

# IRPA 12 – Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association

22 October 2008

## Radiation Safety in Practice Towards an International Safety Regime: The Role of IAEA

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**IAEA**

*Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century  
1957–2007*

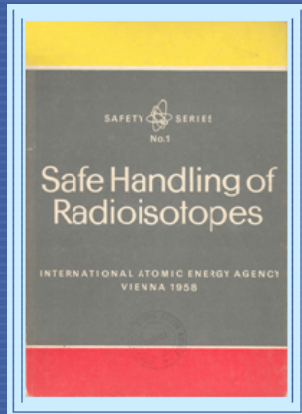
# Why Safety Standards?

## IAEA Statute (Article III.A.6)

- “To establish or adopt... [in consultation with...] standards of safety for the protection of health and minimization of danger to life and property”
- “...and to provide for the application of these standards”

# History

*Safe Handling  
of Radioisotopes*



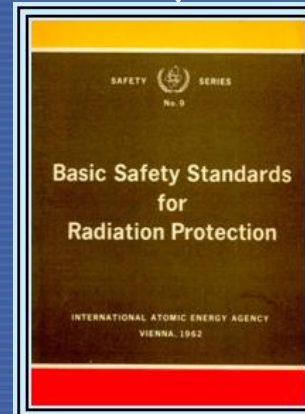
1958

*Safe Transport  
of Radioactive  
Material*



1961

*BSS for  
Radiation  
Protection*



1962

*Radioactive Waste  
Disposal into the  
Ground*



1965

# Institutional Changes Towards a Global Regime

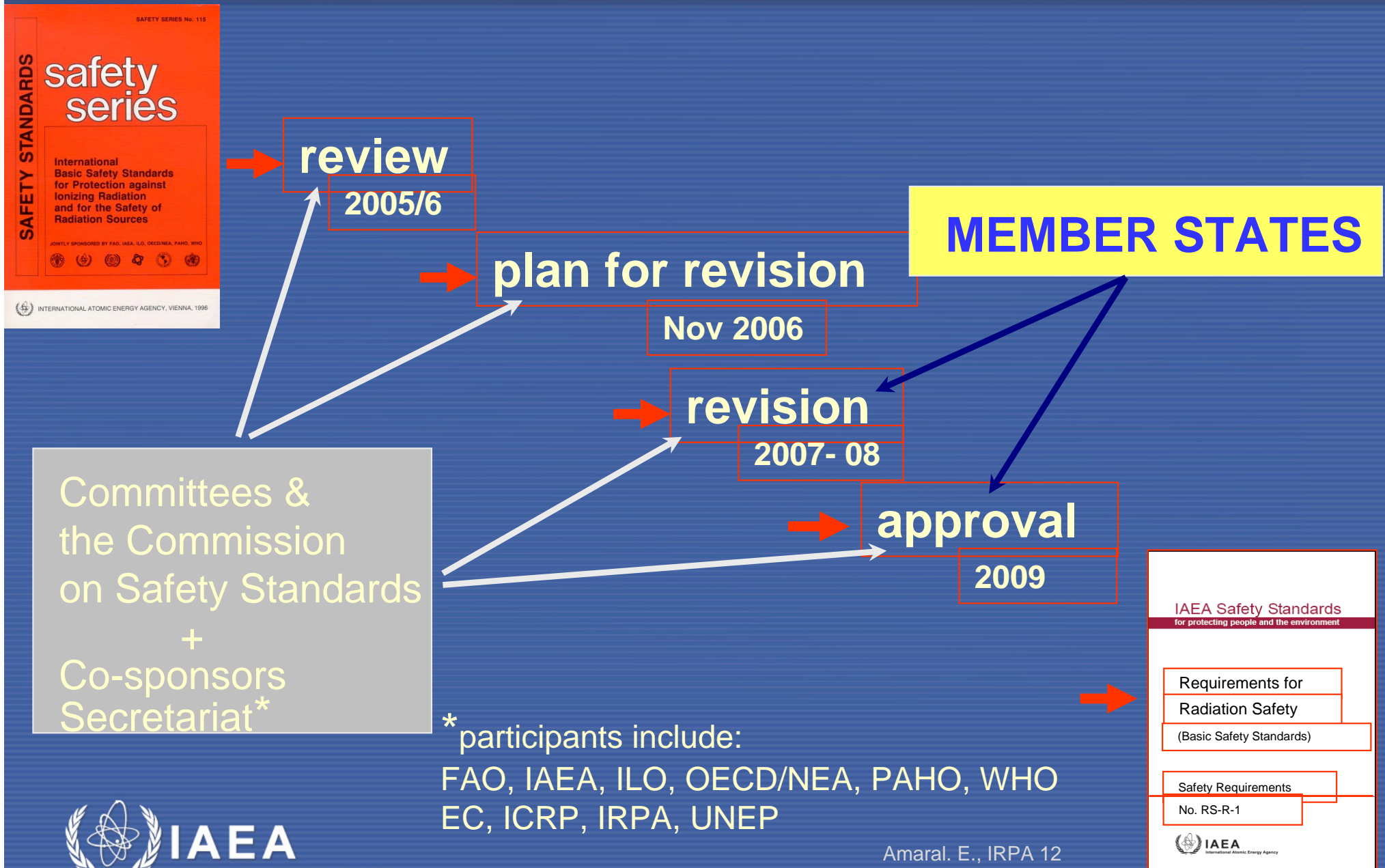
- Since **Chernobyl** awareness of need for global institutional mechanism on nuclear and radiation safety.
- Creation of the Department of Nuclear Safety.
- Formalization of IAEA safety standards development.
- Agreement and implementation of Conventions and Codes of Conduct in the areas of nuclear safety and security.
- Provision for safety standards application.

