Overview of the CRPPH Expert Group on Recovery Management (EGRM)

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The area of recovery management (RM) has been of interest within the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)'s Committee on Radiological Protection and Public Health (CRPPH) for some time, in particular since the 2011 accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. An aspect of RM that has been identified as needing further practical guidance is advanced planning for post-accident recovery actions. Within this framework, the CRPPH Expert Group on Recovery Management (EGRM) was created at the beginning of 2019 with the main objective of assisting NEA member countries in planning and improving their preparedness for recovery by producing guidance on how to develop a nuclear or radiological post-accident recovery management framework which can be adapted to national conditions. The final aim is to prepare a short, comprehensive and operational generic framework of recovery management easily adaptable by any member country before any accident happens. This framework will address a series of issues at stake for post-accident management, ranging from food management, drinking water management, urban and environmental decontamination, waste management, balance of radiological and psycho-social effects of decisions, stakeholder involvement to communications processes. In addition to the content of this framework, the guidance will propose a process for involving relevant stakeholder in the preparedness phase with collaborative deliberation on the issues at stake. As an accident situation moves from the emergency phase to the transition phase and on to the recovery phase, the shift of roles and responsibilities will also be addressed. During the recovery phase, governmental management aspects become more focused on support to affected stakeholders rather than decisional, which can be extremely resource intensive. There is thus a need at the planning stage to be prepared to "create" resources and skills to address these different challenges. This presentation will discuss planning approaches to address these needs and will emphasize the usefulness of drawing lessons from past events, more particularly from the management of the consequences of the Fukushima Daichi Nuclear Power Plant accident.

Keywords: Preparedness for recovery, nuclear or radiological accident

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