

FOREWORD

by the Directors General of the Sponsoring Organizations

[To be prepared after approval]

PREFACE

The basic requirements for protection against exposure to ionizing radiation and radioactive materials and for the safety of radiation sources are presented in these Basic Safety Standards: International Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources (hereinafter called the Standards). The Standards are a joint publication of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), hereinafter referred to as the Sponsoring Organizations (see the List of Sponsoring Organizations, Participants, Consultants and Contributors included at the end). The Standards are intended for the use of the Sponsoring Organizations; however, they are also recommended for use by Member States, regulatory authorities and radiation protection specialists in formulating national or institutional radiation protection regulations.

There have been continuing efforts over the last several decades to harmonize radiation health and safety standards internationally. The Board of Governors of the IAEA first approved radiation health and safety measures in March 1960¹, when it was stated that "The Agency's basic safety standards... will be based, to the extent possible, on the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP)". The Board approved the first version of the Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection in June 1962², and approved a revised version in 1965.³ The last revision of the Standards was published as IAEA Safety Series No. 9 (1982 Edition) on behalf of the sponsoring organizations.⁴ The philosophy underlying each edition of the Standards has been that of the latest Recommendations of the ICRP. The ICRP issued new Recommendations in 1991⁵.

An Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety (IACRS) was constituted in 1990 as a forum for consultation and collaboration in radiation safety matters between international organizations.⁶ The IACRS consists of the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), (formerly) the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), the FAO, the IAEA, the ILO, the OECD/NEA, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) and the WHO. These organizations were subsequently joined by the PAHO. The ICRP, the International Commission on Radiological Units and Measurements (ICRU), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) and the International Standards Organization (ISO) have observer status in the IACRS. The objective

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, The Agency's Health and Safety Measures, IAEA/INFCIRC/18, Vienna (1960), The Agency's Safety Standards and Measures, IAEA/INFCIRC/18/Rev.1, Vienna (1976).

² International Atomic Energy Agency, Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, Safety Series No. 9, IAEA, Vienna (1962).

³ International Atomic Energy Agency, Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, 1967 Edition, Safety Series No. 9, IAEA, Vienna (1967).

⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection, 1982 Edition, jointly sponsored by IAEA, ILO, NEA/OECD and WHO. Safety Series 9, IAEA, Vienna (1982).

⁵ INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION, 1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection, Publication 60, Pergamon Press, Oxford and New York (1991).

⁶ See the IAEA Annual Report for 1990, IAEA/GC(XXXV)/953, p.86.

1 of the LACRS is to promote consistency and co-ordination of policies with respect to the following areas of
2 common interest: applying radiation safety fundamentals (including principles, criteria and standards) and their
3 transformation into regulatory terms; co-ordinating research and development; advancing education and training;
4 promoting widespread information exchange; facilitating the equitable transfer of technology and know-how; and
5 providing radiation safety services.
6

7 Within this framework, the Sponsoring Organizations established a Joint Secretariat (hereinafter the Joint
8 Secretariat), co-ordinated by the IAEA, to prepare these Standards.
9

10 The Standards include a Preamble, the Requirements and a Glossary of Terms and Definitions, together
11 with Appendices and Annexes and a List of the Sponsoring Organizations, Participants, Consultants and
12 Contributors. The Preamble states the aims and the basis of the Standards and describes appropriate
13 governmental organizations for protection and safety. The Requirements specify what is imperative in order to
14 fulfil the aims of the Standards and include general framework, requirements for practices and requirements for
15 interventions. Indicative numerical guidance is provided in the Appendices, and the Annexes contain some
16 explanatory material on the underlying principles and philosophy.
17

18 The Standards are published in the IAEA's Safety Series. This Series encompasses Fundamentals,
19 Standards, Guides and Practices documents relating to nuclear safety, radiation protection and radioactive waste
20 management. The Series includes other related international standards, codes, guides and regulations such as
21 the Nuclear Safety Standards (NUSS) of the IAEA's Nuclear Safety Standards Advisory Group (NUSSAG),
22 the Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials of the IAEA's Standing Advisory Group on the
23 Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials (SAGSTRAM) and the forthcoming Waste Management Standards
24 (RADWASS) of the IAEA's Waste Management Advisory Group. The other organizations of the Joint
25 Secretariat have also produced codes and guides in their spheres of activity: the ILO has issued a code of
26 practice for the radiation protection workers and other relevant publications; the PAHO and the WHO have
27 issued a number of documents relating to the safety of workers and patients in medical applications of radiation;
28 the FAO and the WHO have established, through the Codex Alimentarius Commission, guideline levels for
29 radioactive substances in foodstuffs moving in international trade; and OECD/NEA has published documents
30 on specific topics relating to radiation safety.
31

