# National Report

## Convention on Nuclear Safety

## Republic of Latvia

The Radiation Safety Centre
Republic of Latvia
2001

## Introduction

This is the second report submitted by Latvia under the Convention on Nuclear Safety. The present report provides an update of the previous report. The major changes in the nuclear and radiation safety regulatory system are referred to in this report.

## Survey of key safety issues and themes of this second report

The first national report provided background information along with major achievements in the period of last three-five years. Several requirements of the Convention are not directly applicable to Latvia because there are no nuclear power plants and the research reactor at Salaspils is already shut down with on-going preparations for decommissioning.

The main safety issues related to nuclear facilities outside Latvia remain:

1. short distance to national border (8 km) and also the vicinity (30 km) of the second biggest city in Latvia from the **Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant** in Lithuania, consequently there is little time for activation of emergency systems,
2. insufficient emergency preparedness capabilities in Latvia,
3. Latvia is surrounded by several NPP of old generations,
4. inadequate civil liability insurance system in some neighbouring countries.

## Nuclear safety regulatory infrastructure

This year Latvia has achieved significant changes in radiation safety infrastructure. The new framework law on radiation and nuclear safety is in place. It provides for improvement of regulatory infrastructure and defines more precisely all obligations for the users of atomic energy. The **Radiation Safety Centre** was established in July 2001 as the new independent regulatory authority in radiation and nuclear safety. During the process of the establishment of the Centre, Latvia received substantial support from neighbouring countries, especially Sweden and Denmark.

This new regulatory authority undertakes the functions formerly delegated to the two major regulatory authorities - the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and the Ministry of Welfare. The new Radiation Safety Centre undertakes all major tasks pertaining to nuclear safety and radiation safety and supervision and control.

The Mission of the Radiation Safety Centre is "*to provide for the safe use of ionising radiation sources and to protect people and the environment against potential harmful effects, simultaneously ensuring to people the maximum benefit from use of radiation sources*".

In the long run, it is planned to achieve these objectives by adequate legal framework, introduction of quality assurance system and training of all radiation workers to maintain the necessary competence levels, as well as by accounting and control of all radiation sources and their users; licensing of respective practices, and environmental control and monitoring.

Primary tasks of the Centre are defined by legislation and include to:

- draft policy proposals for supervision and control of radiation and nuclear safety;
- supervise and control radiation safety;
- licence practices with radiation sources;
- coordinate combat of illicit trafficking of radioactive and nuclear materials;
- encourage introduction of new technologies to minimise the possible harmful effects;
- co-ordinate technical cooperation in the field of radiation safety;
- prepare national reports;
- ensure adequate competence levels of the Radiation Safety Centre (RDC) staff;
- assess implementation of international recommendations;
- draft proposals of legal documents to maintain adequate legal framework;
- maintain data bases on practices, sources and exposures;
- ensure operational 24-hour emergency preparedness system;
- serve as a point of contact under the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

The structure of the Centre (Figure 1) reflects the new central regulatory infrastructure:

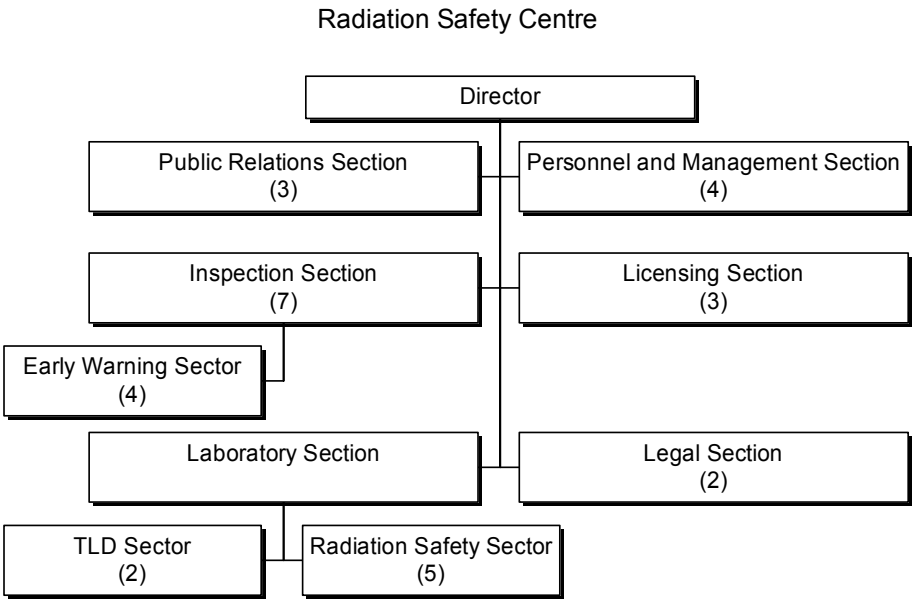


Figure 1 The Structure of the Radiation Safety Centre

## National policy regarding nuclear activities

In line with the framework plan for development of energy supply sector in the nearest future (around 10 years) no Nuclear Power Plants (NPP) will be constructed on the territory of the Republic of Latvia. In addition, Latvia has neither presently got any nuclear power plant, nor any nuclear fuel cycle facility. The lack of possibilities for the disposal of spent fuel in Latvia serves as one of the objections in decision-making process regarding construction of large-scale nuclear installations, including nuclear power plants.

On the other hand, there are no formal objectives against the safe use of nuclear energy world wide, especially taking into account objectives of the *United Nations Framework Convention On Climate Change* (UN FCCC), Rio de Janeiro, 1992 – to reduce emissions of $CO_2$. But, as it was stated also at the Fourth Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe, Arhus, Denmark, 23-25 June 1998, Latvia's major concern is the safe use of nuclear energy, especially prevention of any significant accident at the nuclear power plant with transboundary effects.

Therefore, Latvia together with several other countries requested the operators of NPP to provide the highest level of safety assurance. This means that if the oldest generations of NPP can't meet these objectives, such facilities must be shut down. Nevertheless, other applications of nuclear energy are generally accepted in Latvia. Radiation sources are used in industry, science and medicine.

**National nuclear programmes pertaining to nuclear installations**

Latvia has a Nuclear Research Centre with a pool type 5 $MW_{th}$ IRT reactor. Since 1993, surveys of potential need for this installation had been carried out. Based on all available information, the Cabinet of Ministers in 1995 made the decision to start preparations for the decommissioning and in 1998 the second decision was made about permanent shutdown of the reactor. Presently a limited liability non-profit state company Radioactive Waste Management Agency "RAPA" Ltd manages the decommissioning project. Latvia is working on the decommissioning project (by own experts and also by sub-contractors). New initiatives were under EU PHARE programme –Project on Decommissioning Concept for Soviet Design Research Reactors. The beneficiary will be Latvia and Co-beneficiary – Bulgaria.

