

Local-national forums in nuclear and radiological emergency and recovery in Norway

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www.nrpa.no



Statens strålevern
Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

Background

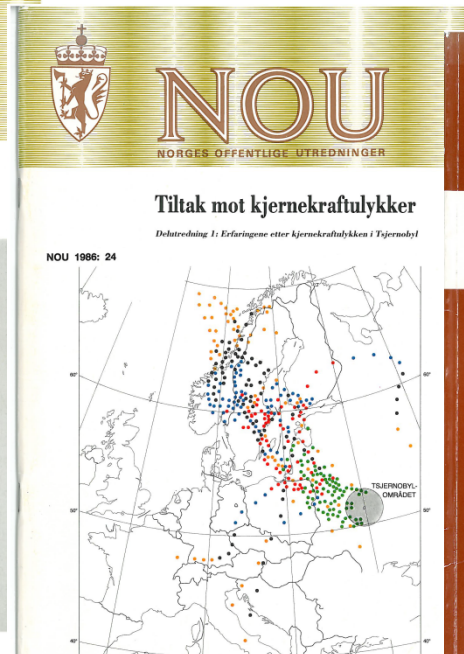
- NRPA has extensive experience in post-Chernobyl management, and is also strongly involved in the continuous improvement of the emergency preparedness and response system.
- Through dedicated seminars and exercises, NRPA has a good contact with various actors and levels within the emergency and response organisation.
- There is a need to involve stakeholders, such as operators, professional organisations, research institutes, universities, NGOs, consultants and all levels of the food production (farmers, processing industries and end sale)
- It is important to engage stakeholders on both national and local level



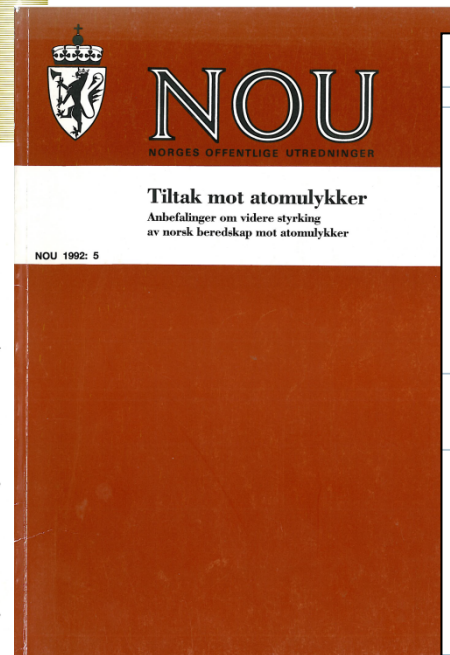
Public reports on nuclear emergency preparedness after Chernobyl



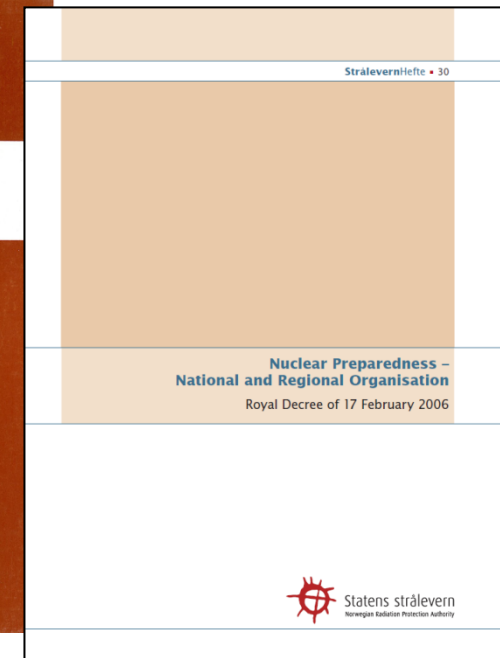
August 1986:
«Information crisis»



November 1986:
«Countermeasures in nuclear power accidents – Part I: experiences after the nuclear accident in Chernobyl»

