fuel fabrication installation (Fabbricazioni Nucleari S.p.A.) had been commissioned.

During that period, an extensive R&D programme on the nuclear fuel cycle was developed by the Nuclear Energy Research Agency (CNEN) - now the National Agency for New Technology, Energy and the Environment (Enea) - with the operation of experimental fuel cycle installations (e.g. ITREC and EUREX).

The three NPPs of Latina, Trino and Caorso continued to be operated until 1987, when they were definitively shut down based on a governmental decision which in such a way interpreted the results of a national referendum called upon after the Chernobyl accident. The NPP of Garigliano had been already shut down in 1978, for technical reasons.

At the same time, the nuclear programme was closed, the Interministerial Committee for the Economical Planning (CIPE) required the National Electricity Company (Enel S.p.A.) to start the decommissioning of the NPPs and a “safe storage” (IAEA level 1/2) option was adopted.

In 1999, all Enel S.p.A. liabilities and assets connected to nuclear power were assigned to a newly established company, named SO.G.I.N. (Società Gestione Impianti Nucleari) S.p.A., whose shareholder is the Ministry of Economy and Finance, while the strategic and operational aims are given by the Ministry of Productive Activities, now Ministry of Ecological Transition. The primary mission of the SO.G.I.N. S.p.A. is to cover the decommissioning of all Italian nuclear installations and the safe management of the spent fuel and radioactive waste.

The spent fuel and the largest part of the radioactive waste to be managed in Italy derive from the operation of the above mentioned NPPs and fuel cycle facilities. As far as spent fuel is concerned, part of that has already been transferred abroad for reprocessing (namely the fuel of Latina and Caorso and the most of the fuel of Garigliano and Trino NPPs). In the framework of the Inter-Governmental reprocessing agreement referred in the policy section (2006-07) the transfer abroad of the remaining amount of fuel still in Italy depends on the above mentioned agreement. According to said agreement, the treated and conditioned waste resulting from the reprocessing will be returned to Italy.

The technical guidance and standards that at the early 60ties were initially assumed as reference for the design, construction and operation of NPPs were essentially the ones developed in the Country where the specific technology was originated. The reasons for that are easily understandable if one thinks that NPPs had a US and UK origin.

A long process of assimilation into the main stream of the industrial and regulatory practices has been taking place since the inception of the Italian nuclear program. The results of that assimilation process developed into an indigenous conception of the safety and radiation protection criteria. In this context it must be remarked that radiation protection concepts such as justification and optimisation were long in use even before the formal introduction into the legislative corpus of rules. Moreover, in the 80ties, some specific Italian requirements were introduced into a new homogeneous corpus establishing general criteria and requirements applicable to pressurised light water reactors. That process lead to an approach that resulted in establishing integration between safety and radiation protection requirements. Full use of probabilistic assessments was required by applicants for demonstration of having met the radioprotection objectives in terms of doses to members of the public for the entire spectrum of operational scenarios (including transients and accidents).

A reflection of the adoption of nuclear US technologies has been the use of some parts of 10 CFR (U.S. Code of Federal Regulations), and of other US industrial standards.

Annex 3 – List of acts, decrees, regulations, guides and standards

a) Acts and Decrees

Act No. 933/1960: on the establishment of the National Committee for Nuclear Energy (CNEN);

Act No. 1860 of 31 December 1962: published in the Italian Republic's Official Journal No. 27 of 30 January 1963, as amended by the President's Decree No. 1704 of 30 December 1965 (Italian Republic's Official Journal No. 112 of 9 May 1966) and by the President's Decree No. 519 of 10 May 1975 (Italian Republic's Official Journal No. 294 of 6 November 1975);

Presidential Decree No. 185 of 1964: "Safety of plants and protection of workers and general public against the risk of ionising radiation associated to the peaceful use of Nuclear Energy replaced in 1996 by the Legislative Decree No. 230/1995, described below;

Presidential Decree No. 1450/1971: which contains Requirements and procedure for the acquisition of the operational personnel licences;

Presidential Decree No. 519/1975: "Civil responsibilities in the field of nuclear safety";

Act No. 393/1975: which contains Administrative rules on the selection of the site for NPPs;

Act No. 84/1982: on the establishment of the State Agency for new technologies, energy and environment (ENEA);