This reactor was built near Salaspils, 25 km from Riga, started operation in September 1961 and was finally shut down in June 1998. The reactor is a pool water reactor with nuclear fuel assemblies located in the core at a depth of 6 metres under distilled water. The initial power was 1700 kW, but after reconstruction in 1979 it has reached 5000 kW. By using the enriched U-235 nuclear fuel (90% enrichment) and beryllium serving as a neutron reflector, maximum neutron flux in the core was $2*10^{13}$ neutrons/$cm^2$*MW. In the reactor tank, which is built from stainless steel, initially from Aluminium, all details of the reactor core are installed, control structure, ejector, delay tank and pipes for cooling system. The reactor contains 16 vertical channels, 10 horizontal channels and a gamma-ray irradiation loop.

According to the decommissioning concept approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia in 1999, which also includes the strategy for management of spent nuclear fuel, the decommissioning of the research reactor is envisaged by the end of year 2008. Regarding implementation of the strategy for spent fuel management, discussions about shipment of spent fuel out of Latvia have to be completed in 2002. Upon completion of discussions, spent fuel has to be shipped out of Latvia in 2003. In case of unsuccessful negotiations regarding this issue, Latvia will have to implement the other option and prepare for dry cask storage of spent fuel in transportable containers in 2003.
Below is a time schedule of the decommissioning of the research reactor in Salaspils:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1998-2003 | Shutdown of the reactor and safe enclosure phase, minor decommissioning activities; |
| 2003 | Removal and transfer of spent nuclear fuel off site (either completely out of Latvia or dry storage in Latvia); |
| 2003-2008 | decommissioning of the reactor components, incl. biological shielding. |

## Detailed article-per-article review

***PREAMBLE***

*THE CONTRACTING PARTIES*

Latvia is the contracting party based on the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers from 1 November 1995 (Order nr.619, protocol nr.59 paragraph 14). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted the accession documents to the Depositary and according to Article 30 Latvia became the party of Convention on Nuclear Safety on 25 October 1996.

*(i) Aware of the importance to the international community of ensuring that the use of nuclear energy is safe, well regulated and environmentally sound;*

Latvia is the member state of the International Atomic Energy Agency since 1997 and participates in regional co-operation activities of the Agency. The Baltic Sea States Council Committee of Senior Officials established the Working group on Nuclear and Radiation Safety, where Latvia participates in all activities. There are also ongoing activities with OECD/NEA, CEC and Nordic-Baltic States cooperation projects.

*(ii) Reaffirming the necessity of continuing to promote a high level of nuclear safety worldwide;*

The Radiation Safety Centre applies two basic approaches – to provide relevant information for national authorities, institutions and facilities; and to provide this information also worldwide. For instance:

- series of articles in a journal funded by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and the Latvian Environmental Protection Fund;
- The web site of the Radiation Safety Centre (www.rdc.gov.lv);
- National reports at the international meetings, conferences etc.
- experts from state authorities participate in educational activities in the country;
- publications at the Centre's library are available to the general public,
- Established national INIS Centre at the Radiation Safety Centre in 2001.

*(iii) Reaffirming that responsibility for nuclear safety rests with the State having jurisdiction over a nuclear installation;*

Latvia is the party to these nuclear civil liability conventions:

- 1963 Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage was acceded on 15 March 1995,
- 1988 Joint Protocol relating to the Application on the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention was acceded on 15 March 1995.

*(iv) Desiring to promote an effective nuclear safety culture;*

Promotion of Safety Culture is considered as one of the most important activities for the MEPRD. The National BSS (Regulations On Protection Against Ionising Radiation) comprise a special chapter that deals with Safety culture implementation measures pertaining to relevant state institutions and operators of facilities.

*(v) Aware that accidents at nuclear installations have the potential for transboundary impacts;*

Latvia participates in IAEA TC regional project RER/9/050 under which one of the main objectives is to reduce potential threat of large accidents, to improve cooperation among states and set up intervention criteria. Latvia ratified the Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention on Civil liability for Nuclear Damage in 13 June 2001.

*(vi) Keeping in mind the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (1979), the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (1986), and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (1986);*

Latvia is the party to: 1986 Vienna Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, which was acceded on 28 December 1992; and the 1986 Vienna Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, which was acceded on 28 December 1992.
The ratification activities of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material had been started. Formal postponing of ratification is due to legislative traditions in Latvia, which request the readiness for full scope implementation of relevant requirements. Under IAEA Co-ordinated Technical Support Plan for NIS, activities to improve physical protection for the Nuclear Research Centre by USA assistance were taken, as well as there are ongoing projects for Radioactive Waste Disposal by joint Latvia-IAEA (also Sweden) efforts.

*(vii) Affirming the importance of international co-operation for the enhancement of nuclear safety through existing bilateral and multilateral mechanisms and the establishment of this incentive Convention;*

As stated in introduction, Latvia strongly supports regional and bilateral activities. For example:

- IAEA regional TC Projects, including Model Project on upgrading of Radiation and Nuclear Safety Infrastructure and Radioactive Waste Management,
- Baltic Sea States Council Committee of Senior Officials established the Working group on Nuclear and Radiation Safety,
- Bilateral co-operation with Sweden (since 1992),
- Regional Sweden-Baltic States project on Emergency Preparedness, etc.

*(viii) Recognizing that this Convention entails installation a commitment to the application of fundamental safety principles for nuclear rather than of detailed safety standards and that there are internationally formulated safety guidelines which are updated from time to time and so can provide guidance on contemporary means of achieving a high level of safety;*

The law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety was drafted on the basis of international guidelines, namely IAEA recommendations, Safety Fundamentals, etc., ICRP recommendations and detailed analysis of common experience of the Nordic Countries group. This Act serves as the Framework law and prescribes the basic principles for any radiation or nuclear application. These principles are further developed and elaborated in national Basic Safety Standards and Licensing Regulations, where the Cabinet does not provide all detailed requirements, but sets the basic principles and main objectives.

According to the Law and Regulations, the Operator has the full responsibility concerning nuclear safety, however requirements are prescribed only for certain types of activities. This is a rather new approach for Latvia; hence in a number of cases there is a need to improve knowledge of inspectors, as well as technicians at facilities.

*(ix) Affirming the need to begin promptly the development of an international convention on the safety of radioactive waste management as soon as the ongoing process to develop waste management safety fundamentals has resulted in broad international agreement;*

Latvia ratified the Convention On The Safety of Spent Fuel Management and On the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management in February 2000.

