



**International Atomic Energy Agency**

# **Benefits from implementing the Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors**

**Division of Nuclear Installation Safety  
Research Reactor Safety Section**

# Benefits to the State

- **Implementing the Code is a statement that the government considers that the safety is important and that maintaining and enhancing the safety of research reactors is taken into account seriously**
- **The commitment to implement the Code is a recognition that the government has a responsibility for safety, and a statement that they are discharging this responsibility using internationally endorsed management practices**

# Benefits to the State

- **The Code is a mechanism to communicate expectations and needs both upwards (to the legislature, for example) and downwards (to the regulatory body and operating organisations). It provides a basis for self-assessment of management practices**
- **Implementation of the Code is a top-level statement of commitment to safety, which is the first step to development of a strong safety culture**



# **Benefits to the executive organisations (regulatory body and operating organisations)**

- **The implementation of the Code by the State will ensure for the regulatory body and the operating organisation:**
  - **The same benefits as for the state**
  - **A commitment to provide the resources needed to ensure safety**
  - **A clear statement from the top of the expectations for management of research reactor safety by both operating organisation and regulator**
- **The Code provides a basis for self assessment of management practices in both the operating organisations and regulatory body**
- **The Code is a basis for domestic and international peer review and comparison of practices**



# **Benefits for the people implementing the Code**

- **For people working in the facilities, the Code is a high level document and the detailed guidance are given in the Agency Safety Standards**
- **The Code provides a consistent set of expectations and a basis for self-assessment for reporting to higher-level people on safety management**

# History of the Code

- **The Code was adopted by the Board in March 2004.**
- **In resolution GC(48)/RES/10.A.8, the 2004 General Conference:**
  - **Welcomed adoption of the Code by the Board and endorsed the guidance for safe operation of research reactors set out in the Code;**
  - **Encouraged Member States to apply the guidance in the Code to management of research reactors;**
  - **Requested the Secretariat to continue to assist Member States in implementation of the Code and associated safety guidance within available resources.**



# History of the Code

- **Resolution of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety:**
  - **“Having taken into consideration the positive impact of the incentive nature and the benefits of the Review Process of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety request the Director General of the IAEA to convene meetings to which all Member States would be invited. The objective of the meetings should be to discuss how to best assure the effective application of the ‘Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors’.”**