Act No. 61/1994: on the establishment of the National Agency for the Environment Protection (ANPA);

Act No. 10 of 19th January 1998: promulgated for the ratification of the Convention on Nuclear Safety;

Legislative Decree No. 300/1999 and President of the Republic Decree No.207/2002: on the establishment of APAT, by merging ANPA with other national Technical Services;

Legislative Decree No. 241 of 26th May 2000: which has transposed EU (European Union) directive 96/29/Euratom laying down basic safety standards for the radiation protection of workers and the public; the standards laid down in the directive incorporate the 1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP) into EU radiation protection legislation. Decree No. 241 has modified and integrated Legislative Decree No. 230 of 1995, the latter constitutes the main piece of legislation laying down radiation protection requirements for workers and the public;

Legislative Decree No. 257 of 9th May 2001: which modified certain details in Legislative Decree No. 241 of 2000 concerning requirements for notification and authorisation of non nuclear installations where ionising radiation is used for industrial, research and medical purposes;

Act No. 368 of 24th December 2003: establishing the procedures for the site selection of a national repository for HLW;

Act No. 239 of 23rd August 2004: promulgated for the rearrangement of the energy sector extends the procedures established by the Act No.368 of 2003 also for the site selection of a national repository of LLW;

Decree of 2nd December 2004 of the Ministry of Production Activities (now Economic Development) provides directives to SO.G.I.N. for the implementation of decommissioning and radioactive waste management activities. The Decree also charges SO.G.I.N. to explore the feasibility of sending all the spent fuel currently stored in ITALY to abroad for reprocessing.

Act No. 282 of 16th December 2005: promulgated for the ratification of Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management;

Act No. 286/2006: on the reorganisation of APAT as a legal entity of public administration, endowed with new institutional Organs;

Legislative Decree n. 52 of 6th February 2007 which transposes EU directive 2003/122/Euratom on the control of high-activity sealed radioactive sources and orphan sources.

Legislative Decree No. 23 of 20th February 2009: which has transposed EU directive 2006/117/Euratom on the supervision and control of shipments of radioactive waste and spent fuel; Legislative Decree No. 23/2009 has modified pertinent administrative provisions previously contained in Legislative Decree No. 230/1995 concerning the transboundary shipments of radioactive waste. Legislative Decree No. 230/1995 now contains new provisions on the supervision and control of shipments of spent fuel.

Act No. 99/2009, related to the process to start a new nuclear programme, in Article 29, establishes a new Nuclear Safety Agency with the role of Regulatory Body. As already mentioned, the Agency will be made by the resources of the Nuclear Department of ISPRA and by resources from the Agency for New technologies, Energy and sustainable development (ENEA). The full establishment of this new Safety Authority has, however, still to be completed.

Legislative Decree No. 31/2010 related to the future nuclear development in Italy, provides criteria for the site selection procedure with the involvement of local administration, for the approval and for the compensation of the local municipality. The Decree includes also provisions for the site selection procedure of the national site for radioactive waste disposal giving the responsibility to SO.G.I.N.. Following the referendum in 2011 the decree was amended by abrogating parts related to the construction of new NPPs.

Legislative Decree No. 41/2011 amended the Legislative Decree 31/2010 with reference to the future nuclear development in Italy.

Act No. 75 of May 26th 2011 that modifies all the provisions given in the Act No.99/2009 and in the Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, as amended by the Legislative Decree No.41/2011, relevant to the development of new NPP in Italy, relinquishing the nuclear development in Italy. The provisions for the development of the national site for LLW disposal and ILW-HLW interim storage has been confirmed. Furthermore, by abrogating the Articles 8 and 9 of the Legislative Decree no. 230 of 1995, The Act 75/2011 slightly modifies the regulatory process by cancelling of the “Technical Commission on Nuclear safety and Radiation Protection”. This Commission was entitled to formulate an independent technical advice to ISIN (ex ISPRA) during the assessment process connected to the granting of licences, authorizations and approval of detailed designs.

Legislative Decree No. 100 of 1st June 2011 which modifies the provisions of article 157 of Legislative Decree No. 230/1995 concerning the radiometric surveillance of metal scraps.