*(x) Recognizing the usefulness of further technical work in connection with the safety of other parts of the nuclear fuel cycle, and this work may, in time, facilitate the development of current or future international instruments;*

There are several options for this issue – to elaborate regional legal framework together with EU, and more actively promote joint undertakings for technical investigations (both under IAEA and EU R&D activities).

*HAVE AGREED as follows:*

## *CHAPTER 1. OBJECTIVES, DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION*

### *ARTICLE 1. OBJECTIVES The objectives of this Convention are:*

*(i) to 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;*

Latvia continuously develops its own national legal framework; the main documents are reflected in Annex. International co-operation is a fast growing process that started in 1991. In early beginnings, the main task was to ensure high safety level. This is the main reason why Latvia actively participates in various international activities. There are several goals to be achieved, for instance:

- to get familiarised with the systems in neighbouring countries and to asses the ideas to be used in Latvia,
- to improve the level of knowledge of Authorities staff,
- to speed up the development of national legislation,
- to upgrade technical capabilities for enforcement of legal requirements,
- to exchange experience gained in different activities,
- to asses the gaps in radiation and nuclear safety system.

*(ii) to establish and maintain effective defences in nuclear installations against potential radiological hazards in order to protect individuals, society and the environment from harmful effects of ionising radiation from such installations;*

This goal was set out in the Law and the National BSS. There are also other relevant legal documents, for example the Cabinet Regulations on Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials, which can be referred to also in the case of a radiological

emergency and particularly in the case of a nuclear accident. More detailed scope of activities and criteria for decisions had been elaborated in the National BSS, Licensing regulations and regulations on emergency preparedness.

*(iii) to prevent accidents with radiological consequences and to mitigate such consequences should they occur.*

One of the factors for mitigation of consequences is the availability of funds, therefore Latvia ratified Vienna Convention on Civil liability and Joint Protocol. As mentioned above – the ratification of Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention on Civil liability for Nuclear Damage was done in June 2001. There are also other relevant legal documents, for example the Cabinet Regulations on Licensing, which contain the set of requirements aimed to prevent any accident with radiological consequences.

## *ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS*

*For the purpose of this Convention:*
*(i) "nuclear installation" means for each Contracting Party any land-based civil nuclear power plant under its jurisdiction including such storage, handling and treatment facilities for radioactive materials as are on the same site and are directly related to the operation of the nuclear power plant. Such a plant ceases to be a nuclear installation when all nuclear fuel elements have been removed permanently from the reactor core and have been stored safely in accordance with approved procedures, and a decommissioning programme has been agreed to by the regulatory body*.

General part – nuclear installation - is transposed in the new Law and Regulations on State Accounting and Control System of Nuclear Materials (14.04.1998). There are some differences for application of the second part of the definition concerning the cease to be a nuclear installation – until now Latvia follows criteria specified into Paris Convention, Decisions, Recommendations, Interpretations, Annex III.

*(ii) "regulatory body" means for each Contracting Party any body or bodies given the legal authority by that Contracting Party to grant licences and to regulate the siting, design, construction, commissioning, operation or decommissioning of nuclear installations.*

The Regulatory body with the power to issue regulations, according to the Law on the Cabinet of Ministers, can exist only at the level of the Ministry. Some functions, for example, regulating the siting, design, construction, commissioning, operation or decommissioning of nuclear installations can be achieved only within this level. The basic principle is – only the Parliament or the Cabinet is entitled to issue regulations binding for any legal entity or natural person.
Regarding the licensing process, the Regulations on Licensing set up basic activities to be implemented by Ministries and subordinate institutions, as follows:

- establishment of joint Commissions for the Issue of Special Permits (Licences) for Practices Involving Ionising Radiation Sources (the Commissions),
- approval of the authorisation by the Radiation Safety Centre based on decision of the Commissions.

*(iii) "licence" means any authorisation granted by the regulatory body to the applicant to have the responsibility for the siting, design, construction, commissioning, operation or decommissioning of a nuclear installation.*

The same definition is applicable under the Law and the Licensing regulations. However, there are slight differences – in authorising transport activities – in addition to transport licence, the certificate for a specific shipment can be granted by the Radiation Safety Centre.

## *ARTICLE 3. SCOPE OF APPLICATION*

*This Convention shall apply to the safety of nuclear installations.*

Latvia has no nuclear installations.

## *CHAPTER 2. OBLIGATIONS*

### *(a) General Provisions*

## *ARTICLE 4. IMPLEMENTING MEASURES*

*Each Contracting Party shall take, within the framework of its national law, the legislative, regulatory and administrative measures and other steps necessary for implementing its obligations under this Convention.*

Latvia's legislative measures:
The framework Law introduced main goals for safety – to protect the inhabitants and the environment against the potential risk of radiation and nuclear applications. Based on the Law, the following legal documents were adopted:

- The Cabinet Regulations on Protection against Ionising Radiation;
- The Cabinet Regulations on State Accounting and Control System of Nuclear Materials;
- The Cabinet Regulations on Committee of Strategic Export and Import;
- The set of the Cabinet Regulations on Issuance of Licenses and Permits for Activities with Radioactive Substances and Other Sources of Ionising Radiation;
- The Cabinet Regulation on the Radiation Protection at the Transportation of Radioactive Materials;
- Other regulations issued by the Cabinet of Ministers.

Latvia's administrative measures:

- Radiation and nuclear safety unit was established in 1992, as a focal point under the Early Warning and Assistance Conventions,
- This unit was further developed into the Division of Radiation and Nuclear safety of the Environmental State Inspectorate subordinated to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of LATVIA.
- Institutional strengthening aiming at the establishment of a single regulatory authority continued.
- The Radiation Safety Centre was established in July 2001 as the new regulatory authority.

Regulatory measures are described in the introductory part of this report.

Certain implementation measurers depend on availability of manpower, scientific and technical knowledge of the staff at these institutions. The Latvian Environmental Protection Fund often rendered financial assistance to improve the situation.

Besides, international co-operation also plays a vital role in ensuring safety. Main donor countries are (in alphabetical order): Denmark; Finland; Germany; Sweden and the United States of America

### *ARTICLE 5. REPORTING*

*Each Contracting Party shall submit for review, prior to each meeting referred to in Article 20, a report on the measured it has taken to implement each of the obligations of this Convention*

Latvia had submitted its first national report to the secretariat.

