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International Atomic Energy Agency

The importance to ensure effective interactions between the relevant regulatory body and the Interested Parties

Workshop on Promoting Effective Interaction Among Nuclear Industry and Regulatory Body in Countries Introducing Nuclear Power Programmes
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Content

1. Importance of Communication
2. Transparency and Openness
3. IAEA Safety Standards
4. Safety Guides
5. Institutional Strength in Depth
6. Conclusion



Importance of Communication

- Communication and consultation with interested parties
 - are strategic instruments that support the regulatory body in performing its regulatory functions
 - enables the regulatory body to
 - make informed decisions
 - develop the awareness of safety amongst interested parties, thereby promoting **safety culture**
 - Regular communication and consultation with interested parties contribute to more effective communication by the regulatory body in a nuclear or radiological emergency
 - are mandatory components of various international conventions and treaties that detail the role of governments.

Importance of Communication

- Public have strong expectation to have:
 - access to reliable, comprehensive and easily understandable information about safety and regulatory issues in order to form their own opinions
 - fair and reasonable opportunities to provide their views and to influence regulatory decision making processes

Transparency and Openness

Accountability

- Transparency and openness promote accountability of the regulatory body, a key contributor to safety culture
- Accountability enhances **confidence of interested parties** in the regulatory body
- Accountability increases their **confidence that their views will be properly taken into account** by the regulatory body

Credibility and legitimacy

- Transparent and open communication and consultation reinforces an **awareness of the role and responsibilities** of the regulatory body and how it discharges its duties and seeking to maintain and continuously improve safety
- Helps to **demonstrate and reinforce the distinction** between the regulatory body and those organizations concerned with public acceptance of nuclear energy

Transparency and Openness



Quality in the performance of regulatory functions

- Participation in the regulatory decision can **influence** or even challenge the regulatory body and information it used
- **Knowledge** of interested parties (e.g., Residents on local environment, and social factors), can inform how issues are framed
- Allow the regulatory body to better **understand and better consider** interested parties' **concerns** as it performs its regulatory functions

Independence

A high level of transparency and openness

- allows the regulatory body to **demonstrate its independence**
- contributes to ensuring **its freedom from undue influences** that might adversely affect safety

IAEA Safety Standards

An effective legal and governmental framework for safety, including an independent regulatory body, must be established and sustained

3.10. The Regulatory Body must:

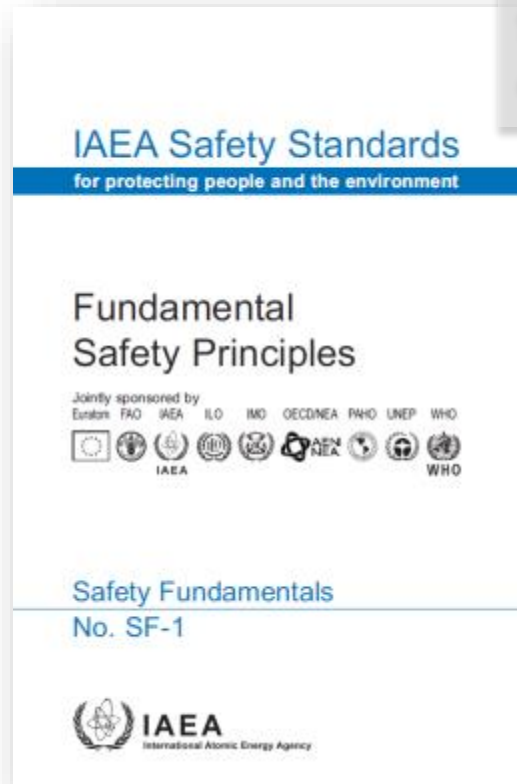
- Set up appropriate means of **informing parties** in the vicinity, the public and other interested parties, and the information media about the safety aspects (including health and environmental aspects) of facilities and activities and about regulatory processes
- **Consult parties** in the vicinity, the public and other interested parties, as appropriate, in an open and inclusive process

Responsibility for safety

Role of government

Leadership and management for safety

Justification of facilities and activities



Optimization of protection

Limitation of risks to individuals

To protect people and the environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation.