32 The Standards are limited to specifying basic radiation safety requirements, with little guidance on how
33 to apply them. Some general guidance on applying some of the requirements is already available in the
34 publications of the Sponsoring Organizations and additional guidance will be developed as needed. More
35 detailed guidance on some specific areas will be developed in the light of experience.
36

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8

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17 **LIST OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICIPANTS, CONSULTANTS AND CONTRIBUTORS**

PREAMBLE

1
2
3
4 Over the 20th century, a vast amount of information has been gained on levels of exposure to
5 ionizing radiation (hereinafter referred to as radiation) and their health effects and on technologies for
6 controlling radiation sources. Comprehensive understanding has been gained from extensive research
7 and development programmes and from operating experience around the world. The results of this
8 unprecedented effort have been regularly compiled by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the
9 Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) as well as by scientific and engineering professional
10 organizations at both the national and the international level.

11
12 On this basis, radiation protection and nuclear safety objectives have been formulated for (a) the
13 adoption and continuation of human activities that can increase the exposure of people to radiation (so-
14 called 'practices') and (b) processes for reducing existing levels of exposure through 'interventions'.
15 Although practices and interventions may differ enormously in scale and technical complexity, they have
16 in common the agent giving rise to the risk and necessitating safety provisions: radiation.

17
18 The common objective of radiation protection and nuclear safety is to protect people and the
19 environment -- and populations of other species -- from adverse effects of radiation, while still allowing
20 justified activities from which radiation exposure may result. Complementary objectives are to keep risks
21 caused by radiation exposure as low as reasonably achievable and, within prescribed constraints, to
22 prevent accidental radiation exposures and to mitigate the consequences of any accident that does
23 occur. The objectives encompass the safety of all people exposed or potentially exposed to radiation,
24 and include the ethical obligation to protect future generations, which could be affected by present
25 practices.

26
27 In order to achieve these objectives, a number of general and fundamental protection and safety
28 principles have been developed on an international level. A global consensus on such principles has
29 been achieved by expert bodies, notably the long established International Commission on Radiological
30 Protection (ICRP), which has issued recommendations on radiation protection since its inception in 1928,
31 and by the relatively new International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group (INSAG), which has been
32 formulating nuclear safety concepts since 1985 under the auspices of the IAEA. These principles provide
33 the basis for the Standards.

34
35 These Standards have been developed within this framework. They establish requirements for
36 protection against radiation risks arising from practices giving rise to exposure to radiation and for the
37 safety of radiation sources within these practices, as well as for intervention in situations involving
38 existing sources of radiation. The practices of concern for these Standards include: the use of radiation
39 sources and radioactive substances in medicine, research, industry, agriculture and teaching; the
40 generation of electricity by nuclear power, including the entire cycle of activities from the mining of
41 radioactive ores to the operation of nuclear reactors and fuel cycle facilities and the management and
42 disposal of radioactive wastes; practices involving exposure to natural radiation such as the industrial
43 use of materials such as phosphatic minerals which contain naturally occurring radioactive substances;
44 and the transport of radioactive substances. Situations that may require intervention include exposure
45 to existing natural sources of radiation, such as radon in dwellings, and to radioactive contamination
46 following an accident

47
48 The relevant exposures encompass the expected and potential exposures of radiation workers, of
49 patients in diagnosis or treatment, and of members of the public. 'Potential' exposures are those which
50 would occur only in the event of unplanned occurrences such as equipment failures, accidents, errors
51 or the failure of protective measures.

1 The Standards cover such a broad range of practices and sources that involve or could involve
2 exposure to radiation that many of their requirements are necessarily drafted in general terms in order
3 to cover the entire range of activities to be regulated. It follows that a given requirement will have to be
4 fulfilled differently for different types of practices and sources, according to the nature of the operations
5 involved and the potential for large exposures. Not all the requirements will apply to every practice or
6 to every source. It is up to the regulatory authority to specify which of the requirements are applicable
7 in each case.

