

2. Introduction

The Radiation Waste Management (RWM) Project in Forum of Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA) has focused on the safe management of spent radiation sources and the current status of TENORM in its 1st and 2nd task activities. Those results are shown in FNCA RWM-002 published in 2003, and -003 published in 2005.

Following these past activities due to FNCA-RWM, the 3rd task has been started since 2005; targeting “Decommissioning and Clearance”. We notice that the contents of this 3rd task are strongly related with the past activities, especially with TENORM problems. Therefore some countries in FNCA-RWM have continued their discussion on the management of the NORM/TENORM coupling with the discussion on Decommissioning and Clearance in this task.

IAEA has issued some documents on the management of radioactive waste management under its Radioactive Waste Safety Standards Programme. For the practices in the real sites, several safety guides have also been issued; WS-G-2.1, WS-G.2.2, and WS-G.2.4. The objectives of WS-G-2.1 is to provide guidance to national authorities, including regulatory bodies, and operating organizations to ensure that the decommissioning process for nuclear power plants and research reactors is conducted in an safe and environmentally acceptable manner. WS-G-2.2 covers all aspects of the decommissioning of medical, industrial and research facilities where radioactive materials and sources are produced, received, used and stored. In addition, WS-G-2.4 is set out recommendations relating to the decommissioning of nuclear fuel cycle facilities. These are all effective to discuss on the decommissioning in FNCA-RWM.

IAEA has also issued RS-G-1.7; targeting the application of ideas of exclusion, exemption, and clearance. The Safety Guide elaborates on the possible application of these values to clearance. Each country can use these values. However, each authority should establish his own clearance system following his real situation.

Three Work-Shops have been held in Ningyo-Toge, Japan (2005), in Beijing, China (2006), and in **, Thailand (2007). In addition, site visits and discussion on the problem with related authorities, radiation safety staffs, radiation controllers, radiation protection researchers, etc. have been performed in Indonesia and The Philippines (2005), Malaysia and Australia (2006), and Thailand and Vietnam (2007). This task report has been written based on the results through all of the activities of the FNCA-RWM 3rd task on Decommissioning and Clearance from 2005 to 2007.