

Information Circular

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General Distribution

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Communication from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency

1. On 15 February 2024, the Secretariat received a Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the Agency.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale is herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International Organizations
in Vienna

Wallnerstrasse 4,
1010, Vienna,
Republic of Austria

(+431) 479 7172,
pm_io@mfa.gov.ua

Nº 4131/35-197-21482

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to communicate the following.

From 01 February 2024, the Russian occupation administration definitively banned access to the territory of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) for the plant's operational personnel, who, despite constant pressure, did not sign contracts with Rosatom, and continued to fulfil their duties to ensure the functioning of the ZNPP.

Such actions of the Russian occupiers are not only a clear disregard for one of the seven Indispensable Pillars of Safety and Security, but also violate the fundamental principles of safe operation of nuclear power plants as defined in the IAEA document "Safety of Nuclear Power Plants: Commissioning and Operation".

In particular, a threefold reduction in number of the plant's staff has already affected the ability of carrying out maintenance and repair work at the ZNPP, which has led to numerous technical problems.

The qualifications of unauthorized Russian personnel and the total number of operating personnel at the occupied Ukrainian nuclear facility do not meet the requirements for safe and reliable operation of nuclear power plants in all operational states and accident conditions.

Violation of fundamental principles of safe operation of nuclear power plants, as well as an attempt by the occupiers to replace Ukrainian operating personnel with Russian specialists who do not have the appropriate training and license, poses a direct threat to the safe operation of the ZNPP and can lead to human error and, as a result, a nuclear incident or accident.

Secretariat
International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna

Against this background, the Ukrainian Side points out that all activities that may affect nuclear safety and security must be carried out by competent persons with appropriate qualifications, and that operating personnel directly responsible for the operation of the equipment must be trained and licensed.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine requests the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency to promptly circulate this Note Verbale as an Information Circular to all IAEA Member States.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 15 February 2024