Legislative Decree No. 185/2011 which transposes the EU Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom establishing a Community framework for the nuclear safety of nuclear installations.

Act No. 214 of December 2011 abolished the Nuclear Safety Agency (created with the Act 99/2009, but not yet applied) and the functions have been temporary assigned to ISPRA (that in fact continue its work as nuclear authority) waiting for a definitive asset of the regulatory organization.

Act No. 27 of March 2012 on the economic development, through the Art. 24, establishes new procedures to reduce the timing of the licensing phases for decommissioning activities with a strong involvement of local administrations.

Act No. 100 of 12th July 2012: regarding provisions on civil protection reorganisation.

Legislative Decree No. 45/2014 which transposes the Directive 2011/70/EURATOM establishing a community framework for the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste

Joint Decree of 7th August 2015 of the Ministry of Environment, Land Protection and Sea and the Ministry of Economic Development regarding a new radioactive waste classification.

Act. No. 58/2015 on the ratification of the Amendment to the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and Nuclear installations.

Legislative Decree n.137/2017 which transposes the Directive 2014/87/EURATOM on nuclear safety

Legislative Decree No.101/2020 laying down basic safety standards from Directive 2013/59/Euratom, entered into force repealing the Legislative Decrees No. 230/1995, No. 187/200, No. 241/2000 and No. 52/2007, rearranging the legislation in the field of radiation protection.

b) Technical guides addressing nuclear installations

| | |
|--------------|---|
| T.G. No. 1 | “Content of the Preliminary Safety Analysis Report for NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 2 | “Procedure for the Authorisation of Changes in NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 4 | “Detailed Construction Designs“ |
| T.G. No. 8 | “Quality Assurance Criteria for NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 9 | “Quality Assurance Description of the documentation required for design and construction phases prior to carry out nuclear tests“ |
| T.G. No. 11 | “Criteria for the compilation of information reports on the operation of NPPs to be sent to DISP“ |
| T.G. No. 20 | “Quality Assurance Description of the documentation required for operation phase of NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 21 | “Content of Operating Rules“ |
| T.G. No. 22 | “Quality Assurance. Guide for collection, storage, preservation, and safekeeping of quality assurance records for NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 23 | “Quality Assurance. Guide for procurement of Items and Services for NPPs“ |
| T.G. No. 24 | “Quality Assurance. Guide for Auditing on QA Programmes for NPPs“ |
| T. G. No. 25 | “Quality Assurance. Guide for Applying on design activities for NPPs“ |
| T. G. No. 26 | “Radioactive Waste Management“ |
| T. G. No. 27 | “In-service Inspection“ |
| T. G. No. 29 | “Siting criteria for a near surface disposal facility for low and intermediate level radioactive waste“ |
| T. G. No. 30 | “Safety criteria for interim storage facilities for radioactive waste and spent fuel“ |
| T. G. No. 31 | “Safety criteria for decommissioning of nuclear installations“ |
| T. G. No. 32 | “Safety criteria for near surface disposal facilities for radioactive waste“. |

c) Technical Standards

UNI standards related to decommissioning

The Standards applicable to the decommissioning of Italian installations are set out in a single document issued by the national standards organisation (UNI): UNI 9498.

That standard contains eight sections covering different topics. The contents of the individual sections of the document are summarised below.

In general, the present standard pertains explicitly to the following type of installations:

- nuclear reactors;
- nuclear subcritical units;
- nuclear power plants;
- nuclear research plants;
- nuclear plants for spent fuel reprocessing;
- plants for preparation and fabrication of special fissile materials and of nuclear fuel;
- storage of special fissile materials and of nuclear fuel;
- installations for reprocessing, conditioning or temporary storage of radioactive wastes.

The standard is not applicable to:

- uranium mines;
- storage of final disposal of radioactive wastes;
- plant where during the operation, no radioactivity has been produced;
- plants which have been converted to a new nuclear related use.

UNI 9498/1 - General criteria

This standard gives a general picture that includes principles and factors which have to be considered for the decommissioning of a nuclear plant. It includes the general requirement that all the procedures, either of a management, accounting and administrative type, or of a technical type, must be planned and done in a controlled and documented way.

