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The French Doctrine for Nuclear Post Accident Management : the Work of the CODIRPA

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In 2005, at the request of the Government, ASN established a Steering committee for managing the post-accident phase of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency situation (CODIRPA) for "establishing the framework, for defining, preparing and implementing the steps necessary to deal with the post-accident situation". Under the supervision of ASN, CODIRPA set up a number of policy elements from 2005 to 2012, involving several experts from different backgrounds (relevant Ministerial offices, local information commissions, associations, elected officials, health agencies, expertise agencies, licensees, international experts, etc.). The first policy elements for postaccident management in the event of nuclear accident have been published in November 2012 with a focus on delimitation of a post-accident zoning. These elements were drafted in regard to cover the immediate post-emergency situations. transitional and long-term periods with nuclear accidents of medium scale causing short-term radioactive release (under 24 hours) that might occur at French nuclear facilities equipped with a special intervention plan. They also apply to actions to be carried out in the event of accidents during the transport of radioactive materials. This publication was a first important step forward in the preparedness of management of the Post-Accident Phase in the event of a nuclear accident which has to be pursued and intensified in order to be applied by the stakeholders, in particular at the local level. Since, a national response plan for major nuclear or radiological accident has been published in 2014. It sets out how emergency management is organized, the strategy to be implemented and the main measures to be taken by the French government, including the preparations for the post-accident phase.