Comisia Nationala pentru Controlul Activitatilor Nucleare (CNCAN)

National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control

Romanian Regulatory Framework for Nuclear Safety

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Romania has ratified all the international conventions relevant for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and has a robust legislative and regulatory framework for nuclear safety.

The Romanian nuclear regulatory framework is fully aligned with the international legislation.

CNCAN is the Romanian national authority responsible for the regulation, licensing and control in the nuclear field, for all the nuclear and radiological installations and associated activities.

CNCAN has all the necessary legal powers to issue mandatory regulations, to issue licenses for nuclear facilities and activities and to perform evaluations, inspections and enforcement.

CNCAN has the responsibility to ensure, through the regulations issued and the dispositions arising from the licensing and control (evaluation, inspection and enforcement) processes, that an adequate framework is in place for the safe and secure deployment of nuclear activities.

The regulations issued by CNCAN cover the following:

- **Nuclear safety;**
- **Radiation safety;**
- **Nuclear safeguards / Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;**
- **Physical protection of nuclear facilities and materials;**
- **Protection of nuclear installations against cyber security threats;**
- **Transport of nuclear and other radioactive materials;**
- **Management of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel;**
- **Emergency planning and preparedness and intervention in case of nuclear accident;**
- **Manufacturing of products and supply of services for nuclear installations / supply chain;**
- **Quality management systems for nuclear installations and activities.**

CNCAN regulates nuclear safety, security and safeguards in an integrated manner.

The Romanian nuclear safety regulations have evolved over time, taking account of:

- **the development of international legislation and safety standards**
- **operating experience and feedback from the industry**
- **feedback from CNCAN reviewers and inspectors based on their experience with the application and enforcement of the regulations**
- **the results of research and development activities**
- **international cooperation.**

The regulatory framework is predictable and transparent. All new regulations are subject to public consultation.

The majority of the nuclear safety regulations are technology-neutral.

Several regulations have been issued to be specifically applicable to CANDU nuclear power reactors and these are based on Canadian regulatory documents.

The Romanian regulatory approach represents a balance between the prescriptive and the goal-setting approaches.

The primary responsibility for safety rests with the licensee and the legislation recognizes and promotes this principle.

The current nuclear safety regulations cover adequately all the phases of the development of a nuclear project.

In addition to the mandatory regulations, CNCAN has issued also several nuclear safety guides (e.g. on industrial codes and standards for NPPs, on safety analyses, on refurbishment of nuclear installations).

The existing regulatory framework is sufficiently comprehensive to support the regulatory activities of licensing, review and inspection of the existing and planned nuclear installations and projects, including the refurbishment of Unit 1 of Cernavoda NPP, the restart of construction for the deferred Units 3 and 4 and the development of new projects, such as SMRs.

In order to ensure the exchange of information relevant to nuclear safety, CNCAN has a number of bilateral agreements with regulatory bodies from other countries. In particular, CNCAN maintains frequent communications on regulatory matters with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The partnership between Romania and Canada has been essential for the development of our regulatory framework and is reflected in our regulations and in the practices for the licensing, review and assessment and inspection of NPPs. We have received significant support for the training and qualification of our staff and we exchange operating and regulatory experience on a regular basis.

We are looking forward to continuing this cooperation, to support our sharing of experience and lessons learned, with the common goal of ensuring and improving nuclear safety for both the existing nuclear installations and the new projects.