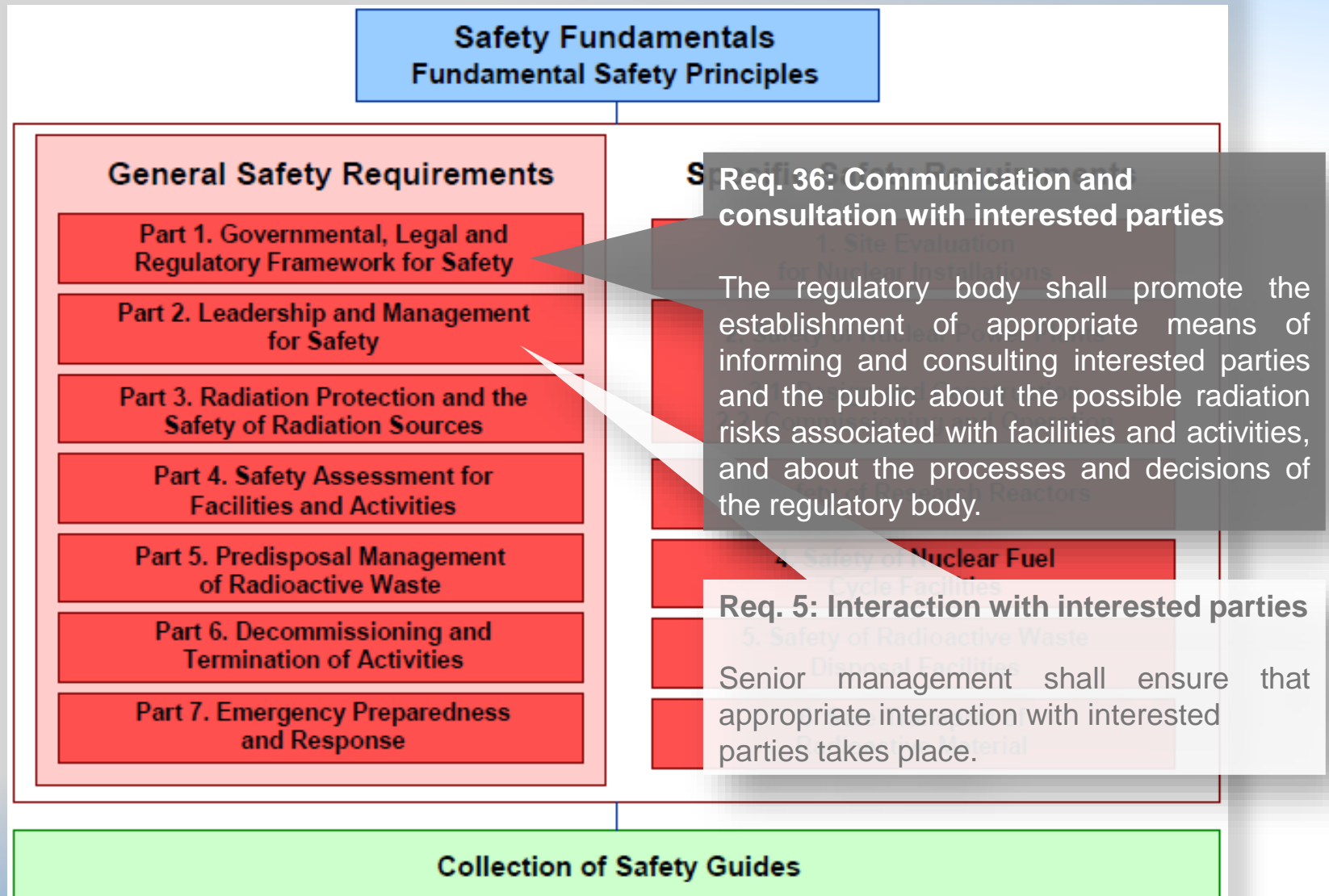
Protective actions to reduce existing or unregulated radiation risks

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Prevention (and mitigation) of accidents

Protection of present and future generations

IAEA Safety Standards



IAEA Safety Standards

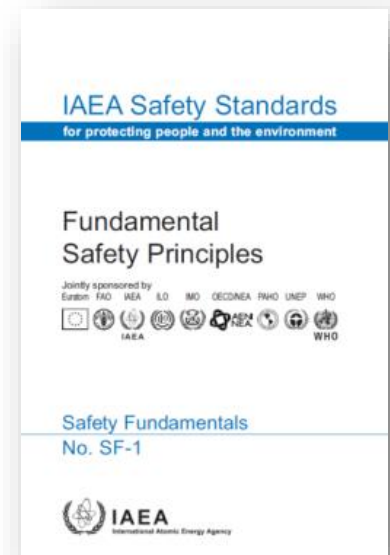


The Government

- Shall set out provision for the involvement of interested parties and for their input to decision making

Regulatory bodies shall

- Promote the establishment of appropriate means of informing interested parties
- Establish a system that includes provision of information to interested parties, with exceptions allowed by national law
Consult by means of an transparent, **open and inclusive process** with interested parties residing in the vicinity of authorized facilities and activities and the others



