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Nuclear Safeguards System Implementation in the Republic of Moldova

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Strengthening the multilateral system of Nuclear Safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), imposed by the increasing cross-border illicit trafficking of nuclear material has led Republic of Moldova to ratify on 1 June 2012 the Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/690) to the Agreement of Nuclear Safeguards in relation with the NPT. This was followed by the adoption in the Parliament on 8 June 2012, of the new Law no. 132 of 08.06.2012 on the safe conduct of nuclear and radiological activities, which extends the power of the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities (NARNRA) and establishes the new chapter „Nuclear Guaranties” with detailed measures to strengthen the Nuclear Safeguards in the country.

Moldova does not have any ongoing activities relating to the nuclear fuel cycle and has no plans for the construction of any kind of nuclear facilities.

The main location where most of the nuclear material under IAEA safeguards is located is Radioactive Waste Storage and Oncology Hospital. The inventory contains: depleted uranium used as a shielding in radiotherapy equipment, plutonium sources, low enriched uranium as chemicals, and small quantities of high enriched uranium seized from illicit trafficking.