

AUSTRALIA'S EFFORTS TO ENHANCE REGIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND NUCLEAR SECURITY

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Australian Government

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Surveying our Region

- **Safeguards authorities of the Asia-Pacific region vary greatly in size, scope, legal authority and areas of responsibilities**
- **China, Japan and the ROK have large and complex nuclear fuel cycles**
- **Australia has a limited range of nuclear research but vast reserves of uranium**
- **Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand – nuclear research and an interest in building and operating nuclear power stations.**
- **New Zealand with no nuclear research facilities but a strong interest in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament**



Regional Safeguards Training

- **ASNO delivering domestic safeguards training since the early 1980s**
- **In the mid-1980s ASNO, Japan and the IAEA entered into an arrangement to alternate in the delivery of safeguards training to counterpart organisations across the Asia-Pacific region**
 - **Japan's first regional SSAC course – 1985**
 - **Australia's first regional SSAC course – 1986**
- **SSAC training provides course participants with the skills that they need to fulfil the state's SSAC obligations.**



Regional Safeguards Training (2)

- **Hosted a number of other regional SSAC courses, all held in partnership with the IAEA and with the active support of counterpart safeguards organisations in many countries**
- **In November 2007, ASNO hosted a Republic of Korea Govt funded IAEA run seminar on AP implementation**
 - **course participants from 10 countries**
- **From 31 March to 11 April 2008 ASNO hosted its seventh regional SSAC course.**
 - **course participants from 11 countries**
- **Contributed lecturers to similar courses in China and Japan as well in North and South America and Africa**
- **Provided safeguards training on a bilateral basis to many countries in the Asia-Pacific region.**



Physical Protection of Nuclear Material

- **Australia has contributed actively to the development and promotion of international physical protection standards for many years**
 - contributed to the development of INFCIRC/225 rev.4
 - ASNO will contribute to the upcoming development of INFCIRC/225 rev. 5
- **Australia was part of the core group developing the Amended CPPNM**
 - adopted by Diplomatic Conference on the CPPNM in July 2005



Physical Protection Training

- In 2004 ASNO entered into a partnership arrangement with the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund (NSF) and Sandia National Laboratory to deliver the first regional training course on nuclear security and the physical protection of nuclear materials
 - 21 course participants from 7 regional countries (China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, ROK, Thailand and Vietnam)
- In 2006 Australia hosted a second course
 - 30 course participants from 10 regional countries
- Currently planning to hold a third Australian course in late 2009
- Building on this Australian example, the NSF now has a program for delivering this training in regional centres around the world.

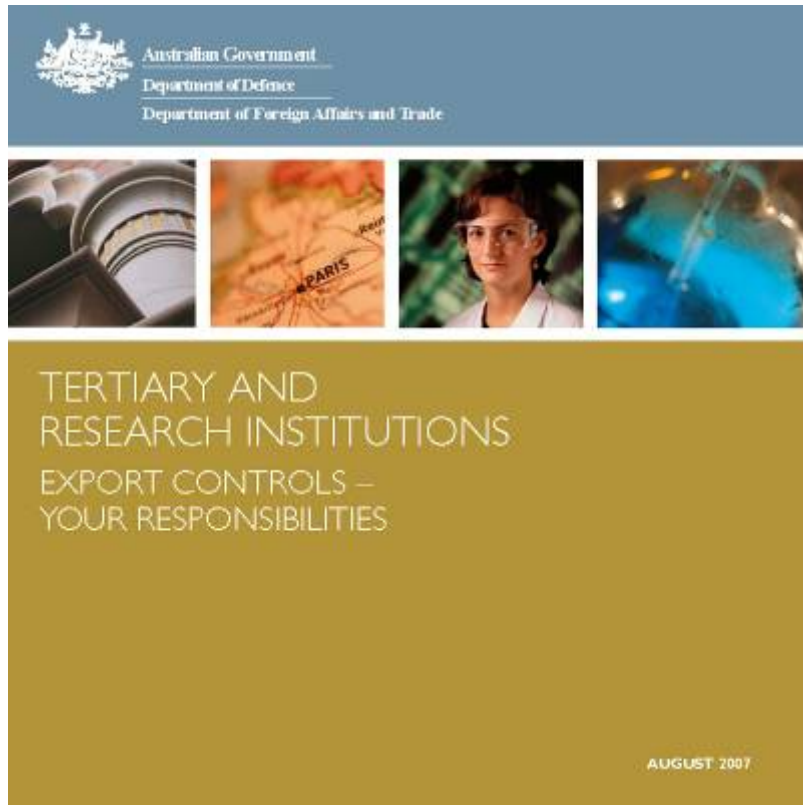


Export Controls

- Since 2002, ASNO has worked with the International Non-proliferation Export Control Program (INECP) of the NNSA to deliver Commodity Identification Training (CIT) and Analysis of Strategic Commodity Transfers (ASCOT) to countries in the Asia-Pacific region
 - eg Thailand CIT in 2004; Singapore CIT in 2006
- While CIT and ASCOT are primarily aimed at frontline export control efforts, both are extremely important tools for capacity development for safeguards and non-proliferation officials



Importance of Outreach



Assistance programs in our Region

On an ongoing basis ASNO works closely with:

- ▶ **the IAEA,**
- ▶ **the US National Nuclear Security Administration and**
- ▶ **the US National Laboratories (principally Sandia, Los Alamos, Pacific Northwest and Oak Ridge),**
- ▶ **Japanese Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)**

to deliver training both in Australia and in countries in our region.



Safeguards Support Program

- Australia established its original research program in support of IAEA safeguards in 1980 and has continued to the current day and is now known as the Australian Safeguards Support Program (ASSP)
- ASSP focus has been the support of the IAEA safeguards program
 - eg environmental sample analysis, safeguards implementation issues
- provided significant benefits for Australian safeguards professionals
 - work not only with IAEA experts on a wide variety of subjects
 - subject matter experts representing the entire international community
- Collaborative projects – eg Australia / Indonesia in 1990s
 - Future collaborations within the region?



Regional Safeguards Association

- **An informal meeting of senior officials from across the Asia-Pacific region dealing with safeguards matters was held in Sydney during APEC meeting in 26-27 June 2007**
 - **provided a forum in which to discuss the establishment of an Asia-Pacific safeguards association.**
 - **drew together 38 participants – 36 from safeguards organizations in the Asia-Pacific region and two from the IAEA**
 - **discussion paper jointly prepared with Indonesia and circulated for comment (by end of June)**
 - **ASNO is working with colleagues from the ROK in looking at the possibility of a follow-up meeting, perhaps early in 2009**



What is possible?

- **We have an historic opportunity to build a new level of cooperation between the various organisations responsible for the operation of the safeguards system and nuclear security in our region.**
- **Together we can work to ensure that we have a system that meets the needs and maintains the confidence of the regional and international community.**