8
9 The Standards do not apply to non-ionizing radiation nor to the control of non-radiological aspects
10 of health and safety. Such matters should nevertheless be kept in mind when applying the Standards
11 and, conversely, these Standards should be taken into account in applying safety measures in these
12 areas.

13
14 The radiation protection parts of the Standards are based primarily on the 1990 Recommendations
15 of the ICRP (see footnote 5). In the safety area the available international recommendations include
16 those of INSAG⁷ and although these were developed for nuclear power plants, they have been
17 incorporated into the Standards to the extent that they are applicable. Other standards, guides and
18 recommendations of the Sponsoring Organizations have also been used as source material, notably
19 those from the Nuclear Safety Standards (NUSS) programme of the IAEA.

20
21 Explanatory material on the radiobiological evidence and the radiation protection principles of the
22 1990 Recommendations of the ICRP on which the Standards are based is included in Annex I. A
23 summary of relevant principles of safety and safety culture adapted from INSAG publications is given
24 in Annex II.^{7,8}

25
26 The basic principles of radiation protection and safety may be summarized as follows:

- 27
28 -- No practice that involves or could involve exposure to radiation should be adopted unless it yields
29 sufficient benefit to the exposed individuals and to society to offset the radiation detriment it causes.
30
31 -- Sources should be accorded the best protection and safety measures that are reasonably achievable
32 under the prevailing circumstances, such that the magnitude and likelihood of individual exposures
33 and the number of people exposed are as low as reasonably achievable and are within the dose
34 limits and the specified dose and risk constraints.
35
36 -- Individual doses due to the combination of all relevant practices should not exceed predetermined
37 limits.
38
39 -- Protection and safety should be ensured by sound engineering and management, quality assurance,
40 trained and qualified personnel, comprehensive safety assessments, and lessons learned from
41 experience and research.
42
43 -- Defence in depth measures should be applied to compensate for potential failures in protection or
44 safety measures.
45

46 ⁷ INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP, Basic Safety Principles for Nuclear Power Plants, Safety
47 Series No. 75-INSAG-3, IAEA, Vienna (1988).

48 ⁸ INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP, Safety Culture, Safety Series No.75-INSAG-4, IAEA,
49 Vienna (1991)

- 1 -- Radiation exposure due to existing sources of radiation should be reduced by intervention when
2 justified.
3
4 -- Practices should not jeopardize the general natural state of the environment.
5
6 -- Safety culture should be developed which governs the safety attitudes, actions and interactions of
7 all persons and organizations engaged in activities concerned with sources of radiation.
8
9 -- The operator of a source should bear the ultimate responsibility for protection and safety.
10

11 Although operators have the ultimate responsibility for applying these principles, governments also
12 help to ensure their proper application, generally through a regulatory system. Governments also usually
13 provide for certain essential radiation safety services, that are beyond the capabilities of [operators] or
14 that complement the capabilities of operators. The purpose of these Standards is to specify the basic
15 radiation safety requirements for operators and other related parties rather than for governments, and
16 therefore governmental responsibilities are not included under the requirements. However, some
17 elements of regulatory systems and of other governmental responsibilities in radiation safety are outlined
18 in the following to provide a context for the basic requirements of the Standards.
19

20 GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION

21
22 *[Note that governmental responsibilities presented under this heading are not framed as*
23 *requirements but, described as good regulatory practices.]*
24

25 **National infrastructure for protection and safety**

26
27 A national infrastructure, including legislation and regulations, a regulatory authority, certain essential
28 radiation protection and safety facilities, equipment and services, and an adequate number of trained
29 people, is needed to ensure that all aspects of radiation safety are adequately dealt with.
30

31 The purpose of the national infrastructures is to provide for addressing societal concerns which
32 extend beyond the legal responsibilities of the operators authorized to conduct practices with sources
33 of radiation. For example, national authorities can ensure that appropriate arrangements are made to
34 detect any build-up of radioactive substances in the general environment, to dispose of radioactive
35 wastes and to be prepared for emergencies that could result in exposure of the general public.
36

