



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

Preparedness and Response to Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies and the Covid-19 Outbreak: IAEA support to Member States and further initiatives

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Incident and Emergency Centre (IEC)



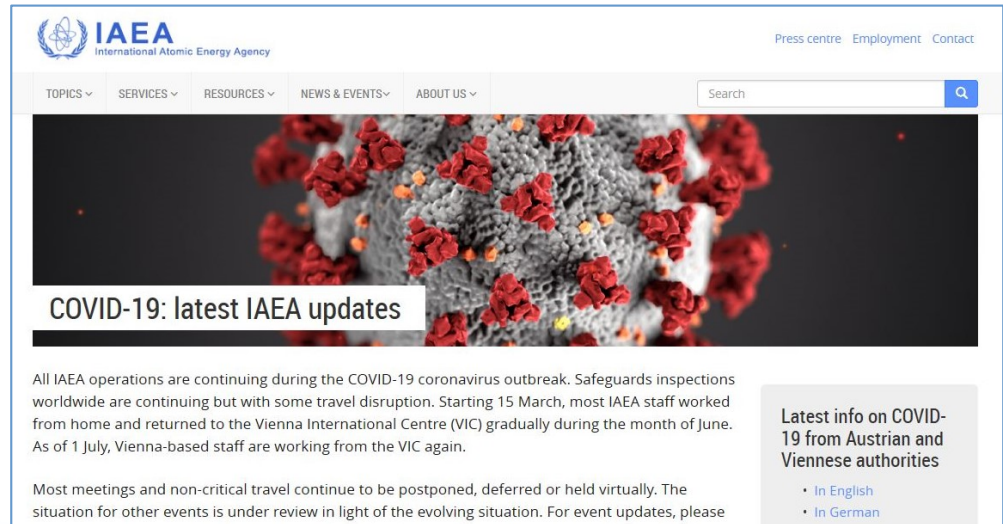
“To protect the public and the environment in the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency, we must build effective national and international response arrangements. The IAEA’s **Incident and Emergency Centre** is the global focal point for international preparedness and response to such an emergency, whether it arises from an accident, natural disaster, negligence or a security event.”

Rafael Mariano Grossi
Director General of the IAEA



IAEA response capacity for nuclear and radiological emergencies during COVID-19

- “The IAEA’s Incident and Emergency Centre (IEC),..., continues to ensure that the communication channels for notification and information exchange in nuclear and radiological emergencies irrespective of its cause remain fully operational on a 24/7 basis.”



The screenshot shows the IAEA website's news section. At the top, the IAEA logo and name are visible, along with navigation links for 'Press centre', 'Employment', and 'Contact'. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories: 'TOPICS', 'SERVICES', 'RESOURCES', 'NEWS & EVENTS', and 'ABOUT US'. A search bar is located to the right of the menu. The main content area features a large image of a coronavirus particle with a white and red color scheme. Below the image is a headline: 'COVID-19: latest IAEA updates'. The article text states: 'All IAEA operations are continuing during the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. Safeguards inspections worldwide are continuing but with some travel disruption. Starting 15 March, most IAEA staff worked from home and returned to the Vienna International Centre (VIC) gradually during the month of June. As of 1 July, Vienna-based staff are working from the VIC again.' To the right of the article is a sidebar with the heading 'Latest info on COVID-19 from Austrian and Viennese authorities' and two links: 'In English' and 'In German'.

IEC's activities (conducted virtually)

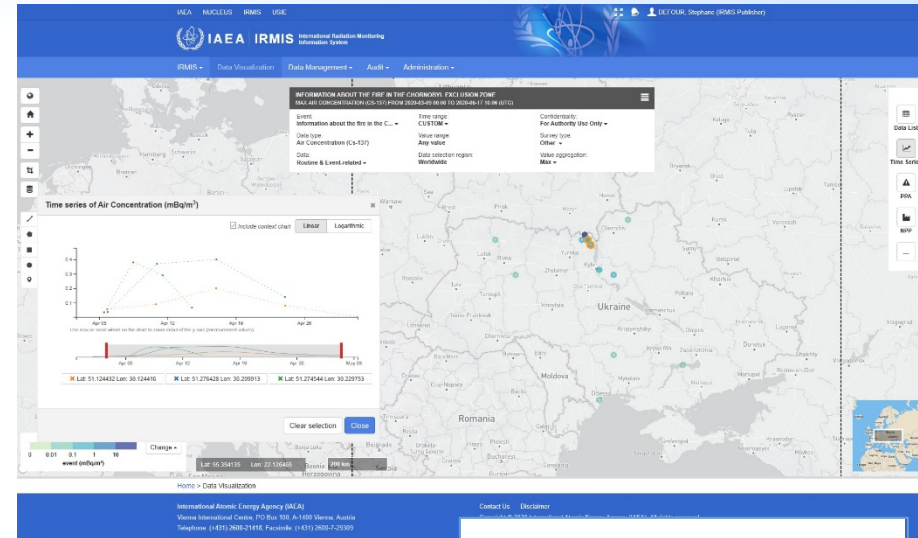
- Conducted virtual ConvEx (Convention Exercises) to practise with MSs and relevant international organisations different arrangements within international EPR framework
- ConvEx-2b exercise was conducted on 24 – 26 March to test arrangements for request and provision of assistance
 - 37 Mss and two Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres of World Meteorological Organization participated
 - 17 event scenarios were played out
 - 74 reporting forms published on USIE website (including 17 requests for assistance, 20 offers of assistance and 17 assistance action plans)