### *ARTICLE 6. EXISTING NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS*

*Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that the safety of nuclear installations existing at the time the Convention enters into force for that Contracting Party is reviewed as soon as possible. When necessary in the context of this Convention, the Contracting Party shall ensure that all reasonably practicable improvements are made as a matter of urgency to upgrade the safety of the nuclear installation. If such upgrading cannot be achieved, plans should be implemented to shut down the nuclear installation as soon as practically possible. The timing of the shut-down may take into account the whole energy context and possible alternatives as well as the social, environmental and economic impact.*

Latvia has no Nuclear Installations according to the definition of this Convention. There is a Soviet designed pool type research reactor, which was shut down with decommissioning process underway (see introduction). As it was not possible to achieve all safety upgrades, this had led to the Cabinet Decision on permanent shutdown of this reactor in June 1998. Full scope safety assessment on previous operational stage had not been done (according to IAEA recommendations for such facilities). Partial safety assessment was carried out. In nearest future safety assessment for reactor in safe enclosure stage and also for decommissioning activities will be done with respect the new Law On Environmental Impact Assessment (04.08 1998) and relevant regulations, e.g. on Licensing.

## *(b) Legislation and regulation*

### *ARTICLE 7. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK*

*1. Each Contracting Party shall establish and maintain a legislative and regulatory framework to govern the safety of nuclear installations*.

Latvia had established its legislative and regulatory framework by adoption of a new Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety in October 26, 2000; and the establishment of a new independent regulatory authority - The Radiation Safety Centre in July 9, 2001.

*2. The legislative and regulatory framework shall provide for:*

*(i) a system of licensing with regard to nuclear installations and the prohibition of the operation of a nuclear installation without a licence;*

Latvia, in general, applies *the top to bottom* approach in developing its nuclear legislation – preparation of a set of legal documents in the following order:

1. Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety
2. Regulations on Licensing
3. Basic Safety Regulations
4. Several general regulations about Safe Transportation of Radioactive Materials, Radioactive Waste Management, use of radiation sources in medicine.
5. Several specific regulations such as On Prevention of Illicit Trafficking, SSAC, Regulations on Export, Import and Transit of Dual Use Products, regarding radioactive contamination in food stuffs, about reuse of materials, physical protection, etc.
6. Regulations (recommendations) on ministerial level - requirements for X-ray cabinets, dental X-ray equipment, customs control (prevention of illicit trafficking), etc.

There are some more relevant legal documents concerning this issue in Latvia, such as the Criminal Code, the Administrative Code, the Customs Law, regulations on border control system, regulations on Medical Contraindications, etc. A number of requirements is prescribed by a number of international agreements, such as Non-Proliferation Treaty, Safeguards Agreement between Latvia and the International Atomic Energy Agency, Subsidiary Arrangements to the Safeguards Agreement, as well as in several major Conventions.

Over the last few years, the rapid development of the EU integration process in various sectors has instigated new priorities within the government. Presently, this means the simultaneous transposition of EU directives and commencement of their implementation within a short time frame, while at the same time maintaining the existing programme of environmental legislation reform and meeting requirements of international conventions.

**Set of Licensing Regulations:**

- Set up licensing system for radiation and nuclear activities,
- Introduce requirements for and the rights of the applicants,
- Introduce minimum requirements for physical protection at the facilities,
- Set up conditions for civil liability insurance.

**Regulations on State Accounting and Control System of Nuclear Materials:**

- Introduce a system for Declaration of the Technical characteristics,
- Set up notification requirements for the Programme of activities,
- Introduce "*responsible person for safeguards*" at facility,

- Describe the system for nuclear material accounting,
- Prescribe the form and content of Accounting Reports,
- Set up requirements for Special reports,
- Prescribe requirements for export or import of nuclear materials.

**Regulations on Protection against Ionising Radiation (the national BSS):**

- Divide responsibility among all major institutions,
- Introduce "*safety culture*" as part of radiation protection system,
- Introduce several national level databases,
- Elaborate requirements for dose limits,
- Set up technical requirements for radiation sources,
- Introduce intervention requirements.

*(ii) a system of regulatory inspection and assessment of nuclear installations to ascertain compliance with applicable regulations and the terms of licenses;*

The Radiation Safety Centre is now a responsible government authority, carrying out the inspections at the nuclear installations located in Latvia. The assessment of the nuclear installations is performed in accordance with the international agreements implemented in Latvia and the local law and regulations. As stated in the Law, "… *state supervision and control in the radiation safety and nuclear safety field is independently carried out by a state regulatory authority called the Radiation Safety Centre (RDC), which is supervised by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development*."

*(iii) the enforcement of applicable regulations and the terms of licences, including suspension, modification or revocation.*

According to the Latvian legislation, the Radiation Safety Centre, in addition to its radiation supervision and inspection activities, functions also as an organisation enforcing the regulations regarding the radiation and nuclear safety. The RDC is entitled to receive all information about any accidents and incidents that may impact radiation safety and nuclear safety immediately as these may occur. In addition, the RDC requests and receives, free of charge, information from state institutions, authorities and operators about radiation safety and nuclear safety in order to carry out its functions.

In particular, The Radiation Safety Centre:

- prohibits carrying out practices involving ionising radiation sources where radiation safety and nuclear safety norms are being violated;
- suspends those practices that do not require a special permit (licence) or permit, should human life and health be threatened.

Two more Ministries act within the system for radiation and nuclear safety, namely the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Finance. These two ministries are responsible for the border control system. The Ministry of the Interior is also responsible for the assessment of physical protection and also manages the emergency preparedness system.

## *ARTICLE 8. REGULATORY BODY*

*1. Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework referred to in Article 7, and provided with adequate authority, competence and financial and human resources to fulfil its assigned responsibilities.*

In the past years, institutional framework was insufficiently developed, hence with respect to activities initiated by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, the plan was prepared for the needed upgrades aiming at:

- Establishment of joint regulatory body under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development,
- Strengthening of the authorities and technical support organisations.

The first goal was achieved in 2001 – the RDC was established.

The Parliament delegated the regulatory functions to the Radiation Safety Centre.