All concerned organizations (Regulators, operators...) Shall ensure processes, plans and strategy include appropriate means of:

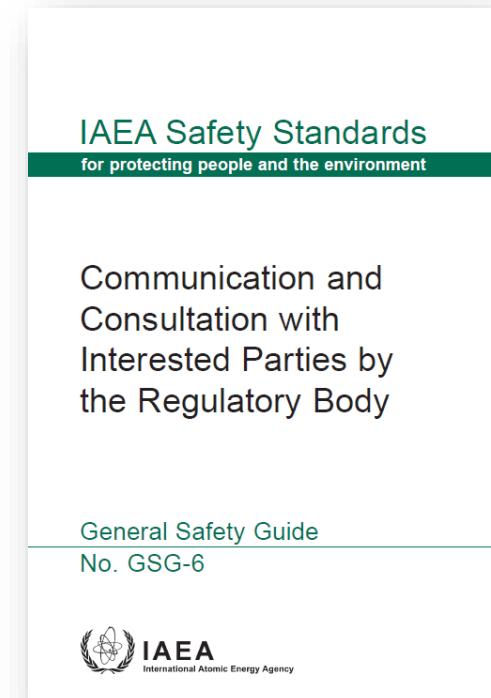
- Communicating routinely and effectively with and informing interested parties
- Timely and effective communication in circumstances that have changed or were unanticipated
- Dissemination to interested parties of necessary information relevant to safety
- Considering in decision making the concerns and expectations of interested parties in relation to safety

The **authorized party** has an obligation to inform the public about the possible radiation risks (arising from operational states and accidents, including events with a very low probability of occurrence) associated with the operation of a facility or the conduct of activities , including the results from the safety assessment

These obligations should be specified in the regulation promulgated by the regulatory body, in the authorization or by other legal means

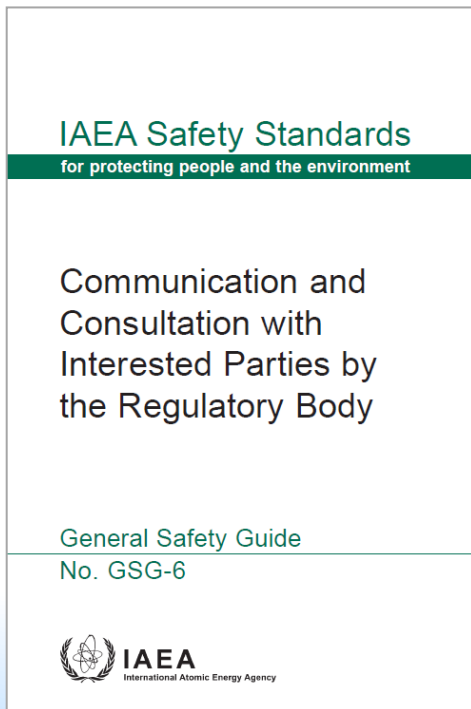
Content

1. Importance of Communication
2. Transparency and Openness
3. IAEA Safety Standards
- 4. Safety Guides**
5. Key Aspects for Communication
6. Conclusion



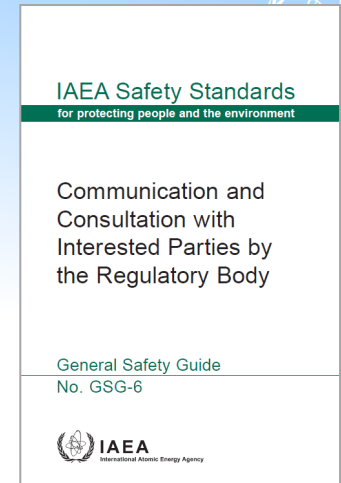
Safety Guides

General guidance and recommendations for regulatory bodies concerning communication and consultation



- **Overarching recommendations** to be applied to meet safety requirements
- Provisions of the **regulatory framework** to be taken into account when establishing communication and consultation with interested parties
- Need for having leadership and provisions in order for the **regulatory body** to develop and **implement** a communications strategy
- **Methods of effective communication and consultation**