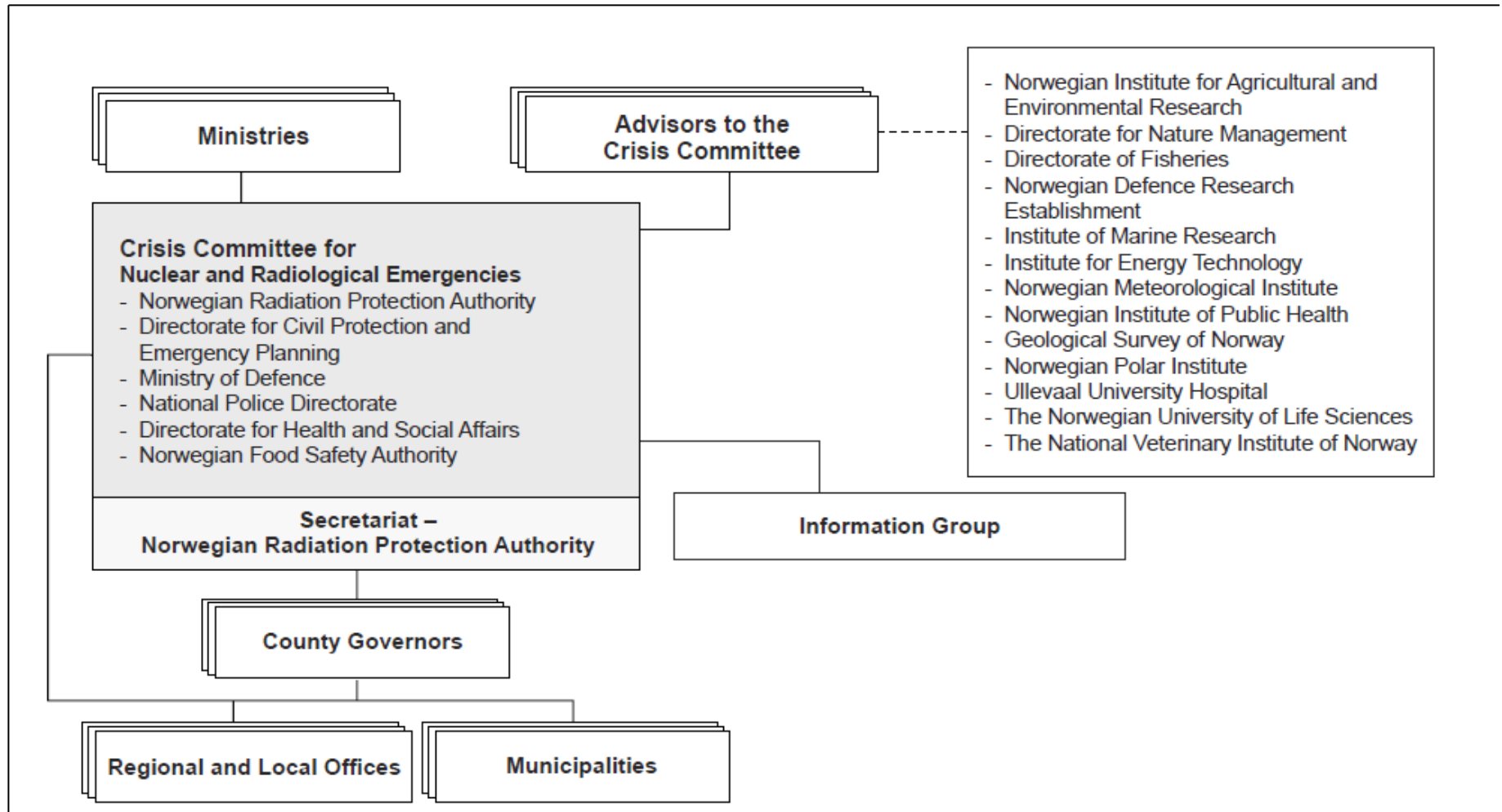


February 1992:
«Countermeasures in nuclear accidents – Recommendations on further strengthening of Norwegian emergency preparedness towards nuclear accidents»



June 1998, updated in 2006 and 2013: «Nuclear Preparedness – National and Regional Organisation» (royal decree)

Nuclear Preparedness – National and Regional Organisation in Norway



Stakeholders

- Stakeholders on national, regional and local level from different sectors and authorities
- They have different background and knowledge
- Different needs



Project: Nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness seminars

- A series of seminars in nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness for the 19 county governors in Norway
- One day-seminar arranged by the NRPA for the county emergency board and the administration
- Table top exercise



Involvement of people affected by the contamination of an area

- Participants from the local communities, local- regional- and national authorities responsible for health, agriculture and environment, and NGO's and with and without Chernobyl experience
- Two workshops of 2 days each
- Two facilitators organized the workshops and the IDPA-method was used

From making plans FOR to making plans WITH.