The primary tasks of the RDC are to:

1. draft policy proposals for State supervision and control of radiation safety and nuclear safety;
2. carry out supervision and control of radiation safety;
3. carry out supervision and ensure control over testing and holding of special dosimetric equipment and individual personal dosimeters;
4. issue special permits (licences) and permits for practices involving ionising radiation sources;
5. collect, analyse and submit information to the Radiation Safety Board on the radiation safety situation in the country, major users of ionising radiation sources and the results of control activities;
6. inform persons who manage work involving ionising radiation sources about the applicable normative acts in radiation safety and recommendations to improve radiation safety levels;
7. ensure identification, investigation and assessment of unknown ionising radiation sources discovered on national territory, or of undeclared ionising radiation sources discovered at the state's border, and to organise disposal thereof should it fail to be possible to identify the user or the owner of a radiation source;
8. encourage introduction of new technologies to minimise the possible harmful impact resulting from the ionising radiation sources;
9. co-ordinate technical assistance programmes in the field of radiation safety;
10. prepare reports for international organisations, secretariats of conventions and agreements, and to the Commission of the European Union about issues that fall within the responsibilities of the RDC, to participate in discussions on such issues with the competent international organisations;
11. assess the implementation of requirements and recommendations of international institutions in Latvia, and to draft proposals for the amendment of relevant normative documents or for the development of new normative acts;
12. with a view to increasing the level of radiation safety in the country, to organise and co-ordinate training of inspectors and job managers whose work is related to radiation safety, as well as to promote training of radiation workers;
13. establish and update databases on the exposure of workers whose activities involve ionising radiation sources, and on the exposure of members of the public;

14. ensure accounting of ionising radiation sources; to establish and update data bases on radioactive substances, nuclear materials, radioactive waste and other ionising radiation sources;
15. establish and maintain a register of workers who conduct practices with ionising radiation sources or work in places with increased natural radiation;
16. ensure operational 24-hour emergency preparedness for notification of a nuclear accident and serve as a communication point of contact in accordance with the "Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident";
17. assume the responsibilities as a point of contact under the Nuclear Suppliers Group in order to foster implementation of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and associated agreements.

*2. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure an effective separation between the functions of the regulatory body and those of any other body or organization concerned with the promotion or utilization of nuclear energy*.

Within the Government, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (VARAM) has special functions:

- to develop environmental protection policy,
- to ensure the protection and safety of the environment and inhabitants by implementing appropriate measures,
- to control and supervise implementation of environmental policies.

The VARAM is neither responsible for promotion nor for utilisation of nuclear energy. This principle applies in its broader sense – various applications of radioactive and nuclear material.

However, there is a radiation facility under direct responsibility of the Ministry – the Radioactive Waste Management Agency, a limited liability non-profit state company "RAPA" Ltd.

The Ministry's functions regarding these facilities (supervision, setting up requirements and administrative supervision, ensurance of finance resources) are divided according to the Statutes of Ministry:

- **Environmental protection department** is responsible for drafting relevant legal documents, coordination of international cooperation and policy implementation measures;
- **Administrative department's** arranges the supply of goods, the performance of works and renders services to ensure the orderly functioning of the Ministry;
- **Budget and Finance Division** ensures the planning and servicing of the Ministry's annual budget, compiles inventories of transactions dealing with services and material goods, as well as ensures the execution of various financial operations.

The state company "RAPA" Ltd. is under subordination of the Administrative Department and financing is made through the Budget and Finance Division. The Radiation Safety Centre is supervised according to the "Act on the Organisation of the Ministries" and there cannot be any direct influence on its decisions. More over the Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety stipulates that the Radiation Safety Centre independently carries out the supervision and control in the radiation safety and nuclear safety.

## *ARTICLE 9. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LICENCE HOLDER*

*Each Contracting Party shall ensure that prime responsibility for the safety of a nuclear installation rests with the holder of the relevant licence and shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that each such licence holder meets its responsibility*.

According to the Law, the main responsible person in any facility is the Job Manager, who bears major License Holder functions, prescribed by the Law. Basic requirements and responsibilities of the Job Manager are outlined in the Law, as follows:

(1) Work with ionising radiation sources is managed by the authorised job manager, who possesses an adequate level of knowledge to perform physical, technical or radiochemical measurements, and make an assessment of ionising radiation doses and to effectively protect workers and members of the public against ionising radiation by correct application of protective measures.

(2) The Job Manager:

1. supervises the accounting of radioactive substances, nuclear materials and other ionising radiation sources;
2. enforces safety measures to protect workers, members of the public and the environment against the harmful effects of ionising radiation and to prevent accidents at nuclear facilities and other radiological accidents;
3. immediately informs the Licence Holder and the RDC of any accidents and incidents that may impact upon radiation safety and nuclear safety;
4. ensures that all radioactive waste be collected, isolated, stored, treated and if necessary, disposed of causing no risk to workers, members of the public and the environment;
5. ensures that workers involved in practices using ionising radiation sources be sufficiently trained to implement protective measures, be aware of circumstances and of the requirements of normative acts, and be informed of potential risk related to given practices;
6. in accordance with the radiation safety requirements, supervises and maintains the applicable conditions, the measuring equipment and protective equipment against ionising radiation at workplaces and in other impact areas of ionising radiation sources;
7. ensures that only those workers who are involved in practices using ionising radiation sources be allowed to work with such sources, upon completion of a compulsory health examination.

### *(c) General Safety Considerations*

## *ARTICLE 10. PRIORITY TO SAFETY*

*Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that all Organizations engaged in activities directly related to nuclear installations shall establish policies that give due priority to nuclear safety.*

National BSS (article 12) lay down the basic principle for Radiation safety and nuclear safety culture - the safety considerations for any nuclear facility or radiation facility must prevail over other considerations. More detailed safety culture considerations are elaborated in other articles of Chapter II.

## *ARTICLE 11. FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES*

*1. Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate financial resources are available to support the safety of each nuclear installation throughout its life.*

The major facilities – Research reactor and Radioactive waste disposal ("RAPA" Ltd.) are mainly financed from the State Budget. The VARAM explains and gives proof to the Government concerning adequate funding for each fiscal year and long-term programmes.

Should other priority areas prevail at the Government and the Parliament, the VARAM provides extra funds from its resources (including extra-budgetary resources from Latvian Environmental Protection Fund) and assists the facilities in finding donors by maintaining good cooperation with international organisations.

For example, in fiscal year 1998, the Radioactive Waste disposal received from the Environmental Protection Fund of Latvia more than 150 000 USD for upgrades of infrastructure and management practices.

For the specific project – decommissioning of the research reactor, special funds were approved for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 by the Parliament. In 1998 the Cabinet approved extra financing from The Government Reserve Fund. The issues related to full scope financing for decommissioning project will be analysed by the Government in end of 2001.

*2. Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that sufficient numbers of qualified staff with appropriate education, training and retraining are available for all safety-related activities in or for each nuclear installation, throughout its life.*

For staff training and post-graduate studies, the Latvian Environmental Protection Fund provides funds for drafting of the Radiation Protection manual. The VARAM assists the University of Latvia and Riga Technical University to improve their syllabus according to the IAEA recommendations. Similar activities are carried out under EU projects and bilateral cooperation with donor countries.

