Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP)

Hybrid panel discussion: Expanding Access to Peaceful Uses:
The Code of Conduct of the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

VCDNP Conference Room Thursday, 14 March 2024, 12:30 -14:30

Genesis & Prospective of the Code of Conduct

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Surprisse!

The title include two terms that do not appear in the IAEA Statute!:

- 1. 'security'
- 2. 'code of conduct'

Let's start discussing this apparent 'lapsus'

The path towards

'security'

Background

The IAEA Statute (which is a Treaty for MS!)



It is very specific about

'safety'

But it is silent about

'security'

First Radiation & Nuclear Safety Treaty



The IAEA shall establish standards of safety and provide for their application at the request of a State

Why?

Because the drafters correctly considered that, as far as radiation and nuclear issues is concerned,

security

was an essential element of

safety

Because of simple logic: a radiation or nuclear activity, (installation, source, etc) that is not secure can not be <u>safe</u>

But being

secure

does not automatically means that it is

safe !!

Language has not being helpful

- Safety and security were two clear concepts in Latin: salvus and securus.
- But for some reasons the original meaning of the salvus root was lost by most European languages exept English (safe),

End of 1985

The Goiânia accident

- Unsecured Cs 137 source in radiological clinic.
- Scrap scavengers move it to junkyard.
- Source capsule rupture: dispersible CsCl.
- City contaminated.
- 14 people overexposed; 4 died within 4 weeks.
- 112 000 people monitored; 249 contaminated.
- 85 houses contaminated
- Hundreds of people evacuated.
- >5000 m3 of radioactive wastes.

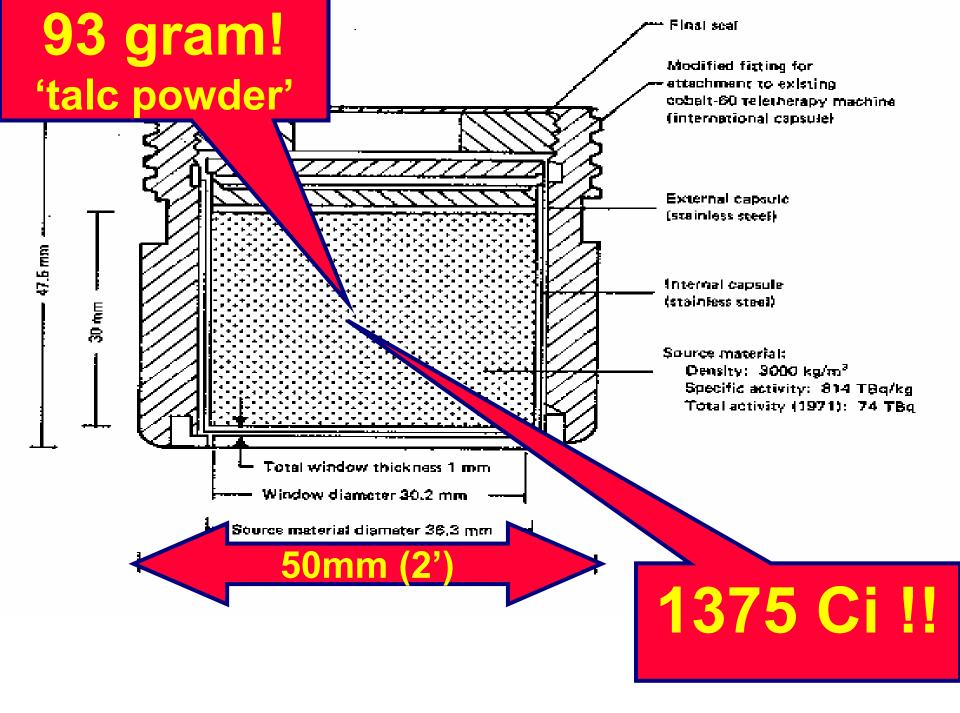
The Radiological Accident in Goiânia



Rex Nazaré Alves

José Rozental







Preparing to demolish the contaminated houses



Demolishing work: dose rates up to 0.5 Sv/h



Contaminated rubble from a house



Restoration after removing the contaminated rubble



Stacking radioactive waste containers



Temporary radioactive waste repository

The path towards a

'code of conduct'

Background

Radiation & Nuclear Safety

Governments

Laws and decrees
 (parlament+executive)