Local-national forum in Østfold

Østfold:

Most southeastern county in Norway with a variation of agricultural produce, like potatoes, vegetables, different animal production, as well as recreation and hunting

The county also hosts Norway's largest research reactor, with associated storage and transportation of radiological and nuclear materials

Participants:

Regional and local food authorities, NRPA, the Ministry of Health and Care Services, the Farmer's association, the food industry, members of the regional forum for coordination of nuclear emergency preparedness, representatives from local municipalities, the local health sector, and NGOs



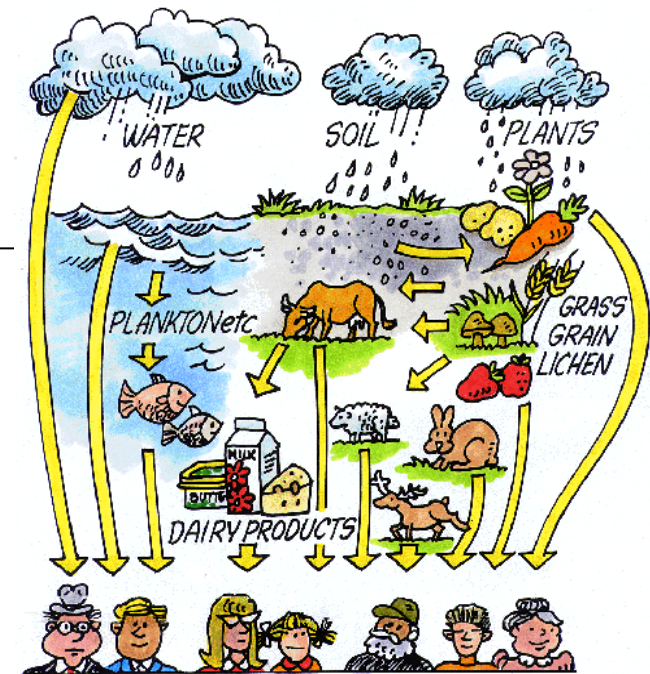
Local-national forum in Østfold

Introductory sessions

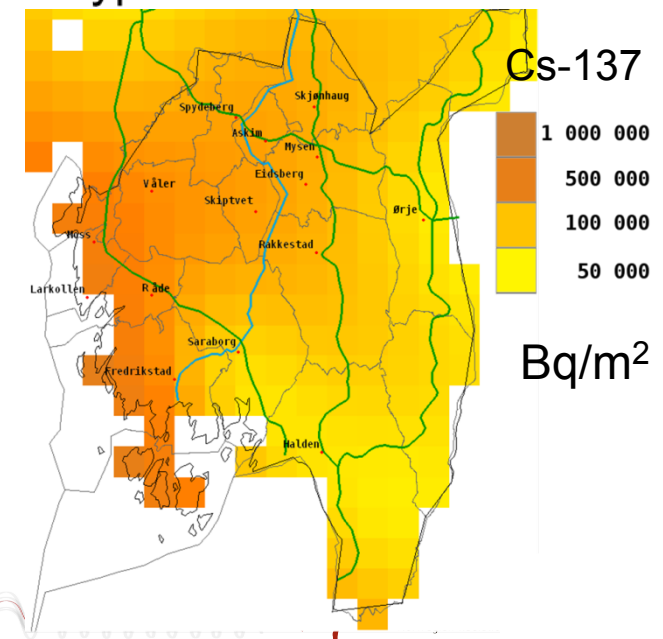
- Presentation of radioecology
- The emergency preparedness organisation
- The responsibilities of different authorities
- Relevant countermeasures in nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and recovery

Table-top exercise

- Presentation of a scenario with a dispersion map
- Participants were divided into groups where they discussed countermeasures and mitigation actions in different parts of the recovery phase
- Conclusions from the group discussions were presented and further discussed in a plenary session



Hypothetical scenario



Regional emergency response exercise

National, regional and local food authorities:

- Started with educational seminar by NRPA
- Emergency exercise for the regional level
- National, regional and local food authorities
- 3 County Governors with staff
- Most focus on challenges in the food production system
- Countermeasures in early to mid phase, division of responsibilities and tasks
- Cooperation between municipalities and counties



Co-expertise with the affected people

- The inhabitants are the owners of the situation in the affected areas.
- To better address their expectations experts should
 - be at their service
 - listen to their concerns
 - respond in an understandable way.
- The development of common evaluation of the situation by evacuees, residents, experts and authorities in the various communities (co-expertise) should be supported.

Lessons learned

- Through the discussions, the participants realised their roles and responsibilities
- There are many practical challenges which need to be solved locally, and there need to be prepared emergency plans. It is important that these plans are elaborated with stakeholders on all levels.
- Need for different kinds of decision support tools and educational tools for the local and regional authorities. These tools need to be well-known and adapted to regional specificities in `peace time`
- Procedures and systems for communication between local, regional and national levels in the emergency response organisation need to be developed in order to have a successful implementation of countermeasures during an emergency and late phase recovery

General summary points

- It is important to keep and to transmit knowledge on nuclear emergency preparedness and response
- To build country resilience, all levels and sectors must be involved
- Radiation protection authorities can play an important role in education, exercises and facilitation of seminars
- Research projects can contribute, but must work in line with national plans (in particular in small countries)