The standard is addressed to the operator of nuclear plants to be decommissioned and to persons responsible for the planning and execution of decommissioning operations; it provides to indications and recommendations about the methods and the technical options which are convenient in order to maintain an adequate health protection for workers, public and environment, and finally to minimise the radiological risk associated to the plant.

The scope of the standard begins at the decision of the owner/operator to permanently shut down the plant, and terminates when a situation without radiological constraints is reached. The status of the plant taken as a reference in the present standard is the configuration existing at the moment the decision is made to permanently shut down. The radioactive

substances considered are those associated with the normal operation of the plant itself. The standard does not deal with decommissioning activities following a severe accident.

The aspects related to processing, conditioning, transportation and disposal of radioactive wastes are not included in the scope of the standard. The numerical definition of radioactivity limits for materials free from radiological constraints are also not included. Nor the management, accounting and administrative aspects. The standard does not exempt the user from observing the rules and authorising procedures in force.

UNI 9498/2 - Decontamination techniques

The section describes the principles and the methodologies which have to be considered for the planning and execution of decontamination activities at a nuclear plant being decommissioned, for the case of either immediate or deferred dismantling. It provides technical information and recommendations necessary to the owner/operator of the plant and to people responsible for the planning and execution of all the decontamination procedures which are useful in improving the conditions of radiological protection at the plant as well as in achieving the optimum management of wastes.

It is not applicable to plants which, following an accident, show a generalised contamination of components, structures and buildings and of the site itself. In this case specific decontamination techniques will have to be set up, and they are allowed to be different to those described in the present standard.

UNI 9498/3 - Storage and surveillance

This section identifies the fundamental activities which are necessary to be done on a nuclear plant at the end of operation, to leave it in a safe condition for an adequate period of time. It is concerned in particular with plants where the existing radioactivity, after the complete removal of all fissile materials, is due primarily to radioisotopes which have decay times which justify placing the plant in a conservation and maintenance (C&M) state for appropriate period, in order to allow the plant to be completely dismantled with a greatly reduced level of radioactivity.

UNI 9498/4 - Dismantling of structures and components

This section describes the principles and the factors which have to be taken into account for the dismantling and removal of structures and components which have become contaminated and/or activated during the operation of the plant.

UNI 9498/5 - Radioactive inventory

This section specifies the methodologies to be followed in the evaluation of the remaining radioactivity and of the associated radiation fields in order to carry out the radiological

characterisation of the nuclear plants to be decommissioned. Such methodologies must be programmed and performed in a checked and documented way.

UNI 9498/6 - Radiological characterisation and classification of materials

This section deals with the factors which have to be taken into account to characterise and classify the materials produced during the decommissioning of nuclear plants. It provides the criteria against which the most appropriate methodology for characterisation and classification of materials as a function of their type is to be chosen, as well as provides guidance for the choice of measurement instrumentation appropriate to define the radiological state of the materials.

UNI 9498/7 - Criteria for partial release of a nuclear plant and/or site

This section deals with those nuclear plants to be decommissioned for which a decision has been made to delay final dismantling for a sufficiently long period of time, such that they will have to be placed in a C&M state.

The decision of putting a part of a nuclear plant in a C&M state depends on the requirement to release some zone where other activities of a non-nuclear type can continue to be performed.

Usually the part of the plant that will be put in a C&M state will be that part where the radioactivity cannot be easily removed but can be confined for long periods of time in well-defined and sealed zones. Usually these are areas where the major part of the radioactivity is coming from neutron activation.

UNI 9498/8 - Requirements for the temporary storage of radioactive wastes and materials

This section gives the criteria to be followed in the design of a temporary store for the radioactive wastes resulting from the operation and dismantling of the nuclear plants. It also provides the general technical requirements which have to be fulfilled either in the design and management of the new temporary store, or in the modification of already existing facilities.

Furthermore, it provides the criteria for environment protection against pollution resulting from management of radioactive wastes, in order to minimise the individual and collective doses of population and workers, and to preserve the quality of the environment for the present and future uses of the site.

The radioactive wastes mentioned above include those arising from reprocessing and/or conditioning activities, that are solid and satisfy the radioactivity concentration limits according to present standards for temporary storage or for disposal at an appropriate site.