# Strategy Towards Global Safety Regime





# The BSS – the process of review and revision



# Waste Classification Scheme

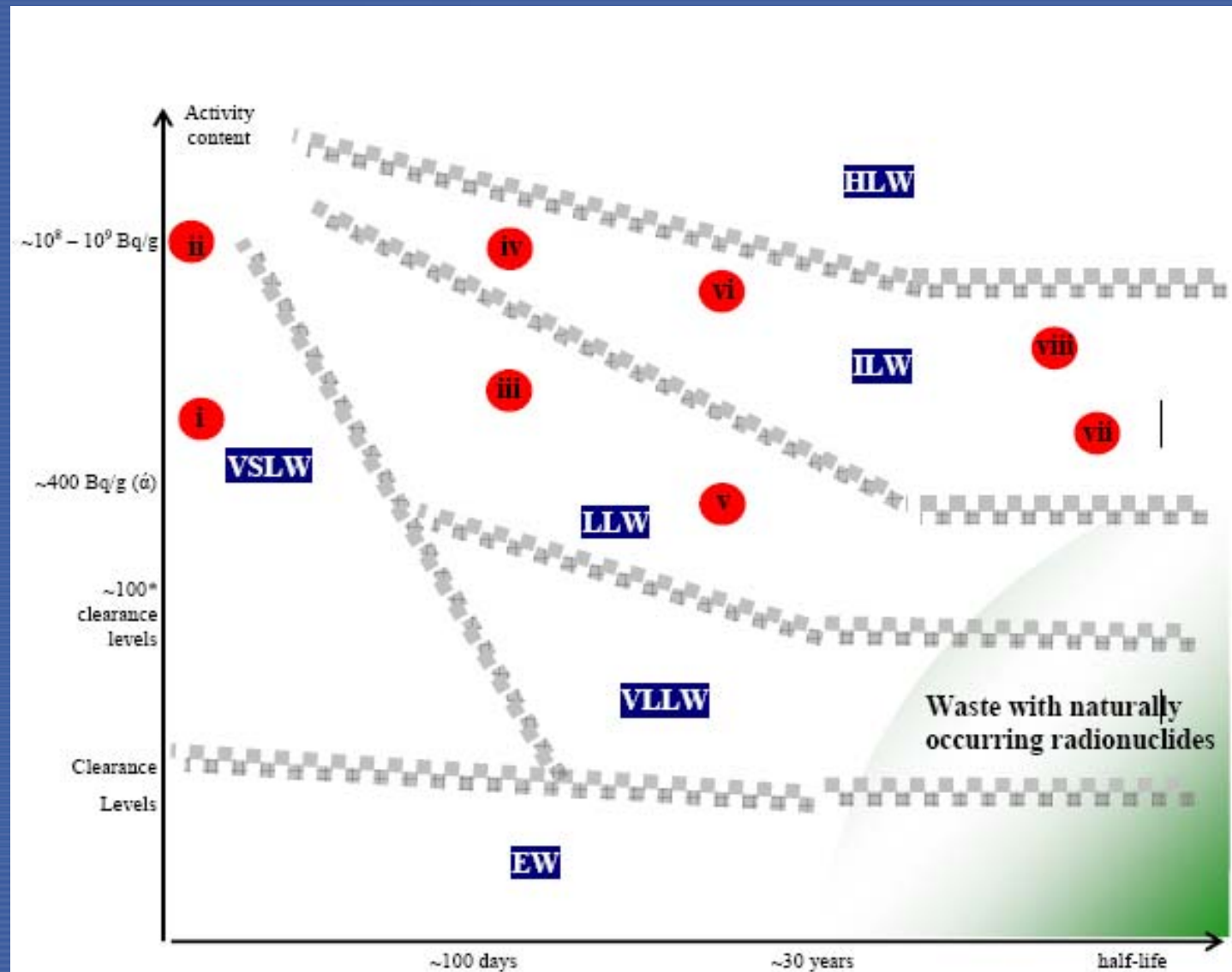


FIG. III-1. Illustrative example for the application of the waste classification scheme.



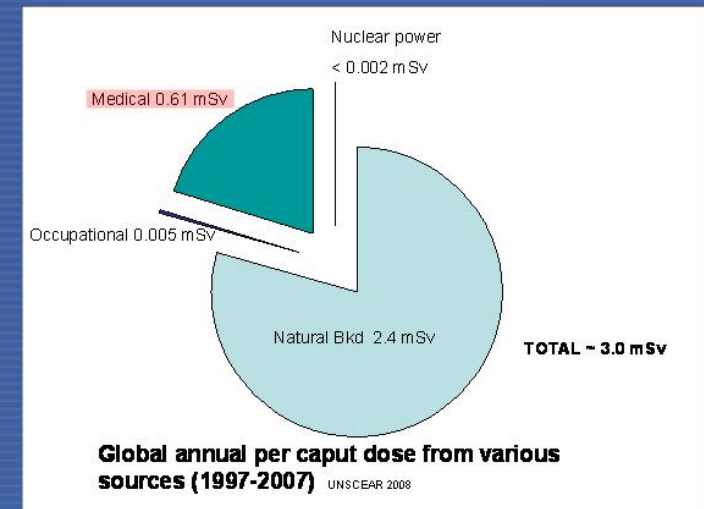
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Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century

1957-2007

# Conclusions from the Round Table on Medical Exposures

- Medical exposure still overwhelmingly most significant
- Stakeholders should remain vigilant
- Essential: close interactions between radiation regulatory body, health authorities and labour authorities in MS
- Information and guidance needs to reach all relevant facilities





# Conclusions from the Round Table on Denial of Shipment

- **Need to work together – industry, MS, Secretariat**
- **Industry needs to report evidence**
- **NFPs need effective communication with constituents**
- **Interdependency between MS noted – mutual support important (through code of conduct?)**
- **The role of attendees at the GC:**
  - **Empowerment of those seeking to solve the problem**
  - **Energising governments to recognise problem and support solutions**

# Conclusions from the Round Table on Upsurge in the uranium mining and production industry

- **Regional approaches to common problems in remediation and developing regulatory control and monitoring systems in Africa, Asia and South America;**
- **Cooperative approaches with other organizations such as the World Bank, EBRD, OSCE, and the UNDP;**
- **The promotion of the concept of lifecycle planning at an early stage of a uranium mining project;**
- **Resurrection of the UPSAT peer review programme coordinated by the IAEA;**
- **In the future the development of international networks of regulators and operators will play a key role in spreading the principles of Best Practice to uranium producers across the world;**
- **Currently the major limitations at the IAEA in assisting Member States revolve around the need for significant additional funding and human resources.**

# Concluding Remarks

Currently there is only one IAEA Fundamentals for safety and a new structure for safety standards is being designed.

“No room to implement separately radiation, waste, transport and nuclear safety”.

# Concluding Remarks

- Integration at all levels is crucial for improvement of safety and of credibility on nuclear energy and application of ionising radiation, but **you at the national level** are the one who can ensure radiation protection standards are met, particularly in the revival of nuclear energy, uranium mining and development of new technologies in the medical area. We are counting on you and we are relying.