37 National infrastructure can also ensure that facilities and services that are essential for proper
38 radiation protection and safety but are beyond the required capabilities of the persons who are
39 authorized to conduct practices are provided. Such facilities include those for personnel dosimetry and
40 environmental monitoring, for calibration and intercomparison of radiation measuring equipment, as well
41 as central registries of occupational doses and of information on equipment reliability.
42

43 The components of a national infrastructure are generally provided by the government, either through
44 governmental authorities or through organizations acting on behalf of the government. The government
45 also ensures that the provision of such services at a national level does not detract from the primary
46 responsibility for radiation safety of the operators and workers authorized to conduct the practices and
47 operate the sources.
48

49 **Regulatory authorities**

50
51 National authorities that are established by governments regulate the introduction and conduct of
52 any practice involving sources of radiation. Governments need to provide these regulatory authorities
53 with sufficient powers and resources for effective regulation. Much of the Standards is drafted as if there

1 were a single regulatory authority for all aspects of radiation safety in each country; 'regulatory authority'
2 as used in these Standards should generally be taken to mean the relevant regulatory authority for the
3 particular source or aspect of radiation safety in question.
4

5 The type of regulatory system in a given country will depend on the size, complexity and protection
6 and safety implications of the regulated practices and sources, as well as on the regulatory traditions
7 in the country. The mechanism for carrying out regulatory duties can vary, with some authorities being
8 completely self-sufficient and others delegating some inspection, assessment or other duties to various
9 government, public or private agencies. A regulatory authority might also be self-sufficient in specialist
10 expertise or may augment its capabilities by expert advisors and advisory committees.
11

12 In general, regulatory authorities assess, as necessary, applications for conducting practices that
13 involve exposure to radiation; authorize such practices and the sources associated with them, subject
14 to certain specified conditions; and periodically inspect for compliance with these specified conditions.
15 They also assess the overall effectiveness of radiation protection and safety measures for each
16 authorized practice, as well as the combined health and environment impacts of all authorized practices.
17

18 For these purposes, regulatory authorities need to establish regulations and standards for protection
19 and safety and provide for their enforcement. They institute formal systems for notification, registration
20 and licensing, as well as provisions for exclusion or exemption from regulatory requirements, and make
21 provisions for surveillance, monitoring, review, verification and inspection of practices and sources. They
22 also prescribe intervention.
23

24 The government needs to ensure that the regulatory authorities are independent, particularly of
25 designers, constructors and operators. The separation of the responsibilities is made clear so that the
26 regulators retain their independence as safety authorities. The government also needs to ensure that
27 some competent body is assigned responsibility for the regulatory surveillance of protection and safety
28 measures for patients and of quality assurance measures for the equipment and techniques used for
29 medical irradiation. The government also needs to ensure that adequate arrangements are provided by
30 the operators, or that other arrangements are made, for the education and training of radiation protection
31 and nuclear safety specialists and for fostering information exchange among specialists.
32

33 Regulatory authorities also need to provide for the control of certain natural sources of radiation for
34 which no other organization has responsibility, such as radioactive residues from past practices and
35 some cases of exposure to natural radiation. Duties of regulatory authorities include the setting of
36 generic exposure constraints for broad types of sources such as X ray machines or nuclear reactors.
37 They also ensure that adequate plans exist for dealing with radiation accidents, including emergency
38 interventions.
39

40 Regulatory authorities may also specify additional requirements for specific sources and practices.
41 Moreover, they provide guidance on how various types of operator may be expected to satisfy the
42 regulatory requirements, such as in the form of regulatory guideline documents.
43

44 Regulatory authorities need inspection procedures to define the powers of inspectors, maintain
45 consistency of enforcement, and provide for appeals by operators. They also need to ensure that
46 directives to both their inspectors and their operators are clear and unambiguous and to develop
47 appropriate mechanisms for informing the public, their representatives and the media about the health
48 and safety aspects of radiation uses and about regulatory processes. This is helpful in assigning
49 appropriate priorities and resources in relation to total allocations for health and safety and in making
50 the regulatory process more readily understandable
51

52 The authorities would encourage operators to take due account of lessons learned from experience
53 and of new developments in radiation protection and the safety of sources, in addition to applying the

1 basic requirements of these Standards. They also encourage the development of a safety culture in
2 operators, which includes:

- 3 – individual and collective dedication to safety, on the part of both workers and management;
- 4 – accountability of all persons for safety, including those at corporate and management levels;
- 5 – encouraging a questioning attitude and discouraging complacency,
- 6 – openness and co-operation between operators and inspectors, which include facilitating the
7 access by inspectors to premises and to relevant information.
8

REQUIREMENTS

1
2 **1. GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR REQUIREMENTS**

3
4 **1.1. PURPOSE**

5
6 (1) The purposes of the Standards are to specify basic requirements for the protection of health
7 from harm due to exposure to radiation and for the safety of radiation sources (hereinafter,
8 protection and safety).