Annex 4 – Additional information on safety and radiation protection rules

As referred in Article 15, the main body of the applicable Italian rules is contained in the Nuclear Act 31.12.1962, n° 1860, Legislative Decree No. 31/2010, Legislative Decree No. 45/2014 and Legislative Decree n° 101/2020.

The act and the legislative decrees provide for the most important aspects concerning both safety and radiation protection, as regards not only nuclear installations but also other aspects of the uses of radiation, so as to make up a comprehensive corpus of rules at the highest level.

The legislative provisions apply to every aspect of activities relevant to radiation protection, such as:

- Construction, operation, decommissioning of nuclear installations; provisions for decommissioning are a new feature of this Legislative Decree that were not included in the previous rules.
- Production, importation, export, handling, holding, processing, use, marketing, storage, transport, termination of holding, collection and disposal of nuclear radioactive substances.
- Work with radiation generating devices.
- Mining activities.
- Exposure to natural sources of radiation as well as any other activity or situation involving a significant risk, such types of exposures are to be laid down by governmental decrees.
- Medical exposure.

It must be recalled here that the Countries members of the European Union share common directives and regulations that have been inspiring more and more many relevant aspects of the national regulatory system, above all in the field of radiation protection. Even in the Rome Treaty, signed in 1957, directives were included regarding radiation safety fundamental rules; procurement, treatment, controls and property of special fissile material. The quoted Treaty requires (art. 37) also the notification to the member States about the construction of any kind of plant that may discharge radioactive wastes. The aim of the notification is to give the possibility to verify whether any possible discharge can lead to contamination of water, ground or air of any member state.

The Legislative Decree n° 101/2020 clearly state that the operator of a nuclear installation or no nuclear installations or facilities making use of radioactive materials, must implement all the safety and protection measures suitable to keep the exposures of workers and population as low as reasonably achievable, social and economic considerations being kept into account. The implementation of the optimization principle by the operator must be demonstrated firstly at the design stage and subsequently along the plant operation and decommissioning.

As far as situations concerning unplanned or uncontrolled releases of radioactive material into the environment are concerned, it has been a practice in the authorization procedure - in force in Italy since 1964 – to request to the applicant an analysis of possible scenarios and the assessment of the consequences (in terms of radiological impact on critical groups of the public), together with appropriate measures implemented with a view of preventing and controlling accident conditions, and mitigating their consequences, with the aim of establishing ad hoc emergency plans. An analogous provision is also established for non-nuclear installations.

Practices (planned exposure situations)

In accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree n° 101/2020, a practice with radioactive materials is subject to radiation protection requirements when the following conditions occur jointly:

- the average concentration of each radionuclide is equal to or greater than the values reported in Table I-1A of the Annex I of Legislative Decree n° 101/2020;
- the total amount of radioactivity of each radionuclide is equal to or greater than the values reported in Table I-1A.

However, for certain practices, such as medical use of radiation, deliberately adding radioactivity to consumer goods, importing and exporting such goods, discharges, reuse or recycle of radioactive materials from installations, the Italian legislation's requirements apply for any radioactivity contents, without thresholds.

The concept of triviality in individual as well as provisions for unrestricted release of radioactive materials from installations have also been formally introduced into Italian legislation according to the basic 'below regulatory concern' criteria of an effective dose $\leq 10 \mu\text{Sv/year}$.

From an administrative viewpoint, practices can be subject to the mutually exclusive requirements either of notification or of authorization. In accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree n° 101/2020, a practice is subject to notification requirements starting from defined thresholds in activity and activity concentration as far as radioactive materials are concerned. A holder of sources is required to notify local authorities of his intention to carry out the practice at least 30 days before the start of the practice. Besides, detailed requirements for notification apply which closely mirror those provided for in case of authorization.

The Legislative Decree's provisions state that a practice is subject to notification insofar as requirements for authorization do not apply. In particular, nuclear installations do not require notification since they continue being subject to the ad hoc authorization requirements laid down in Legislative Decree no. 101/2020.

For non-nuclear installations using ionizing radiation for medical, industrial and research purposes the Italian authorization system is based, as in the past, on a two tiered structure: authorization of the more important installations is the competence of the of Ministry of Economic Development

which issues authorizations in accordance with other relevant Ministries; the advice of ISIN is sought under law in order to determine technical specifications applicable to the installation.

