



# Convention on Nuclear Safety: Application to Emerging Countries

Canadian Nuclear Society Annual Conference  
Toronto, Ontario

June 20, 2016



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# CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY (CNS)



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## Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS)

- Adopted in Vienna on June 17, 1994
- Aim of the Convention is to legally commit participating States operating nuclear power plants to maintain a high level of safety
- Contracting Parties as of April 2016: 78



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# Convention Objectives

- Achieve and maintain a high level of nuclear safety worldwide through the enhancement of national measures and international co-operation including, where appropriate, safety-related technical co-operation
- Establish and maintain effective defenses in nuclear installations against potential radiological hazards in order to protect individuals, society and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation
- Prevent accidents with radiological consequences and mitigate consequences should they occur



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# 7th Review Meeting

- March 27–April 7, 2017, Vienna, Austria
- President: Mr. Ramzi Jammal, Canada
- Vice-Presidents:
  - Mr. Georg Schwarz, Switzerland
  - Mr. Geoffrey Emi-Reynolds, Ghana
- Country group officers represent 22 different countries



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## President's Commitments

For the 7th Review Meeting, commitments made include:

- Supporting strong review processes that achieve tangible improvements in nuclear safety
- Assisting countries with writing national reports by providing training or assistance as requested and by encouraging the use of a graded approach to report writing
- Following up at the appropriate national level with Contracting Parties who do not meet their CNS obligations and who do not fully participate in the CNS process



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# President's Objectives for the 7th Review Meeting

- Successful peer reviews for all Contracting Parties
- Meaningful, focused discussions on nuclear safety
- Highest attendance, participation and meeting of obligations under the CNS by Contracting Parties
- Full transparency of the CNS process
- Highlighting deficiencies and strengths in national programs





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## President's Objectives for the 7th Review Meeting (2)

As outlined in the February 11, 2016 letter sent to all Contracting Parties:

- Incorporating self-assessment results against observations and lessons learned outlined in the IAEA Director General's Report on the Fukushima Daiichi Accident
- Reporting on actions taken to address the principles outlined in the Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety



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# Challenges Around Nuclear Safety

- Recognition that safety is the first step in the acquisition of nuclear capacity
- Political acceptance that safety is as important as security and safeguards
  - heads of state do not meet to discuss nuclear safety
- Heads of state have the perception that the IAEA is the International watch dog for safety, however:
  - cases of non-compliance in the area of safeguards can be reported by the Board of Governors to the UN Security Council, while instances of security non-compliance follow the path of UNSCR 1540
  - no formal mechanism currently exists to address nuclear safety deficiencies at the international level until an accident occurs



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# Emerging Countries and the CNS

Effective international regulatory oversight of nuclear safety is a must

- Who is monitoring the capacity of embarking countries?
- Who is ensuring that safety is not being compromised in the name of cost reductions?



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# Emerging Countries and the CNS: Obligations

All Contracting Parties must:

- Submit an informative National Report by the required deadlines (Article 5 of the CNS)
- Attend the Review Meeting held every three years to review National Reports submitted by other countries (Article 24 of the CNS)



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# Emerging Countries and the CNS: Expectations

- Designate a National Point of Contact for the CNS
- Send credentials as required prior to the Review Meeting
- Review reports from other Contracting Parties and ask questions related to other National Reports
- Answer questions submitted about their National Report from other Contracting Parties
- Prepare an informative oral presentation to be presented at the Review Meeting
- Participate actively in discussions following other Contracting Party presentations
- Participate in plenary discussions during the second week



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# Emerging Countries and the CNS: Benefits

- Demonstration of a State's commitment to global nuclear safety
- Opportunity to learn from other Contracting Parties
- Opportunity to share knowledge with others



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## Questions or Concerns Regarding the 7<sup>th</sup> Review Meeting?

- Ramzi Jammal (Ramzi.Jammal@canada.ca)
- Phil Webster (Philip.Webster@canada.ca)
- Jennifer Pyne (Jennifer.Pyne@canada.ca)

## Preparing for the future



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## Safety First

The CNSC will never compromise safety...  
...it's in our DNA!





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# Thank you, Questions?

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