9
10 **1.2. SCOPE**

11
12 **1.2.1 Application**

13
14 (2) The Standards apply to:

- 15 (a) any practice or intervention in any State that adopts the Standards or requests any of
16 the sponsoring organizations to provide for the application of these Standards;
- 17 (b) any practice or intervention undertaken by States with the assistance of the FAO, the
18 IAEA, the ILO, the PAHO, or the WHO, in conjunction with relevant national rules
19 and regulations;
- 20 (c) operations carried out by the IAEA, or making use of materials, services, equipment,
21 facilities and information made available by the IAEA or at its request or under its
22 control or supervision, or under any bilateral or multilateral arrangement where the
23 parties request the IAEA to provide for the application of these Standards, and to any
24 of an IAEA Member State's activities in the field of nuclear energy where the State
25 requests the IAEA to provide for the application of these Standards, whereby the
26 Standards are applied under the provisions of "The Agency's Safety Standards and
27 Measures".⁹
- 28

29 ⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency: "The Agency's Safety Standards and Measures"; INFCIRC 18/REV.1; IAEA (April
30 1976)

1 1.2.2 Practices

2
3 (3) For the purpose of the Standards, the term practice is used to mean any activity that
4 introduces additional sources of exposure, exposure pathways or scenarios, or extends exposure
5 to additional people, or modifies the network of pathways from existing sources, so as to increase
6 the exposure or the likelihood of exposure of people, or the number of people exposed.

7
8 (4) The practices to which the Standards apply include, but are not limited to, the following:

9 (a) Practices causing exposure to natural sources of radiation whenever the adoption or
10 introduction of such practices is a matter of choice and results in an increase in
11 exposure of people over the background exposure that they would inevitably incur.

12 (b) The use of artificially produced radiation and radioactive materials, including: medical
13 practices such as radiodiagnosis, radiotherapy, nuclear medicine and clinical and
14 laboratory testing and research for medical purposes; industrial practices such as
15 radiopreservation of food, industrial gauging, and non-destructive testing by
16 radiography; education and research; and agricultural and veterinary practices.

17 (c) The generation of energy by nuclear power, including any activity in the nuclear fuel
18 cycle.

19
20 1.2.3 Interventions

21
22 (5) For the purposes of the Standards, the term intervention is used to mean any action
23 intended to reduce exposures to existing sources, whether altering the causes of exposure,
24 modifying the exposure pathways, or by changing people's habits, circumstances or actions so as
25 to preclude them from exposure.

26
27 (6) The intervention situations to which these Standards apply include, but are not limited to,
28 the following situations:

29 (a) long standing situations involving exposure to natural sources of radiation, such as
30 exposure to radon and other naturally occurring radioactive substances in [pre-existing]

1 buildings, [including the continuation of long standing practices involving only such
2 exposures and] whenever such continuation is unavoidable; and

- 3 (b) situations where exposures could occur due to the presence of radioactive residues
4 from previous events, such as contamination caused by accidents.

5
6 **1.3 EXCLUSIONS**

7
8 (7) These Standards do not apply to:

- 9 (a) sources for which the exposure is essentially unamenable to the requirements of the
10 Standards, such as naturally occurring radioactive substances in the concentrations
11 occurring in nature, cosmic radiation at low altitudes, and radioactive substances that
12 are natural constituents of the human body, such as potassium-40;

- 13 (b) scenarios and accident sequences that may lead to potential exposures whose the
14 magnitudes are essentially unamenable to the requirements of Standards; however, the
15 evidence of a very low probability of occurrence of a scenario or accident sequence
16 is not a sufficient condition for the exclusion of such scenarios or sequences.

