

AGREEMENTS

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Note

The NLB editors have decided to change recent editorial policy in respect of bilateral agreements. We are aware that a high number of bilateral agreements on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are concluded each year around the world. However, we at the NEA only receive information on a small proportion of these agreements. Consequently our reporting on such developments has been somewhat imbalanced in recent years. Furthermore, the emphasis of these agreements is often on wide policy declarations rather than on legal methods of implementation. For this reason, we have decided to limit the section of the Bulletin which deals with bilateral agreements to those that are of particular interest for NLB readers due to the fact that they contain specific legal requirements or are of interest from a regulatory point of view.

Germany – Russian Federation

Agreement Concerning Co-operation and Exchange of Information and Experience in the Field of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (2003)

An agreement was concluded on 9 May 2003 between the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Reactor Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Federal Agency for the Supervision of Nuclear and Radiation Safety of the Russian Federation on Co-operation, Exchange of Information and Experience in the Field of Licensing, Supervision and Assessing of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection. It was published in *Bundesgesetzblatt* 2004 II p. 448.

This agreement applies to nuclear facilities and activities which are covered under Article 1 of the 1986 Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident. The Parties shall exchange information relating to the regulation of nuclear safety and to relevant legislation in the field of nuclear legislation and radiation protection. The transfer of confidential information to other state authorities and their advisers requires mutual written consent and shall be in accordance with the respective national legislation of the Parties.

Each Party designates a co-ordinator who is responsible for implementing the Agreement. The Parties shall intensify scientific and technological co-operation in the field of safety regulation by exchange of information, joint seminars and consultations and by the implementation of joint projects. This co-operation applies to the following fields:

- nuclear safety and radiation protection related legislation;
- methods of safety assessment of nuclear facilities;

- licensing and supervision procedures;
- nuclear safety and radiation protection in connection with the handling of radioactive waste.

Further fields of co-operation shall be agreed by the Parties. This agreement was concluded for a period of five years and entered into force on the date of its signature. It will tacitly be prolonged for another five years unless one of the Parties requests termination three months prior to the end of the five-year period.

Romania – Ukraine

Agreement on Early Notification of Nuclear Accidents and Exchange of Information in the Field of Nuclear and Radiation Safety (2004)

This Agreement on Early Notification of Nuclear Accidents and Exchange of Information in the Field of Nuclear and Radiation Safety was signed on 22 September 2004 by the chairman of the State Nuclear Regulatory Committee of Ukraine on behalf of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Chairman of the National Commission on the Control of Nuclear Activities on behalf of the Government of Romania.

Referring to the 1986 Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and the 1986 Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, the parties agree to respect the requirements of these respective Conventions through the conclusion of this bilateral agreement.

The agreement applies to accidents which take place or threaten to take place in nuclear installations or with nuclear materials, which could result in transboundary releases of radioactive substances which represent a threat for the other party to this agreement. The Parties agree to notify each other immediately about such events or the risk of such events, providing all information necessary to minimise radiological consequences.

The competent bodies of both Parties will communicate on the safety of nuclear installations and on all activities involving a risk of radioactive releases in quantities exceeding permissible limits. Representatives of competent bodies will meet, where necessary, at least once a year for the coordination of all questions on implementation of this agreement. The Contracting Parties further agree to strengthen scientific and technical co-operation between competent bodies in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection, including monitoring of radioactive releases and emergency planning.