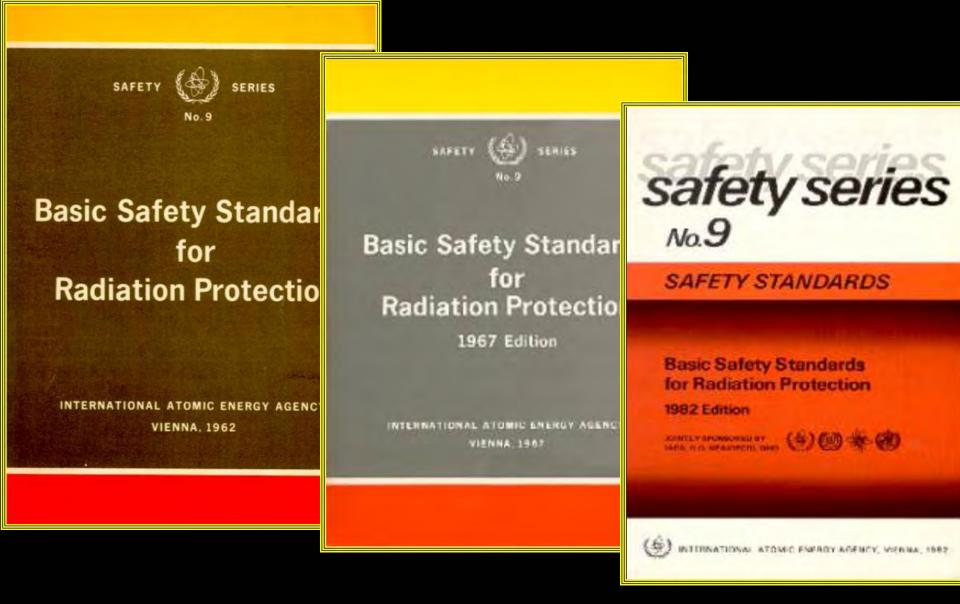
 National Standards (regulators)

<u>Intergovernmental</u>

Treaty – Convention (Governments)

 International Standards (international organizations)

¿Code of conduct?



The international safety standards did took for granted the security of sources.

Security is introduced into the

standards!

SAFETY STANDARDS

safety series

International
Basic Safety Standards
for Protection against
lonizing Radiation
and for the Safety of
Radiation Sources

JOINTLY SPONSORED BY FAO, IAEA, ILO, DECDINEA, PAHO, WHO













Jointly sponsored by:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
International Atomic Energy Agency
International Labour Organisation
Nuclear Energy Agency of the
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization

The IAEA's Board of Governorns approved it at its 847th Meeting on September 12, 1994!

Security of sources §2.34

- Sources shall be kept secure so as to prevent theft or damage and any unauthorized person to.....
- Control of sources shall not be relinquished.
- A source shall no be transferred unless...

Safety of Radiation Sources and Security of Radioactive Materials

Dijon September 1998

PROCEEDINGS OF A CONFERENCE, DIJON, FRANCE, 14–18 SEPTEMBER 1998 JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY THE IAEA, THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, INTERPOL AND THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION









Dijon Conference

France: Host

Argentina: Programme

Committee

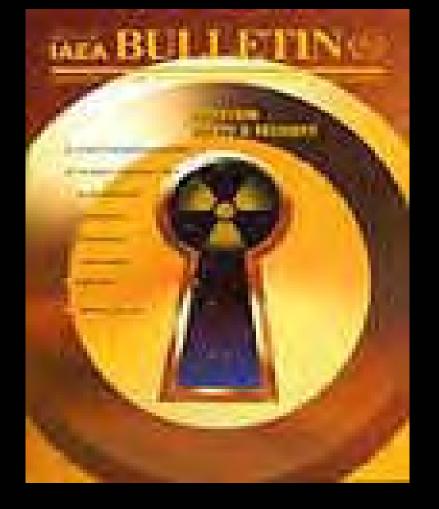
and outcome

The main message from Dijon

States should undertake

international obligations

for the safety and security of radiation sources!



STRENGTHENING THE SAFETY OF RADIATION SOURCES & THE SECURITY OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS:

TIMELY ACTION

BY ABEL J. GONZÁLEZ

PROCEEDINGS

International Conference held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 11-15 December 2000

National Regulatory Authorities with Competence in the Safety of Radiation Sources and the Security of Radioactive Materials

Buenos Aires
December 2000

Nearly 100 regulators attended!



The main message from Buenos Aires

The time is ripe for a

serious international undertaking

and

an Action Plan.

