French national response plan to nuclear or radiological accidents

ERIC GOSSET, YOHANN DERRIEN, LAURENT DUCAMIN
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY (SGDSN)
STATE PROTECTION AND SECURITY DIRECTORATE
May 12, 2015
National response plan to nuclear or radiological accident

After the Fukushima nuclear accident, the French government considered it imperative to reinforce the prevention and the emergency preparedness.

On the last point, the French Prime Minister issued a response plan to:

- complements the long-standing organization to manage nuclear emergencies,
- provide elements to better understand these highly unlikely situations and their potential consequences,
- provide strategies for 8 reference situations within or out of France,
- Achieve transparent and clear public information, international information and exchanges,

To ensure the required strong coordination of involved entities, this plan was led by the French Prime Minister’s general secretariat for defence and national security (SGDSN), in coordination with involved government departments, the nuclear safety authority, nuclear safety technical experts and nuclear operators.

The plan provides crisis actors with a mutual emergency preparedness and response framework
French national organisation

**POLITICAL STRATEGIC DECISION**

**Prime minister**
in liaison with the President of the Republic, political and strategic decisions

**COORDINATE**

**Designated minister in charge of the emergency management and cross-ministerial coordination**
Emergency cross-ministerial committee

**Sector-specific plans and organisations**
ministries emergency centre and competent entities

**IMPLEMENT**

**Territorial planning**

**Regional and local actors**

**Nuclear operators and local actors plans**

**INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION**

**NATIONAL ACTION**

**International representatives**
Plan Structure

The plan lies on 8 situations (without any consideration on causes):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>uncertainty, doubt</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>Transport</th>
<th>Aboard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Rumours of accident - Suspected release of radioactivity - Increase of measured radioactivity ...</td>
<td>National civil or defence facilities</td>
<td>All modes of transport on the French territory and oversea by boats</td>
<td>Facility or transport accident abroad (near or far) Situations distinguished by the potential consequences on the French territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Situation 0</td>
<td>Situation 1 – 2 – 3</td>
<td>Situation 4 – 7</td>
<td>Situation 5 – 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The plan has been framed in two parts:

- **First part**: National and territorial organisation, Cross-sector strategies
- **Second part**: decision making guide for the 8 reference situations organized around 8 themes

The plan refers to a series of sheets that describe how response measures are to be implemented.
Conclusion

The French response plan to a nuclear or radiological accident:

- is drawn from long-standing experiences in nuclear emergency management,
- takes into account Fukushima nuclear accident’s global feedback,
- coordinates national and local actions / political strategies and technical actions,
- is a collaborative achievement of involved government departments, the nuclear safety authority, technical experts and operators,
- is coming up with a crisis toolbox,
- is implemented territorially throughout France.

The plan has been already tested and approved through a major national exercise, global feedback revealed the value of the planned organisation

A continuous improvement process is still ongoing through a cross-ministerial organisation led by the Prime Minister’s General Secretariat for Defence and National security (SGDSN)
Thanks for your attention

The plan can be downloaded at:

http://www.risques.gouv.fr/risques-technologiques/accident-nucléaire
http://www.sgdsn.gouv.fr/site_rubrique146.html

For any question:

nr-dts.pse@sgdsn.gouv.fr