For smaller industrial and research installations the Prefect of the province, in which the installation is located, has administrative competence to issue authorizations after seeking the advice of regional technical bodies and of the Fire Corps; the authorization required for small medical installations is issued by the Regions, which are responsible for health in the Italian system.

A Technical Annex to Legislative Decree no. 101/2020 lays down thresholds in order to determine which installations are authorized by the Ministry of Economic Development and which ones by local authorities; thresholds are set in terms of values of activity, activity concentration and neutron yield for radioactive sources, and of energy and neutron yield for accelerators. The same Annex also lays down the technical features of the radiation sources and of the installation which must be specified in the application.

An authorization is required for the release, reuse and recycle of radioactive materials from the installations and specifications to that effect are established in the license. The authorization is given on the basis of a case-by-case analysis which has to demonstrate compliance with the basic 'below regulatory concern' criterion stated above, in particular in Annex I of the Legislative Decree n° 101/2020 are established clearance levels for the release of radioactive solid materials from practices. The authorization is issued by the Regions for radioactive materials from practices subject to notification, or by the authority which grants the authorization of the practice.

The contravention to prescriptions included in the authorization acts is opposed by ad hoc sanctions.

Emergency exposure situations

As regards emergency, it must be stated beforehand that requirements for detailed emergency response plans providing for intervention in case of accidents in nuclear installations had been in force in Italy since Presidential Decree no. 185 of 1964 was promulgated. Further requirements to that effect are contained in Legislative Decree no. 101/2020 in cases of radiological emergencies in non-nuclear installations.

In the Title XIV of Legislative Decree No. 101/2020 are established the general principles for interventions that must be met for the purposes of the decisions regarding the possible implementation and the extent of intervention in cases of radiological emergencies or in cases of prolonged exposure resulting from the effects of a radiological emergency or a practice that is no longer in place.

As previously said, since the promulgation in 1964 of the first Radiation Protection Decree it had been a practice in the authorization procedures to request of the applicant an analysis of possible accident scenarios and of their radiological consequences, together with appropriate measures

to be implemented with a view to preventing and controlling accident conditions, and mitigating their consequences.

Article 174 of the Legislative Decree n° 101/2020 requires for each non-nuclear installation subject to authorization that evaluations of potential exposures should be made by the applicant so that an intervention plan can be prepared by emergency preparedness and management Authorities.

For the installations authorized by the Ministry of Economic Development the emergency plan is always expected, while for those non-nuclear installations which require authorization by the Prefect or by the Regions, it is expected if the potential exposures are likely to exceed 1 mSv of effective dose to the representative individual of the population.

Annex XXXI of Legislative Decree no. 101/2020 lays down indicative intervention levels in terms of effective, equivalent and absorbed doses for purposes of planning and intervention in case of emergency; broadly.

Existing exposure situations

Further requirements are contained in Legislative Decree no. 101/2020 and for exposure resulting from the after effects of a radiological emergency or of a past or old practice or work activity, which were not regulated in previous radiation protection legislation.

Dose limits

A) Workers

The following limits shall not be exceeded for exposed workers:

- an effective dose of 20 mSv in any single (calendar) year;
- an equivalent dose of 20 mSv per calendar year to the lenses of the eyes;
- an equivalent dose of 500 mSv per calendar year to skin and extremities.

However, in exceptional circumstances, recourse can be made to specially authorized exposures for medically fit category A workers (as herein below defined) if exceeding dose limits cannot be avoided; such exposures can be incurred only by voluntary workers. In particular, no women of reproductive capacity can undergo such exposures; the same rule applies to male workers having exceeded dose limits in the twelve months before.

If for exposed workers it is exceeded the annual effective dose limit of 20 mSv, subsequent exposures must be limited, per calendar year, at 10 mSv until the annual average of the exposures for all subsequent years, inclusive the year of overcoming, is no more than 20 mSv.

