Technical Meeting on the Denial of Shipments of Radioactive Material

Hosted by the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 Vienna

Austria

6 – 8 April 2020

Ref. No.: EVT1907111

Information Sheet

Introduction

A robust international regulatory framework has been established for the transport of radioactive material that applies to all modes of transport. The principal requirements for the transport of radioactive material are established in the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material, 2018 Edition (SSR-6, Rev. 1). The requirements of SSR-6, Rev. 1 are in turn incorporated into modal regulations that apply to international transport by air (Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air) and sea (International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code). The requirements of SSR-6 (Rev. 1) are also incorporated into regional agreements that apply to the transport of radioactive material (e.g., ADR Guide) and in most countries, into national regulations for the transport of radioactive material.



Despite the establishment of a robust international regulatory framework, denials and delays of some shipments occasionally take place, which results in a lack of reliability and efficiency concerning the international transport of radioactive material (Class 7 dangerous goods).

This Technical Meeting was organised in response to the IAEA General Conference Resolution 63-81:

> 'Requests the Secretariat to hold a technical meeting to share experience with a view to establishing a Working Group, with full participation of interested Member States and relevant experts, to consider the options for addressing denials of and delays in shipment, including a code of conduct on facilitation, and provide an initial report on these options to the Member States by June 2020.'

Scope

International transport of radioactive material by all modes.

Objective

The objective of the meeting is to fulfil the mandate of paragraph 81 of the 63th IAEA General Conference Safety Resolution by:

1. Characterising the denial and delay of shipments of Class 7 dangerous goods, what modes, routes and sectors are affected, how many instances, how often, and what percentage of successful shipments does this issue represent
2. Reviewing evidence of the causes of denials and delays that have previously occurred
3. Assessing data from (1) and (2) and identify potential remedial actions that can be taken and by who
4. Preparing a report for Member States, in accordance with GC Resolution 63/81 to report the findings of this meeting and the outcome of discussions that consider the options proposed by participants, including the establishment of a Working Group and a code of conduct on

facilitation.

Expected Outputs

The expected outputs of this meeting are as follows:

- Collection of up-to-date information from Member States on characterization of denials and delays of shipment of radioactive material;
- Exchange of information on main causes of denials and delays;
- Meeting report (for subsequent briefing to Member States) summarizing the discussions held and the conclusions reached.

Structure of the Meeting

The meeting will have two main plenary sessions:

- Sharing Experience/Characterizing the Problem

  This session will attempt to characterize the nature of the problem of delays and denials of shipment in terms of the number of shipments affected, the sectors of industry affected (medical, industrial, academic, nuclear facilities); modes and routes that are affected; the causes; and the impact on users of radioactive material and carriers.

- Options for Addressing Denials and Delays of Shipment

  This session will discuss, international attempts to date to address denials and delays of shipment; the establishment of a Working Group that will consider options for addressing denials and delays of shipment; and measures which could be implemented to lessen denials and delays of shipment such as a code of conduct on facilitation, training material, outreach activities, international collaboration and other activities.

Delegates are invited to submit proposals for presentations (10 minutes) for one or both of the sessions. Presentations will be selected by the Secretariat and Delegates will be notified accordingly.

Target Audience

Meeting participants should have roles and responsibilities related to the transport of radioactive material and represent seaport, ship, airport and aircraft operators, consignors, carriers, consignees, operators and regulatory bodies.

Working Language(s)

English

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **28 February 2020**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by above deadline.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

Participants will be responsible for their costs to attend this meeting; the IAEA is not able to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeaevents/GeneralInfo/Guide/VIC.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application as soon as possible to the nearest diplomatic or consular of Austria.

Additional Requirements

Presentations from contributors are being sought on topics included in the two main plenary sessions of the meeting.

Brief descriptions of proposed presentations should be submitted electronically in the form of a Microsoft PowerPoint document to the Scientific Secretary of the meeting, Mr Stephen Whittingham (Email: S.Whittingham@iaea.org). The deadline for submission of presentations is **2 March 2020**.

Those authors whose presentations are accepted will be informed of the acceptance of their contributions by **20 March 2020**. They will then be requested to prepare and submit their presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint or as a PDF file by email to the Scientific Secretary of the meeting, Mr Stephen Whittingham (Email: S.Whittingham@iaea.org) by **3 April 2020**.

This meeting will include technical and discussion sessions that address the following aspects of denials and delays of the shipment of radioactive material:

- the number of shipments affected,
- the sectors of industry affected (medical, industrial, academic, nuclear power);
- the modes and routes that are affected;
- the causes;
- the impact on users of radioactive material and carriers;
- the options for addressing denials and delays of shipment; and
- the measures which could be implemented to lessen denials and delays of shipment such as a code of conduct on facilitation, training material, outreach activities, international collaboration and other activities.

Organization

Scientific Secretary

Mr Stephen Whittingham

Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety

Department of Nuclear Safety and Security

International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 VIENNA

AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 21260

Fax: +43 1 26007

Email: S.Whittingham@iaea.org

Administrative Secretary

Ms Lynn Ann Gewessler

Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety

Department of Nuclear Safety and Security

International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 VIENNA

AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 23319

Fax: +43 1 26007

Email: L.A.Gewessler@iaea.org

Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.