Safety Guides



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

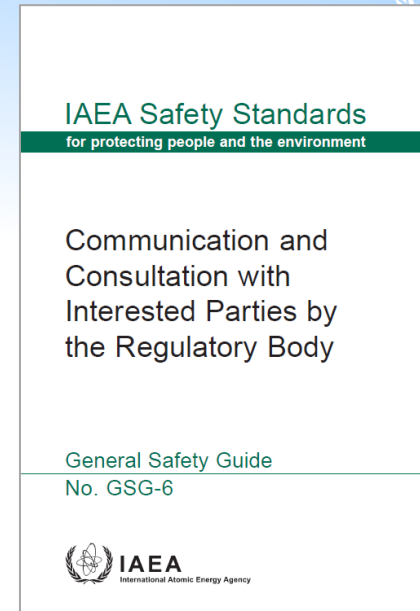
- **INDEPENDENCE**
 - In any interaction with interested parties, no undue influence
- **TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS**
 - Information proactively available and Promotion of an active participation
- **EARNING TRUST**
 - Perception: Demonstration that the regulatory body is independent, competent, objective, reliable, transparent, responsive...
- **KEY PROVISIONS**
 - Resource, processes for information and consultation
- **AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION**
 - Appropriate access to information, Sensitive information not to be disclosed on legal basis

Regulatory bodies are responsible for the oversight of safety and should not be biased for or against the use of nuclear or radiation technologies

Safety Guides

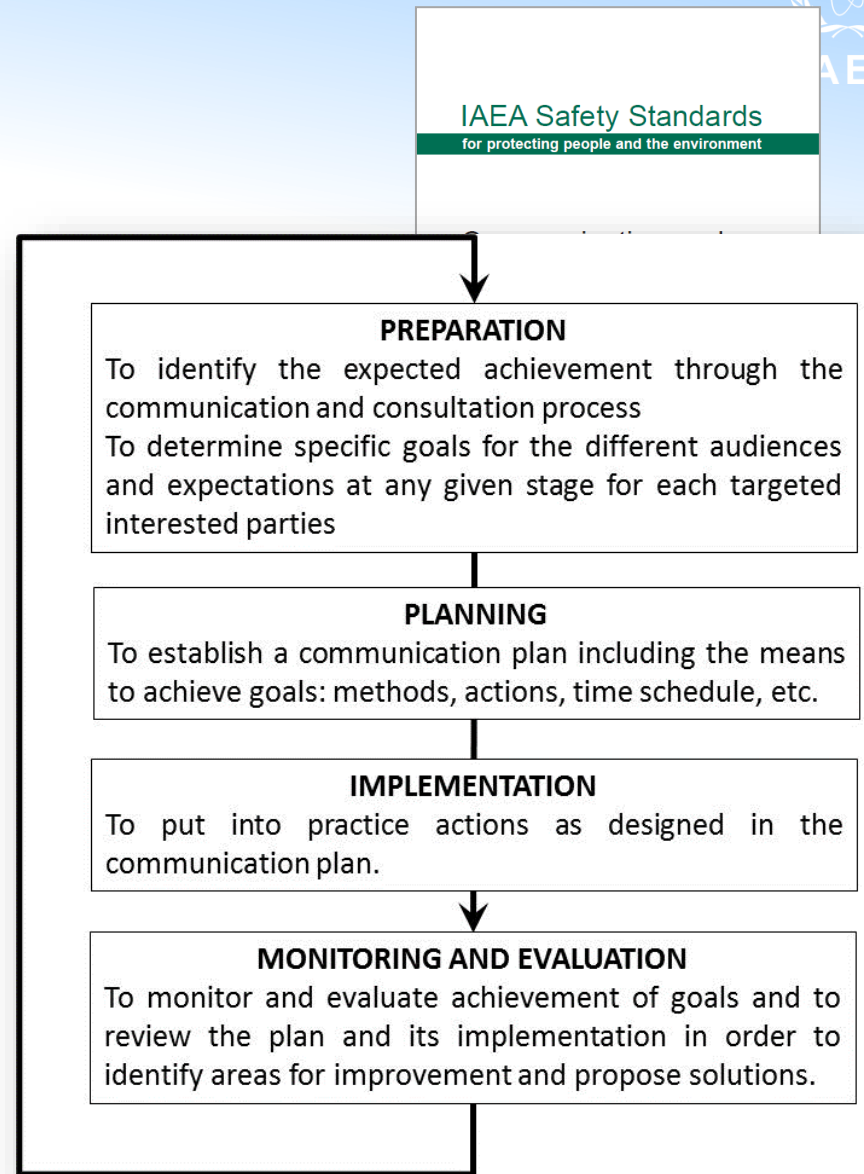
3. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- Identification of means and (legal) provisions
- Requirements placed on the licensees (regulations, license conditions, others)
- Specific care to restricted-access information for legal reasons



4. IMPLEMENTATION BY REGULATORY BODY

- Leadership, strategy, clear responsibilities
- Management system provisions and competence
- Interested parties
- Communication and consultation process

