OECD/NEA International workshop on post-accident food safety science

Report from session 4:
Examples of national regulatory and management approaches to post-accident food safety

Astrid Liland, NRPA and CERAD
Countermeasures

- Many similar countermeasures used in UK, Norway and Belarus due to the Chernobyl accident such as ploughing, K-fertilizing, Prussián blue, restrictions on slaughter

- Some also used in Japan like ploughing and K-fertilizing, but also others introduced such as topsoil removal, production bans, washing and scraping fruit trees

→ It is possible to continue safe food production with a good countermeasure strategy
Monitoring

• Extensive monitoring programs in all countries after the Chernobyl and Fukushima accident, respectively

• Soil, feed, vegetables, food products, live animals, people

• The extent of monitoring is much more pronounced in Japan

→ Monitoring will always be necessary after radioactive fallout
Standards

• In Belarus, standards reviewed 5 times, becoming more stringent every time. Might decrease further.

• In Norway, standards raised for reindeer meat to preserve the Sami culture. Decreased after 8 years and might decrease further.

• In UK, 1000 Bg/kg for sheep kept unchanged until the restrictions were removed in 2012

• In Japan, lowered to 100 Bq/kg in 2012. Many practice a voluntary standard of 50 Bq/kg.

→ Food standards are necessary, but they are practiced in different ways in different countries
Research needs

- Transfer studies and countermeasures for rice and fruits
- Long-term impact on marine fish and seafood

Public risk perception and acceptance