Summarizing: the Steps towards a 'code of conduct'

- 1. There were concern for the security of sources
- 2. Exploratory discussions were held towards an international legally binding undertaking by States.
- 3. Many States supported the idea.
- 4. But some States thought that 'it would be too ambitious'.
- 5. The need of clear commitments by States and the reluctance by some States to make such undertakings legally binding triggered a new proposal:

Thus, the 'code of conduct' concept was born!

A Code of Conduct

and an International

Action Plan

were drafted!

September 10, 2001

September 11, 2001

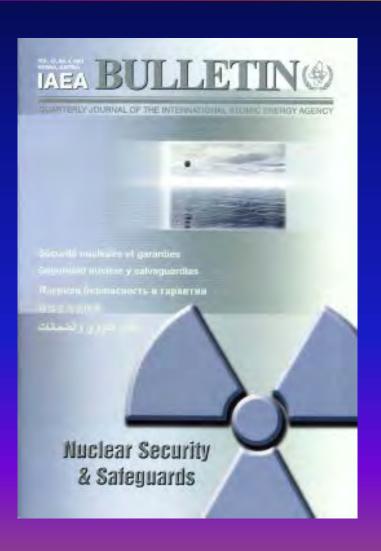
ACTION PLAN

APPROVED BY

THE BOARD



The attempt at reasonableness



IAEA BULLETIN, 43/4/2001

THE EVOLVING NEW
INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS

March 2003: the Hofburg Conference

Again in focus



International Conference on Security of Radioactive Sources

Organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency

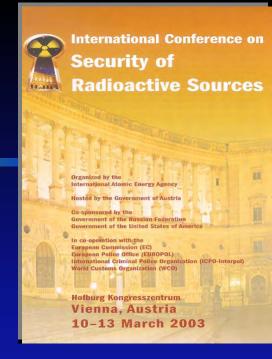
Hosted by the Government of Austria

Co-sponsored by the Government of the Russian Federation Government of the United States of America

In co-operation with the
European Commission (EC)
European Police Office (EUROPOL)
International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO-Interpol)
World Customs Organization (WCO)

Vienna, Austria 10-13 March 2003

Hofburg's Clear Directions



(A draft revised version of a Code was presented to the Conference)

States should make a concerted effort to follow the principles

contained in the Code of Conduct on the Safety and

Security of Radioactive Sources

June 2003:

Political understanding

The time was ripe!

G8 Summit; Evian (France)



Evian G-8 issued an essential statement

- welcomed the 2003 Hofburg Conference
- supported promoting the implementation of a 'Code of Conduct'.

Thus, the concept of 'code of conduct' became an international reality!

Tripartite Initiative

(Russia-USA-IAEA)



July 2003:

reaching the final consensus!

CODE OF CONDUCT ON THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

放射源安全和保安行为准则

CODE DE CONDUITE SUR LA SÛRETÉ ET LA SÉCURITÉ DES SOURCES RADIOACTIVES

КОДЕКС ПОВЕДЕНИЯ ПО ОБЕСПЕЧЕНИЮ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ И СОХРАННОСТИ РАДИОАКТИВНЫХ ИСТОЧНИКОВ

CÓDIGO DE CONDUCTA SOBRE SEGURIDAD TECNOLÓGICA Y FÍSICA DE LAS FUENTES RADIACTIVAS

مدونة قواعد السلوك بشأن أمان المصادر المشعة وأمنها



September 2003: (GOV/2003/49-GC(47)/9)

Adoption of the Code of Conduct!

What is the 'Code of Conduct'

A non mandatory commitment of States on: behaviour, performance and accomplishment

It is not a legally binding undertaking for those States adhering to the Code.

Elements of a Code of Conduct

Preambular declarations...

...in which States describe their:

- awareness,
- desires, and
- affirmations; and....

....in which Sates indicate what they

- recognize,
- keep in mind, and
- take into account.

Pronouncements...

...in which States decide and declare the:

- norms,
- rules, and
- responsibilities
- ...they wish to undertake

What was the resulting 'code of conduct'

A set of States' policies outlining their responsibilities

vis-à-vis

fundamental radiation and nuclear safety issues, but with the understanding that such 'obligation' shall not be a legally binding undertaking, but a declarative voluntary commitment.

IAEA 'dictum'

- The global safety regime promoted by the IAEA relies in part on various inter-governmental legal instruments.
- These legal instruments include not only the legallybinding Conventions but also the non-legally binding Codes of Conduct.
- The Code is a well-accepted, non-legally binding international instrument and has received political support from more than 130 Member States.