With respect to training of inspectors and other officials from the State institutions, it has to be noted that it remains a high priority and is well reflected by Latvia's participation in international projects. Latvia participates in several regional IAEA TC projects (examples: RER/9/052 model project RER/9/056**;** RER/9/050 etc.) and maintains bilateral cooperation (examples: Sweden, Finland, Germany).

## *ARTICLE 12. HUMAN FACTORS*

*Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that the capabilities and limitations of human performance are taken into account throughout the life of a nuclear installation.*

The prevention of human errors is set up in National BSS (for example, requirements for defence in depth, calibration of equipment, quality assurance programmes etc.). Law and Cabinet Regulations on Conformity Assessment introduce similar procedures.

Licensing Regulations and National BSS require adequate staff training, set up educational requirements for experts, The licensing procedure requires the applicants to submit also information about available staff and their level of education.

## *ARTICLE 13. QUALITY ASSURANCE*

*Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that quality assurance programmes are established and implemented with a view to providing confidence that specified requirements for all activities important to nuclear safety are satisfied throughout the life of nuclear installation.*

The Quality assurance programmes are requested by the national BSS. More detailed requirements are also in Regulations on Radiation Protection during the Transport of Radioactive Materials. Any facility (especially "facilities of state significance") is requested to have QA and QC programmes. In addition to these requirements, the Licensing Regulation prescribes a special request of QA and states that the licence must be issued for a short time only, if the QA programme is either not supplied or is not adequate.

More stringent requirements are introduced for accreditation of laboratories and certification of dangerous goods.

One of the main tasks for inspectors is to control the implementation of QA programs.

## *ARTICLE 14. ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION OF SAFETY*

*Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:*
*(i) comprehensive and systematic safety assessments are carried out before the construction and commissioning of a nuclear installation and throughout its life. Such assessments shall be well documented, subsequently updated in the light of operating experience and significant new safety information, and reviewed under the authority of the regulatory body;*

The legal basis for the safety impact assessment is given in the law On Environmental Impact Assessment. (04.08.1998). Other safety assessment requirements are partly elaborated in Licensing regulations and Regulations On SSAC.

The general public and any municipal or other institution in respective regions should

have access to information concerning the evaluation of potential threat from nuclear facilities, as prescribed by the Licensing Regulations. Information about planned activities and major modifications of nuclear or radiation facilities should also be provided to the public.

Taking into account the fact that Latvia has no NPP, these requirements are not yet fully elaborated in the national legal framework. The main developments will pertain to radioactive waste management facilities.

*(ii) verification by analysis, surveillance, testing and inspection is carried out to ensure that the physical state and the operation of a nuclear installation continue to be in accordance with its design, applicable national safety requirements, and operational limits and conditions.*

The Licensing Regulations and National BSS prescribe the duties for State authorities in the field of inspections. The Licensing Regulations requires periodical renewal of licenses and as condition for issuance of them is quality assessment and quality control system, the physical state shall be assessed and controlled.

A nuclear safety inspector carries out verification of safety on regular basis and also performs non-announced (*ad-hoc*) inspections.

The State Minister for Environment approves the "Control Plan for facilities of State significance". Safety related tests are carried out according to this plan. This plan is more aimed at investigation of the impact of nuclear activities and radioactive waste management in adjacent areas.

## *ARTICLE 15. RADIATION PROTECTION*

*Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate steps to ensure that in all operational states the radiation exposure to the workers and the public caused by a nuclear installation shall be kept as low as reasonably achievable and that no individual shall be exposed to radiation doses which exceed prescribed national dose limits*.

The Law On Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety (Article 3) prescribes the basic principles of radiation protection and nuclear safety:
"(1) It shall be permissible to use ionising radiation sources or conduct activities in the environment of ionising radiation, provided that the following basic principles are observed:

1) the gains exceed the losses incurred by the said activities;
2) the exposure to radiation is kept as low as reasonably achievable within the given social and economic conditions;
3) the exposure of people and the environment to ionising radiation may not exceed the maximum permitted dose set in the Republic of Latvia;
4) the compulsory insurance of the employees and of the liability under civil law for damages that can be caused to a third party and its property, to nature and the environment, has been accomplished in the procedure set by the normative acts".

These requirements are further elaborated in National BSS.

The effective dose limit for exposed workers is **20 mSv** in a year. This limit refers to respective summation of doses, delivered by external source in a year (external exposure), and to dose equivalent delivered by internal exposure in a year, calculating from the total amount of delivered radionuclides within 50 years.

Effective dose limit shall be **1 mSv** in a year. Yet in exceptional situations, a higher effective dose may be authorized in a particular year, providing that the average dose for the following 5 years in succession shall not exceed 1 mSv in a year. This limit refers to respective summation of doses, delivered by external source in a given period of time (external exposure), and equivalent dose delivered by internal exposure in a period of 50 years (up to age of 70).

## *ARTICLE 16. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS*

*1. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that there are on-site and off-site emergency plans that are routinely tested for nuclear installations and cover activities to be carried out in the event of an emergency. For any new nuclear installation, such plans shall be prepared and tested before it commences operation above a low power level agreed by the regulatory body.*

The new Regulation on Preparedness for and Action in the Case of Radiation Accidents has been prepared and will become into the force in the nearest two months. This Regulation covers both the on-site and off-site emergency plans, including the large-scale actions to be taken in the case of an accident in the neighbouring countries. The governmental bodies co-ordinating the actions in the case of an emergency are the Radiation Safety Centre and the State Fire and Rescue Service.

The system and steps for the licensing of nuclear facilities and major modifications to such facilities are prescribed in the new licensing regulations. There are four major steps to be made prior to operation of the facility:

- approval of the initial concept and license for designing,
- approval of the design and license for building (installation),
- approval of installation and license for testing,
- issuance of the operational license.

The release of radioactivity below the threshold set by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development invokes the immediate informing of the RDC, whose responsibility is to supervise the operative action on the site of accident. A larger scale accident activates the State Fire and Rescue Service, the State Police and the National Armed Forces, which ensure appropriate control of an outer area of the accident aiming to prevent an entry into the contaminated area. The registration of radioactive contamination, the site decontamination, medical services and other preventive measures are taken to ensure the minimising of the consequences of an accident.

*2. Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that, insofar as they are likely to be affected by a radiological emergency, its own population and the competent authorities of the States in the vicinity of the nuclear installation are provided with appropriate information for emergency planning and response.*

The new Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety sets the requirements for immediate flow of information regarding radiation accidents and emergencies.