IEC's response activities (examples)



- Information about the fire in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone
- Ruthenium and Cesium detections in air in Europe
- Beirut's explosion



Posted by: Rana Baydoun- r.baydoun@laec-cnrs.gov.lb, Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, (LAEC-CNRS), Lebanon


Event Notice Form

Version 1

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Sender's Name: | Rana Baydoun- r.baydoun@laec-cnrs.gov.lb |
| Competent Authority: | Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, (LAEC-CNRS) (Lebanon) |
| Event Title: | Beirut's explosion |
| Event Date: | 2020-08-04 |
| Location / Facility: | Beirut port |
| Event Country: | Lebanon |
| Event Type: | |
| Event Description | In 04 August 2020, 6:00 pm Beirut time, an horrible explosion took place at Beirut port causing terrible damage and lot of casualties. It was announced that the explosion involve large amount of ammonium nitrate. The Radiation Early Warning Network System stations including Beirut stations indicate normal background radiation. The Lebanese Army Forces had conducted radiation survey in the blast scene no abnormal readings. They collected seawater, soil and air samples that were analysed at the accredited gamma spectroscopy laboratory at LAEC. No abnormal values were found. Radioactive sources belonging to Schlumberger that were stored in the vicinity were exported few weeks ago. |
| Press Release Attached: | No |
| Technical Document Attached: | Yes |
| Further Information on Web: | |
| Contact Person: | Dr. Bilal Nsouli, Director LAEC, |
| Affiliation: | Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, (LAEC-CNRS) |
| Email: | bnsouli@cnrs.edu.lb |
| Telephone: | +9611450811 |
| Organization on Web: | |

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Status Summary Report #1
Validity Date/Time: 2020-07-02 10:00 UTC
 The IAEA will issue additional Status Summary Reports, as appropriate, as the event develops. Previously released reports are referenced at the end of this document.


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Incident and Emergency Centre

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The purpose of this report is to present a consolidated summary of the event, and the status of different aspects of the response activities including an analysis of available information and a prognosis of possible scenarios (where appropriate and/or possible).

Ruthenium and Cesium detections in air in Europe

This Status Summary Report described the actions taken by IAEA in relation to the detections of Ruthenium (Ru) and Cesium (Cs) isotopes in Europe in June 2020 and is prepared based on the information received up to the validity date and time, indicated at the top of this page.

If this summary or portions of it are made public, it is advisable to provide plain language explanations of the technical terminology and concepts. To preclude public concern, the measurement data should be placed in context to emphasize that the levels measured are far below background radiation levels and pose no risk to either public health or the environment.

Page 1 of 5

Meetings / Webinars

- First virtual Competent Authorities Meeting – 10th CAM with over 250 participants



Meetings / Webinars (cont')



- First virtual Technical Meeting to review GS-G-2.1
- First virtual EPRReSC Meeting
- Webinars to fill gap left by delay of in-person events
 - 40+ webinars as of April 2020
 - 5000+ participants
 - in different UN official languages
- E-learning through CLP4NET

Nuclear/radiological EPR and Covid-19 situation



- GSR Part 7, “Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency,” establishes requirements for events that combine nuclear/radiological emergency with conventional emergency
- An example of conventional emergency is disease outbreak or pandemic, which could affect:
 - health and thus fitness of operators and both onsite and offsite emergency workers;
 - ability to perform some emergency response functions (e.g. medical treatment, if hospitals are overwhelmed, or evacuee reception/housing, if social distancing is required)
- Based upon this, it would be prudent to include disease outbreak/pandemic considerations into hazard assessment process

Nuclear/radiological EPR and Covid-19 situation: additional guidance



- For Safety Guides and EPR-Series publications currently in production process, guidance on meeting GSR Part 7 requirements is being improved
- Explanations are being incorporated into appropriate portions of:
 - GSG-14, “Arrangements for Public Communication in Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency” – just published last week
 - GS-G-2.1, “Arrangements for Preparedness for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency” – currently in revision
 - Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency Combined with Other Incidents or Emergencies (EPR-Combined Emergences) – currently in publication
 - Considerations for Implementing an On-Site Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for Nuclear Power Plants (EPR-Onsite EPlan NPP) – currently in publication
 - Developing Arrangements for Response to a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency (EPR-Method) – currently in revision

Technical Report



- Working with NE and other NS Divisions to develop a Technical Report on MS experience in maintaining safety, security and reliable operation during COVID-19 pandemic, including dedicated EPR portion(s)
- Objectives of the Technical Report in relation to EPR cover matters related to promotion of plans for preparedness, response and recovery from potential future pandemics
- Collecting information via:
 - Competent Authorities
 - EPRReSC Members



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Thank you!