The 'code of conduct'

required additional guidance!

GUIDANCE ON THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

放射源的进口和出口导则

ORIENTATIONS POUR
L'IMPORTATION ET L'EXPORTATION
DE SOURCES RADIOACTIVES

РУКОВОДЯЩИЕ МАТЕРИАЛЫ
ПО ИМПОРТУ И ЭКСПОРТУ
РАДИОАКТИВНЫХ ИСТОЧНИКОВ

DIRECTRICES SOBRE

LA IMPORTACIÓN Y EXPORTACIÓN

DE FUENTES RADIACTIVAS

إرشادات بشأن استيراد المصادر المشعة وتصديرها

2012 EDITION



The Guidance on the **Import and Export of Radioactive Sources** supplements the Code and aims to provide for an adequate transfer of responsibility when a source is being transferred from one State to another.

GUIDANCE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF DISUSED RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

弃用放射源管理导则

ORIENTATIONS SUR LA GESTION DES SOURCES RADIOACTIVES RETIRÉES DU SERVICE

РУКОВОДЯЩИЕ МАТЕРИАЛЫ
ПО ОБРАЩЕНИЮ С ИЗЪЯТЫМИ
ИЗ УПОТРЕБЛЕНИЯ
РАДИОАКТИВНЫМИ
ИСТОЧНИКАМИ

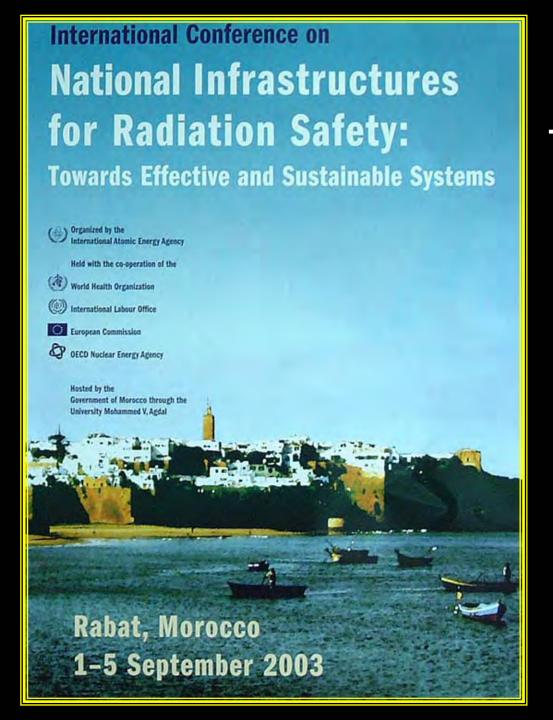
ORIENTACIONES SOBRE LA GESTIÓN DE LAS FUENTES RADIACTIVAS EN DESUSO

إرشادات بشأن التصرف في المصادر المشعة المهملة

2018 EDITION



The Guidance on the **Management of Disused Radioactive Sources** provides further guidance regarding the establishment of a national policy and strategy for the management of disused sources, and on the implementation of management options such as recycling and reuse, long term storage pending disposal and return to a supplier.



Trigger immediate action

Strengthening
National
Infrastructures!

International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Towards a Global System for the Continuous Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle

Bordonic, France, 27 Jane - 1 July 2005



Signasote ha NAEA Intensional Arms Strong Agency

In accounting with the Surgious Commission (EC). Surgious Police (Rungio), from all that district Police (Inglation - Margor), the mattered Colored Police (Inglation - Margor), The matter (Inglation - Margor), Marcollens (Inglation - Police - Margor), Marcollens (Inglation - Marcollens - Marcollens (Inglation - Marcollens - Marcollens - Marcollens (Inglation - Marcollens - Marcollens

Bordeaux Closing the saga!

Conférence internationale sur la sûreté et la sécurité des sources radioactives: Vers un système global de contrôle et de suivi des sources durant leur cycle de vie

Bordeasx, France, 27 Juin - for Juliet 2005





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The future

The path is ready for others Codes of Conduct

The IAEA General Conference urged!...

to consider the options for addressing denials of and delays in shipment,

including

a code of conduct on facilitation!

Concluding Epilogue

The Code of Conduct of the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources was a suppressing big success.

Why not using the same approach for solving other problems in radiation and nuclear safety?



Thank you!

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Buenos Aires
Argentina







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