In addition to the National BSS, the requirements for the emergency planning and response as well as for the information regarding such emergencies are set out in several regulations:

- Licensing Regulations,
- Regulations on Preparedness for and Action in the Case of Radiation Accidents,
- Regulations on Radiation Protection during the Transport of Radioactive Materials.

*3. Contracting Parties which do not have a nuclear installation on their territory, insofar as they are likely to be affected in the event of a radiological emergency at a nuclear installation in the vicinity, shall take the appropriate steps for the preparation and testing of emergency plans for their territory that cover the activities to be carried out in the event of such an emergency.*

As stated in introduction of the Report, Latvia's major concern is the Ignalina NPP in the vicinity. According to the Law on Civil Protection, the main institution responsible for planning and implementation of these functions was the Centre for Civil Defence, which from August 1998 is fully integrated into the Fire Rescue System.

In June 2000, the regional agreement had been signed by all states in Baltic Sea region. That activity finalised the last left over issue for the established Working Group on Nuclear and Radiation Safety by the Baltic Sea States Council Committee of Senior Officials. According the Agreement all states concerned have to provide relevant data from their monitoring stations to all parties of the Agreement.

The Draft National Emergency Plan passed the examination by Swedish national institutions and shall be submitted to the Government in March 2002.

As stated in the Regulations on Preparedness for and Action in the Case of Radiation Accidents, the appropriate training is necessary for the testing of the emergency plans. Such training shall be carried out on regular basis, providing the opportunity to test the different levels of organization and improve the key aspects of the emergency planning.

This Report provides only basic principles for emergency preparedness according to radiation and nuclear safety legislation:

1. The subordinated institutions to the Ministry of Interior (former Civil Defence Centre) are responsible for:
   - planning,
   - testing of the plans,
   - notification alarm systems,
   - ensurance of adequate resources, and
   - co-ordination of the activities.

2. The Radiation Safety Centre is responsible for:
   - 24 hours operational emergency preparedness
   - expert advise in planning phase,
   - technical and scientific expertise of proposed activities,
   - drafting the dose limits for interventions teams,
   - drafting the intervention criteria,
   - exchange of early notification information,
   - expert advise in acute phase and also for remedial actions
   - technical assistance for site investigations with equipment and experts

***(d) Safety of Installations***

***ARTICLE 17. SITING***

In general, this part is not directly applicable to Latvia, but with respect to the research reactor and radioactive waste repository, a brief information is provided below.

The system and steps for the licensing of nuclear facilities and major modifications to such facilities are prescribed in the new licensing regulations. There are four major steps to be made prior to operation of the facility:

- approval of the initial concept and license for designing,
- approval of the design and license for building (installation),
- approval of installation and license for testing,
- issuance of the operational license.

*Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that appropriate procedures are established and implemented:*

*(i) for evaluating all relevant site-related factors likely to affect the safety of a nuclear installation for its projected lifetime;*

The Law On Environmental Impact Assessment and Licensing regulations govern these activities.

*(ii) for evaluating the likely safety impact of a proposed nuclear installation on individuals, society and the environment;*

The Law On Environmental Impact Assessment prescribes requirements for assessment of impact of proposed nuclear facilities on the environment. The mechanism of public hearing is established by Licensing regulations.

*(iii) for re-evaluating as necessary all relevant factors referred to in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) so as to ensure the continued safety acceptability of the nuclear installation;*

According to the Licensing Regulations the operational license could be granted for three years period. During the application process for renewal of operational license the operator (or job supervisor) shall submit all safety relevant information. According to National BSS the supervision of radiation and nuclear facilities is a continuous process, therefore inspectors together with operators shall re-evaluate safety related information during the inspections of facilities.

*(iv) for consulting Contracting Parties in the vicinity of a proposed nuclear installation, insofar as they are likely to be affected by that installation and, upon request providing the necessary information to such Contracting Parties, in order to enable them to evaluate and make their own assessment of the likely safety impact on their own territory of the nuclear installation.*

Unfortunately, the Ignalina NPP was designed, constructed and operated without prior negotiations with Latvia. The Republic of Latvia has always supported any activities related to improvements of the nuclear safety of INPP.

All national plans on emergency preparedness in both countries had been jointly tested and further developed under the Sweden-Baltic regional project on Emergency Preparedness. There are also other activities under this project related to safety assessment, preparation of background information for the assessment of the potential threats from INPP.

## *ARTICLE 18. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION*

*Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:*

*(i) the design and construction of a nuclear installation provides for several reliable levels and methods of protection (defence in depth) against the release of radioactive materials, with a view to preventing the occurrence of accidents and to mitigating their radiological consequences should they occur;*

Prevention of errors is set up by National BSS (example: requirements for defence in depth, calibration of equipment, quality assurance programmes etc.). In general legislation, these implementation procedures are introduced by the Law on Conformity Assessment which set up procedures for approvals of equipment.

The Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety had set up the responsibility for safety (strict liability of the operator) and these requirements are elaborated by National BSS in more detailed fashion.

*(ii) the technologies incorporated in the design and construction of a nuclear installation are proven by experience or qualified by testing or analysis;*

These provisions are only partly incorporated in national nuclear legislation because presently no new nuclear facility is planned. Should such regulations be needed, the Radiation Safety Centre, according to the Law, will "…assess the implementation of requirements and recommendations of international institutions in Latvia, and draft proposals for the amendment of relevant normative documents or for the development of new normative acts".

*(iii) the design of a nuclear installation allows for reliable, stable and easily manageable operation, with specific consideration of human factors and the man-machine interface.*

The prevention of human errors on the legal level is set up in National BSS (requirements for defence in depth, calibration of equipment, quality assurance

programmes etc.). In general legislation, these implementation procedures are introduced by the Law and the Cabinet Regulations on Conformity Assessment.

## *ARTICLE 19. OPERATION*

*Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure that:*

*(i) the initial authorization to operate a nuclear installation is based upon an appropriate safety analysis and a commissioning programme demonstrating that the installation, as constructed, is consistent with design and safety requirements;*

In general legislation these implementation procedures are introduced by Law on Conformity Assessment, which set up procedures for approvals of equipment.
The Law on Radiation safety and Nuclear Safety had set up the responsibility of safety (strict liability of operator) and more detailed elaborated by National BSS.
The Licensing Regulations request the job supervisor to provide all safety related information together with the application for a license.

