Outcome from the ICRP Working Party on Business affected by Emergencies

Mélanie Maître1,* , Thierry Schneider1, Nobuhiko Ban2, Eduardo Gallego3, Toshimitsu Homma2, Jean-François Lecomte4

1 Nuclear Protection Evaluation Centre (CEPN), 28 rue de la Redoute, 92290 Fontenay-aux-Roses, France
2 Nuclear Regulation Authority, 1-9-9 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8450, Japan
3 Nuclear Engineering Department, E.T.S. Ing. Industriales, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, José Gutiérrez Abascal 2, 28006 Madrid, Spain
4 Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN), Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

*Corresponding author’s e-mail: melanie.maitre@cepn.asso.fr

The Fukushima accident has caused significant economic disruptions with effects extending over years and inevitably impacting the socio-economic actors throughout the whole region of Fukushima and beyond. In addition to the direct economic impacts associated with the accident (e.g. cessation of agricultural and industrial activities following evacuation orders, cost of decontamination, etc.), it turns out that socio-economic actors were impacted by the accident through different ways. In the areas affected by the accident for instance, the employers whose economic activity has been maintained or restarted after the evacuation orders, experienced difficulties concerning:

- The management of employees and their families in terms of radiological protection (e.g. lack of devices and information for monitoring the workers);
- The quality assurance process of their products (e.g. lack of clear criteria for managing the materials affected by the contamination);
- The loss of image of the products from Fukushima and consumer boycott.

Facing these difficulties, it turns out that Japanese companies have lacked technical support from radiological experts, as these aspects have not been considered broadly for the implementation of the radiological protection system up to now. Therefore, in 2017, within the ICRP Committee 4, a working party dedicated to the radiological protection for business interests have been launched, in order to identify the relevant recommendations to better accompany the economic activities in the implementation of the radiological protection system.

In this context, this presentation aims to provide some insights on the main challenges for the implementation of the radiological protection system with regards to economic activities in emergency and post-accident situations.

Keywords: Business activities, Fukushima, ICRP Recommendations