Worker classification criteria

An individual, in relation to his work activity, can be classified:

a) non-exposed worker, if he is not likely to receive, because of his work, doses exceeding the following limits in a (calendar) year:

- an effective dose of 1 mSv, or
- an equivalent dose of 15 mSv to the lenses of the eye, or
- an equivalent dose of 50 mSv to skin

(the above limits are numerically equal to those laid down for members of the public).

b) exposed worker, if in relation to his work activity he has a likelihood to receive doses exceeding the following limits in a (calendar) year :

- an effective dose of 1 mSv, or
- an equivalent dose of 15 mSv to the lenses of the eye, or
- an equivalent dose of 50 mSv to skin or extremities.

Exposed workers can be classified in two categories for monitoring and surveillance purposes: Category A and Category B workers.

Category A workers: Exposed workers are classified in such category when they have a likelihood to receive in a calendar year doses exceeding:

- an effective dose of 6 mSv, or
- an equivalent dose to the lenses of the eye of 15 mSv, or
- an equivalent dose to skin and extremities of 150 mSv.

Category B workers: Exposed workers are classified in such category when they have a likelihood to receive in a calendar year:

- an effective dose between 1 mSv and 6 mSv
- an equivalent dose to skin or extremities between 50 mSv and 150 mSv.

Exposed workers must be individually monitored for external exposures, while the evaluation of committed effective doses must be carried out on the basis of suitable physical and/or radio-toxicological methods.

Other special provisions are laid down in Legislative Decree n° 101/2020 with a view to protecting: apprentices and students of age ≥ 18 years (who are training for employment involving exposure to radiation), the worker classification criteria shall be applied; apprentices and students of age between 16 and 18 years (who are training for employment involving exposure to radiation); apprentices and students of age 16 years or less; pregnant and nursing women.

Moreover, delineation of work areas (i.e. supervised and controlled areas) based upon by reference to an assessment of the expected annual doses and the probability and magnitude of potential exposures, thus distinguishing work areas at risk in controlled and surveyed areas.

Special provisions are established in the Legislative Decree no. 101/2020 for outside workers and in particular the use of a radiation “passport”, logging doses incurred during their working activities.

B) Members of the public

The following limits shall not be exceeded for members of the public:

- an effective dose of 1 mSv per year
- an equivalent dose to the lenses of the eye of 15 mSv per year
- an equivalent dose to skin of 50 mSv per year.

Radiological safety objectives and Authorized Limits

The Italian Regulatory Practice has always made intensive use of radiological safety objectives and authorized limits for ensuring that, during normal operating conditions, doses to workers and reference groups of the population are well below primary dose limits.

As regards transient and accident conditions, radiological criteria applicable to each kind of installation are identified, seeking to differentiate between various types of transient and accidental conditions in terms of maximum dose levels not to be exceeded to the relevant reference groups of the populations.

Surveillance

For the implementation of provisions regarding radiation protection of workers and public, the Italian regulatory system identifies the radiation protection expert, whose technical qualification is recognized through State examinations. Those professionals have been playing an advisory role and bearing technical responsibility, as far as radiation protection is concerned; their role consists in carrying out both preventive and periodical radiation protection evaluations and measurements, in particular regarding dose assessments both for workers and members of the public. Moreover, radiation protection experts bear technical responsibility in that they must give operators all technical advice relevant to ensuring effective radiation protection of workers and public at the design stage, at the operational level and at the decommissioning stage.

An important instrument for the radiation protection of exposed workers is medical surveillance carried out by specialized physicians whose capacity to act as approved medical practitioners is recognized by means of State examinations. Every member of the work force must be recognized as fit prior to being exposed to radiation as a category A or B worker and is also subject to periodic reviews of health.

All considerations, evaluations, measurements and technical advice by radiation protection expert must be recorded, in particular as regards dose assessment records for which a strict regime of filing is provided for; the same requirement for filing holds for records concerning medical surveillance of exposed workers.

Radiation Protection Inspections and enforcement

Verification of compliance with radiation protection requirements laid down in law and in licensing prescriptions is the responsibility of various independent bodies. ISIN inspectors are vested with authority over the whole domain of radiation protection requirements as both workers and public are concerned, Labour Inspectorates are concerned with requirements pertaining to workers' protection while regional bodies Inspectors are mainly concerned with radiation protection requirements for the public. It must be remembered that Inspectors are vested with police powers in the Italian system.

