National Progress Report

a. Chile has acceded, signed and finally ratified, at the National Congress, the “International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism”, Decree No. 252 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which became effective on September 27, 2010.

b. Chile has developed an active regional agenda on security, within the framework of MERCOSUR agreements. During 2011, a coordination team was organized to materialize the Working Group specialized in Illicit Traffic in Nuclear and/or Radioactive Material (GTETIMNR) within Mercosur, formed by the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DISIN-DIFROL), Carabineros de Chile, Chilean Customs, the Civil Aviation Directorate and the National Intelligence Agency. The Chilean Commission on Nuclear Energy (CCHEN) – the agency in charge of Chilean nuclear affairs – was appointed as national and international coordinator for prevention, detection, response and training in radiological risk situations, particularly at border posts.

- During September 2011, a meeting called “Dissemination of MERCOSUR agreements on illicit traffic in nuclear and radioactive material” was held, attended by the technical counterparts of national control agencies at border posts. This resulted in particular missions for the relevant agencies.

- Border post controls have been defined based on risk categories, in order for their monitoring and source control capabilities to be strengthened.

- At present, we are working on technological implementation at the most critical border post controls (10) from a land, air and maritime perspective. Medium and low priority posts will be implemented in the medium term.

- Instructional material has been provided to participating agencies. Training meetings and staff training by CCHEN have been scheduled throughout the implementation process at control posts.

c. At the legislative level, in December 2011 we honored our commitment to submit to the Ministry of Energy a bill on “Nuclear Security” for subsequent consideration by the National Congress. This bill is an
important initiative to strengthen and update the prevailing laws, which better incorporate security and safety concepts.

d. This is also favored by works to develop proposals aimed at establishing an independent regulatory authority. Additionally, several regulatory instruments are being drafted and/or updated, including the Regulations on Security of Nuclear Facilities and Materials, Regulations on Radiological Protection, Regulations on Authorizations for the Use of Ionizing Radiations, Regulations on Sanctions in Act No. 18,302 on Nuclear Security, Regulations on Transportation of Radioactive Materials and Regulations on the Handling of Radioactive Wastes.

e. Chile has actively participated in the activities undertaken by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on security. During 2010, a Seminar entitled “Comprehensive Support Plan to Nuclear Security in Chile (INSSP) and Nuclear Security Support Center” organized by IAEA and CCHEN was held to discuss and finalize a draft plan of action for nuclear security activities in Chile, as well as to introduce the concept of Nuclear Security Support Center (NSSC) and discuss the several phases to establish a NSSC in Chile.

f. Early in 2011, a mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency was received to reinforce nuclear security. Since 2011, recommended actions are being implemented.

g. In bilateral actions towards the strengthening of sources security, an Administrative Arrangement was concluded between the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and the Chilean Commission of Nuclear Energy to import and export radioactive sources, all of this based on the principles set in the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources (December 1, 2011). This clearly enhances the preparation of countries to monitor and control source-associated risks.

h. A centralized remote system is under development to monitor fixed, mobile and environmental radioactive sources; it is equipped with an emergency room dependent upon the radioprotection and surveillance agency (CCHEN).

i. Finally, our country has hosted several events to discuss security matters, which has allowed for the development of joint approaches, the exchange of experience at an international level and the generation of actions within the country.
• In December 2010, the “Regional Training Course on Nuclear Material Accounting and Control System”, organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Chilean Commission on Nuclear Energy, was held.

• A “Regional Seminar on Nuclear Security” was carried out on June 20, 2011, which was particularly focused on the value of the IAEA Plan of Action on Nuclear Security in our country.

• In late November and early December 2011, a Regional Meeting was held to “Share Experience and Lessons Learned in the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources.”

• On March 12 and 13 a Regional Seminar was held in Santiago on the Legal System of Nuclear Security.

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