*(ii) operational limits and conditions derived from the safety analysis, tests and operational experience are defined and revised as necessary for identifying safe boundaries for operation;*

These provisions are only partly incorporated in national nuclear legislation because presently no new nuclear facility is planned. Should such regulations be needed, the Radiation Safety Centre, according to the Law, will "…assess the implementation of requirements and recommendations of international institutions in Latvia, and draft proposals for the amendment of relevant normative documents or for the development of new normative acts".

In addition to these requirements, the Licensing regulations introduces two approaches:

- periodical renewal of license and safety for all activities shall be ensured by assessment;
- multi-step authorisation for any significant modification of a nuclear facility.

*(iii) operation, maintenance, inspection and testing of a nuclear installation are conducted in accordance with approved procedures;*

The part of these provisions are covered by the National BSS, some other (related to safeguards) by the Regulations on State Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials.
These provisions are only partly incorporated in national nuclear legislation because presently no new nuclear facility is planned. Should such regulations be needed, the Radiation Safety Centre, according to the Law, will "…assess the implementation of requirements and recommendations of international institutions in Latvia, and draft proposals for the amendment of relevant normative documents or for the development of new normative acts".

*(iv) procedures are established for responding to anticipated operational occurrences and to accidents;*

The basic requirements for operator (job manager) were set up by the National BSS. The RDC shall approve operational practices in more detail as the conditions of the license. Several activities are prescribed by the new regulations on Preparedness for and Action in the Case of Radiation Accident.

*(v) necessary engineering and technical support in all safety related fields is available throughout the lifetime of a nuclear installation;*

Owners and operators (job managers) are responsible to ensure engineering and technical support according to the National BSS. Such preconditions are included also in the set of licensing regulations.

*(vi) incidents significant to safety are reported in a timely manner by the holder of the relevant licence to the regulatory body;*

The immediate reporting to the RDC by any licence holder and job manager is requested in case of incidents or accidents. This, in addition to the new Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety, is outlined in several Regulations such as "On State Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials", "On the Radiation Protection during the Transport of Radioactive materials", and "On the Preparedness and Action during Radiation Emergencies".

*(vii) programmes to collect and analyse operating experience are established, the results obtained and the conclusions drawn are acted upon and that existing mechanisms are used to share important experience with international bodies and with other operating organizations and regulatory bodies;*

Only part of these provisions exist in national BSS with respect to information exchange among users of similar equipment and methodologies, practices (chapter on Safety Culture).

*(viii) the generation of radioactive waste resulting from the operation of a nuclear installation is kept to the minimum practicable for the process concerned, both in activity and in volume, and any necessary treatment and storage of spent fuel and waste directly related to the operation and on the same site as that of the nuclear installation take into consideration conditioning and disposal.*

These provisions are set in the Cabinet Regulations on the Radioactive Waste Management, but the Law introduces some requirements also directly to ensure that waste generation is well controlled and follow the fundamental provisions for radioactive waste management.

## Annex 1

## The List of International Agreements Ratified and Acceded To

1. 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was acceded on *31 January 1992*,
2. 1971 Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil thereof was ratified on *24 March 1992*,
3. 1986 Vienna Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident was acceded on *28 December 1992*,
4. 1986 Vienna Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency was acceded on *28 December 1992*,
5. The Agreement between the Republic of Latvia and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was signed on *21 December 1993*;
6. 1960 Convention concerning the Protection of Workers against Ionising Radiation was ratified on *8 March 1994*,
7. 1963 Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage was acceded on *15 March 1995*,
8. 1988 Joint Protocol relating to the Application on the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention was acceded on *15 March 1995*,
9. 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed on *24 September 1996*,
10. 1994 Convention on Nuclear Safety was acceded on *25 October 1996*,
11. 1977 European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism Latvia ratified on *4 March 1999*,
12. The Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency was ratified on *5 January 2000*,
13. Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management was acceded on *2 February 2000*;
14. Protocol Additional to the Agreement between the Republic of Latvia and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was acceded on *19 January 2000*;
15. Agreement on the Exchange of Radiation Monitoring Data was acceded on *6 June, 2001*;
16. 1997 Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage was acceded on *13 June 2001*.
17. 1971 Convention relating to Civil Liability in the field of Maritime Carriage of Nuclear Material has been accepted by the Cabinet of Ministers on *2 October 2001* and submitted to the Parliament for ratification.

**Annex 2**

**The List of National Legal Documents**

1. The Cabinet regulations on Dosimetric Control of Goods Transported Across the State Border (*10.09.1996*);
2. The Cabinet Regulations on Committee of Strategic Export and Import (*22.01.1997*);
3. The Cabinet Regulations on Protection against Ionising Radiation (*12.08.1997, amendments in 1997, 1998*)
4. The Cabinet Regulations on Medical Contraindications (*17.03.1998*);
5. The Cabinet Regulations on State Accounting and Control System of Nuclear Materials (*14.04.1998*);
6. The Cabinet Regulations on Control of Radioactive Contamination in Food Products (*26.05.1998*);
7. The Cabinet Regulations on Control of Radioactive Contamination in Animal Feeding Products (*09.03.1999*);
8. The Cabinet regulations on Radioactive Waste Management (*03.08.1999*).

**The List of New Legal Documents**

1. The framework Law on Radiation Safety and Nuclear Safety (*26.10.2000*);
2. The Cabinet regulations on the Statutes of the Radiation Safety Board (*20.03.2001*);
3. The Cabinet regulations on the Statutes of the Radiation Safety Centre (*22.05.2001*);
4. The Cabinet regulations on Activities involving Ionising Radiation Sources, which do not require a Special Permit (License) or Permit (*03.07.2001*);
5. The Cabinet regulations on State Duty Regarding Issuance of Special Permit (License) or Permit for Activities involving Ionising Radiation Sources (*03.07.2001*);
6. The Cabinet regulations on the minimum amount of Operator's Civil Liability Insurance if Activities involving Ionising Radiation Sources are Practised (*03.07.2001*);
7. The Cabinet regulations on the Criteria for the application for a Special Permit (License) or Permit for Activities involving Ionising Radiation Sources (*03.07.2001*);
8. The Cabinet regulations on the Procedure of the issuance of a Special Permit (License) or Permit for Activities involving Ionising Radiation Sources and Procedure for Public Dispute on the Construction of Ionising Radiation Facilities of State Significance or on Essential Modifications thereto (*03.07.2001*);
9. The Cabinet regulations on Protection against Ionising Radiation during the transport of Radioactive Materials (*03.07.2001*).
10. The Cabinet regulations on the Fill-in of the Information in the Radiation Safety Data Sheets for the Sources of Ionising Radiation (*18.09.2001*).
11. The Cabinet regulations on the Packaging and Labelling of the Sources of Ionising Radiation (*18.09.2001*).