17
18 **1.4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

19
20 (8) Besides the Sponsoring Organizations and the Regulatory Authorities, the Parties having
21 responsibilities for the application of these Standards are those indicated in the Requirements
22 for Practices and Requirements for Intervention respectively.

23
24 (9) The Parties shall discharge the general responsibilities given in this part and the specific
25 responsibilities set out in other parts of the Standards.

26
27 (10) The general responsibilities of each Party are:

- 28 (a) to establish protection and safety objectives relevant to the Party, in conformity with
29 the requirements of these Standards;

- 1 (b) to determine the measures and provide the resources needed to achieve these
2 objectives;
- 3 (c) to ensure that these measures are properly taken;
- 4 (d) to make a continuing review of performance, including a programme of verification
5 to determine how effectively the [original] objectives are being achieved; and
- 6 (e) to identify failures and shortcomings and to take steps to prevent their recurrence.
- 7

8 1.5 RECORDS

9

10 (11) Each Party shall keep general records on the discharge of its responsibilities as well as
11 specific records as required by these Standards.

12

13 (12) Unless otherwise specified by these Standards, all general records shall be retained for at
14 least ten years and summary records shall be retained for at least thirty years.

15

16 1.6 INSPECTIONS

17

18 (13) Each Party shall permit duly authorized representatives of the Regulatory Authority and -
19 wherever applicable - of the relevant Sponsoring Organizations, to inspect, copy and take away
20 copies of its records and to inspect its premises, activities and personnel and any source under
21 its responsibility as may be necessary to fulfil the purposes and requirements of these Standards.

22

23 1.7 VIOLATIONS

24

25 (14) In the event of breach of any requirement of these Standards, the appropriate Party shall:

26 (a) investigate the breach,

27 (b) take appropriate action to remedy the circumstances that led to the breach and to
28 prevent a recurrence of similar breaches;

- 1 (c) report to the Regulatory Authority and - wherever applicable - to the relevant
2 Sponsoring Organizations on the causes of the breach as determined by the
3 investigation and on the corrective or preventive actions taken or to be taken; and
4 (d) take whatever other actions are necessary as required by these Standards.
5

6 (15) Failure to take corrective or preventive actions within a reasonable time shall be grounds
7 for modifying, suspending or withdrawing the relevant registration, authorization or licence.
8

9 (16) Wilful violation, attempts to violate or conspiracy to violate any requirement of these
10 Standards are subject to the provisions for breach of the Standards as provided by the appropriate
11 national legislation, or by regulations or other administrative procedures promulgated by the
12 Regulatory Authority and - wherever applicable - by the relevant Sponsoring Organizations.
13

14 **1.8 ENTRY INTO FORCE** 15

16 (17) For the Sponsoring Organizations, the Standards come into force six months after the date
17 of their adoption by the statutory Governing Body(ies) of the relevant Sponsoring Organization;
18 for a State, the Standards come into force at the time indicated by the formal adoption by the
19 State.
20

21 (18) Wherever a modification to a practice or source is required in order to comply with some
22 requirement of the Standards, that requirement shall take effect within any approved period of
23 up to five years after the date of adoption if such a period is required for the modification.
24 During this period, interim dose limits may be used for some specified practices or for some
25 sources with the practice, or for particular operations with a source, which may be higher than
26 the limits specified by the Standards but which shall not exceed the limits specified in the 1982
27 Edition of the IAEA/ILO/NEA/WHO Basic Safety Standards for Radiation Protection.
28

29 **1.9 RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT** 30

1 (19) The requirements of these Standards are in addition to and not in place of other applicable
2 requirements in international binding conventions and national regulations. In any case of
3 conflict between the requirements in these Standards and those in other applicable requirements,
4 the requirement that would achieve the best protection and safety shall apply.

5
6 **1.10 INTERPRETATION**

7
8 (20) Except as specifically authorized by the Governing Bodies of the relevant Sponsoring
9 Organizations, no interpretation of these Standards by any officer or employee of the relevant
10 Sponsoring Organization(s) other than a written interpretation by the Director General of the
11 Sponsoring Organization(s) will be binding upon the Organization(s).

12
13 **1.11 COMMUNICATIONS**

14
15 (21) All reports and any other communication concerning these Standards shall be addressed to
16 the Regulatory Authority and, whenever appropriate, to the relevant Sponsoring Organizations.
17