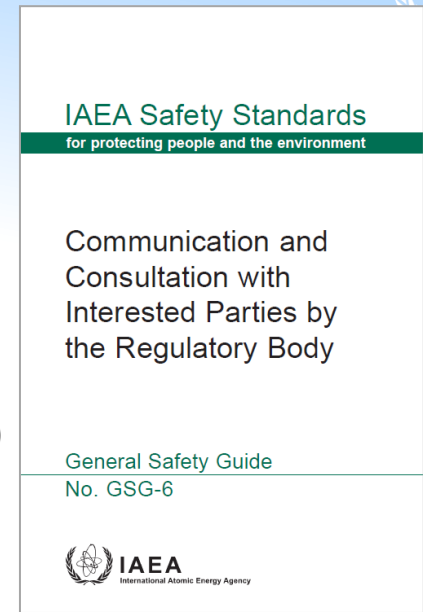


Safety Guides

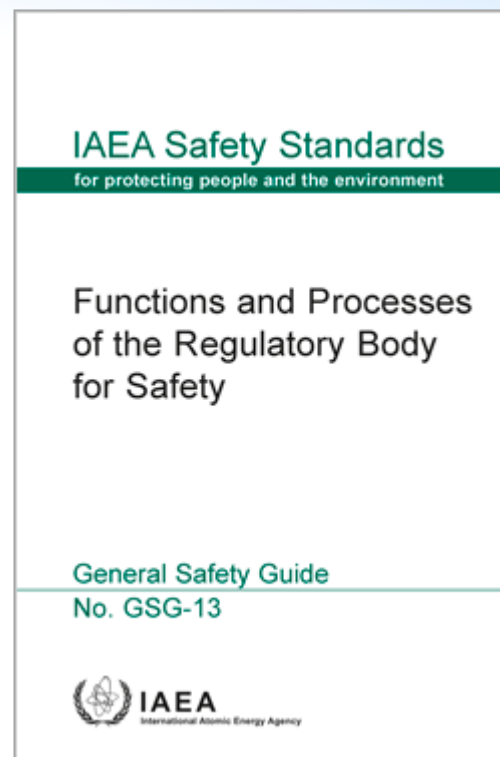
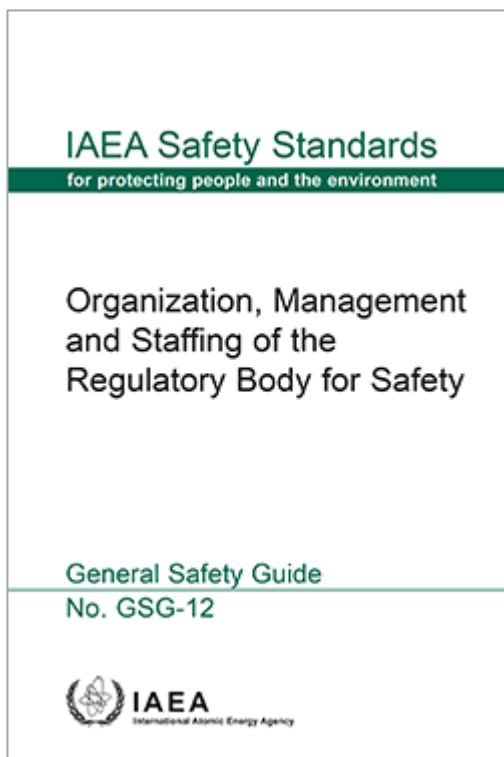


METHODS OF COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

- Information
 - How to deliver information (format, tools, channels...)
- General provisions for (effective) participation
 - Clarity, step-by-step, timing, experts
- Dialogue (to increase the effectiveness of communication)
- Consultation
 - When, stages...
- Collaboration
 - May be necessary with some parties for exploring potential solutions



Safety Guides



The regulatory body should establish and maintain arrangements for effective interactions, communications and consultation with the interested parties

ENSURING ROBUST NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY SYSTEMS — INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTH IN DEPTH

INSAG (International Nuclear Safety Group)-27



FIG. 1. A simple model of a robust national nuclear system. (Note: 'Regulation' includes all regulatory activities and controls, but a prime method of interaction and feedback is regulatory inspection activities.)

Conclusion – Key Aspects of Communication

- **Independence** is important for decision making
- **Transparency** and **openness** are important to provide evidence that the regulatory body act in order to enhance safety and protect citizens
- **Trust** is build over daily actions based on transparency, openness and independent actions
- Communication and participation mechanisms are **long-term issues**, requiring a systematic approach to ensure **continuity** and **consistency**
- Way of communication and consultation **may differ** from country to country



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Thank you for your attention!