BRAZILIAN EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR RADIOLOGICAL ACCIDENTS

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Brazilian emergency planning for radiological sccidents is organized to respond promptly to any emergency at nuclear power plants or other installations utilizing nuclear fuel. It consists of several committees (see Figure 1): a general coordination committee with representatives from several federal departments, with final decision with the Brazilian Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN), and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (SEMA). Some committees conduct support activities. For example, the Operational Coordination Committee supervises the tasks undertaken by the Army, Navy, and Air Force in response to the needs and decisions of the general coordination committee.

BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY COMMISSION (CNEN)

The CNEN was created on October 10, 1956. Its main tasks are related to guidance, planning, supervision, and inspection of nuclear activities in Brazil to ensure the safety of the public and the environment. To reach its objectives, CNEN has the following specific tasks:

- o Maintaining direct and continuous contact with each nuclear facility;
- Planning and performing off-site monitoring;
- o Monitoring persons suspected of being contaminated;
- o Evaluating the situation;
- o Making suggestions for protective actions.

Additionally, CNEN carries out research and development programs in the field of nuclear energy in general that includes radiation protection and nuclear energy. To develop its technical and scientific activities, CNEN has the support of the its three research institutes: the Institute of Radiation Protection and Dosimetry (IRD), the Institute of Nuclear Engineering (IEN), and the Energy and Nuclear Energy Research Institute (IPEN).

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