The Italian compliance and inspection system is based upon the fact that legislation provides for penal sanctions in cases of non-compliance; penalties are meted out by the Courts at the instigation of the Office of Public Prosecution to which inspectors are required under law to communicate every case of non-compliance. Particular measures are laid down in legislation in order to prompt and/or force swift compliance, especially for non-compliance concerning provisions for radiation protection of workers; in these cases, inspectors are bound to evaluate if the user could avoid undergoing a trial by complying with *ad hoc* specifications established by inspectors and paying a fine.

The ALARA Principle

The principle that doses incurred in relevant exposures are to be kept as low as reasonably achievable, social and economic considerations being kept into account, is laid down in article 1 of Legislative Decree n° 101/2020, together with the principles of justification and of dose limitation. It must be remembered that the optimization principle, together with the justification principle, had been implemented in Italian regulatory philosophy and practices long before it was legislated into the Legislative Decree no. 230/1995.

The implementation of the ALARA principle in the Italian system of regulatory control is ensured by means of two regulatory tools:

- provisions in the Legislative Decree n° 101/2020
- administrative prescriptions.

The Legislative Decree has distinct provisions for doses to workers and public to be kept ALARA by operators: the provisions state, essentially, that rules of good practice are to be obeyed at every stage. Rules of good practice are not an exclusive means to ensure optimization as ALARA is also called: other means may be used to that end provided that results are the same.

The second regulatory tool, largely employed in the Italian system for the purpose of implementing ALARA, is the use of administrative prescriptions at every stage of the licensing process. It must be pointed out that such prescriptions are enforceable by means of criminal penalties.

From an operational viewpoint the whole of the regulatory instruments available, that is:

- the careful planning at the design stage, through the laying down of the radiological safety objectives;
- the consequent safety assessment and all ensuing reviews;
- the safety and radiation protection culture fostered among all Italian organizations involved;
- the independent prevention role played by the radiation protection expert;
- the support role by the NPP Council of Delegates;
- the system for verification of compliance;
- the compliance with dose constraints.

All have conspired so that a more than satisfactory radiation protection level from the ALARA viewpoint was ensured for all stages of the installation life.

Incident reporting

The most important provisions are contained in Legislative Decree n° 101/2020, namely Articles 142 and 149.

In case of accidents, or incidents that could result in an exposure to workers above dose limits, according to article 142 of the Legislative Decree n° 101/2020, the operator is requested for notification as soon as possible, but not later than 3 days after, to the following Institutions:

- Competent Regulatory Authority (ISIN)
- Local Labour Inspectorate (Province)
- Local Offices of the National Health Service.

In case of unexpected radioactive contamination inside the plant boundaries or an accidental occurrence implying a significant increase of the risk of exposure to the workers, the Operator has to implement all suitable measures aiming at avoiding any risk increase (article 149 of the Legislative Decree n° 101/2020). Moreover, when significant contamination of air, water or land outside the plant boundary, or exposure to the public, at the occurrence of accidental events, the operator is required to immediately notify to:

- Local Government Representative (Prefect)
- Local Fire Brigade

- Local Offices of the National Health Service

and, in relation to the level of risk, to ISIN.

Furthermore, the operator shall take all the measures suitable to reduce the radioactive contamination in the areas outside the boundary of the plant, so to limit the risk to the public.

Annex 5 – Structure of the comprehensive decommissioning plan

According to the reference legislative provisions, the comprehensive decommissioning plan that SO.G.I.N. has submitted for each NPP, covers the operations lasting from the preliminary activities until the site release and is structured in three main stages as hereinafter summarized.

First stage:

- a) interventions, partly already in progress, aimed at improving safety conditions, such as:
 - enhancing physical protection;
 - removing spent fuel from nuclear island;
 - treating and conditioning of radioactive waste generated during past operation;
 - removing structures and material implying conventional risks (e.g. asbestos, unsafe structures).
- b) design and implementation of activities which can facilitate subsequent decommissioning operations, such as:
 - dismantling parts of the plants not contaminated or with low contamination;
 - construction of temporary storage repositories;
 - installation of new ventilation systems;
 - refurbishment of safety systems revealing ageing problems.

Second stage: dismantling of the nuclear island, decontamination of buildings, completion of waste treatment; interim storage of waste in the site

Third stage: following the availability of the National Repository, completion of buildings' demolition, performing the final radiological survey and site release.

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