



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**First Reference Group Meeting on Nuclear & Radiological Emergency Preparedness
(Reference Group Meeting)
28 – 30 August 2013
Vienna, Austria**

Meeting summary

(Prepared by Red Cross Nuclear Disaster Resource Center)

Hosted by:	Austrian Red Cross
Participants:	American RC Austrian RC Japanese RC Magen David Adom Qatar RC International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Europe Zone Office IFRC Secretariat International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) (Note: RC = Red Cross/Red Crescent)
Background:	This was the first meeting of the newly established Reference Group on Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Preparedness. The group was established in accordance with the outcome from the National Society Consultation Meeting on Nuclear Disaster Preparedness held in May 2012 in Tokyo.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a common understanding of the Strategic Action Plan for the program; • Discuss issues around the Plan of Action; • Discuss possible budget for 2014 and 2015; • Exchange experiences among National Societies (NSs) on their nuclear preparedness programs and the IFRC CHARP program.
Discussion summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main tasks of the Reference Group Meeting were reviewed as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Operationalization of the GA; (2) Identify RC/RC niche and tools to be developed further; (3) Provision of operational inputs and recommendations; (4) Sharing good practice and experience in order to achieve effective communication; (5) Provision of direction and monitoring of progress; (6) To discuss and agree ways to improve the quality, accountability and impact of the programme; (7) Explore and support possibilities and opportunities for an adequate resourcing of the programme; (8) Review possible joint messages and advocacy initiatives towards potential stakeholders; (9) Identified and established permanent structures for nuclear & radiological emergencies preparedness including for coordinating functions currently assumed by the reference group. • A brief overview was given on current activities of external partners such as IAEA, WHO and the Joint Environmental Unit of UNEP and OCHA. • A draft of Strategic Action Plan was presented and briefly discussed.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations on experiences for nuclear accident preparedness were given by: American RC; Europe Zone (CHARP); Austrian RC; Japanese RC; Qatar RC and Magen David Adom in Israel and ICRC.• Legal issues were explained by the ICRC.• A draft of Plan of Action and Budget for 2014 and 2015 were presented.
Action points and next steps:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic Action Plan/Workplan/Budget<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comments by NS, ICRC and other IFRC units until end September 2013.- Focus on a long term vision to ensure that the programme is integrated in IFRC work and structures• Humanitarian Diplomacy<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To improve knowledge about the nuclear preparedness programme within the RC movement, NS and IFRC will present the strategic plan and related activities in meetings of relevant Working groups as well as in various Regional meetings during 2014.- In order to bring good expertise and success stories in the policy dialogue with relevant stakeholders, IFRC and NS will continue to engage with ICRC and external partners like the IACRNE, IAEA, WHO and others.• Operationalize the strategy and GA Decision 11/46<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mapping of NS capacities until end 2013 in NR preparedness and based on findings define needs of NS<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ for domestic support on NR preparedness○ for possible tools for International support in NR emergencies- Create Fednet Database by December 2013 as Movement-wide Knowledge base and start collecting relevant documents- Outline the chapters for an Operational guideline- Explore capacity building options like an E-learning tool for better use of the operational guidelines- Seek with IFRC DM and other relevant units the possibility to include NR in existing tools, trainings, etc.• Next meeting: January 2014 in Geneva.