

Collaboration for prevention of the smuggling of radioactive materials:

Radioactivity Detectors to the Customs Service

The Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority could, as of mid-November, supply the Customs Service with radiation detectors (pagers). The detectors are to be used at border controls to prevent the smuggling of radioactive materials.



Research scientist Sverre Hornkjøl from the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority gives a briefing on the use of detectors upon their presentation to the Customs Service.

In order that the Norwegian authorities will be as prepared as possible for any attempted smuggling of radioactive materials, a collaboration has been established between the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority (NRPA), the Customs Service and the Coast Guard. As part of the collaboration the NRPA has purchased 90 detectors to be used for disclosing radioactive materials. The Customs Service has received 50 of these and the Coast Guard will later receive approximately 40 such detectors. The detector is a pocket-size apparatus which border control personnel can attach to their uniforms. When in proximity to radioactive materials, the detector emits a signal in the form of a sound or vibration.

- The advantage of the detectors is that they work as «a moving curtain», says research scientist Sverre Hornkjøl from the NRPA. This means that a number of detectors will be distributed amongst different persons who are in movement. Smugglers will thus have no way of knowing where the control itself will take place, Hornkjøl emphasizes.

Crisis management course for the Armed Forces Academy



In connection with the annual crisis management course, under the direction of the Armed Forces Academy, the course participants spent one day at NRPA. The theme Norwegian nuclear emergency preparedness. An orientation was given and an exercise carried out where the participants could discuss

Draft of Agreement between Norway and Russia Completed

In October, a meeting was held at the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority between the Ministry of the Environment in Norway and the National Committee on the Environment in Russia. At the meeting a consensus was reached concerning a draft of an agreement on the mutual exchange of results from the radiation measuring network and for the building of a measuring network in Northwest Russia.



Representatives from the Ministry of the Environment, the NRPA and the National Committee to the Environment in Russia.

Norway and Russia have been negotiating for a long time over an agreement between the two governments concerning a mutual exchange of results from the network for measuring radioactivity and radiation, as well as the building of an automated measuring network in Northwest Russia. At the meeting in Oslo in October, the parties arrived at a first draft of an agreement between the Ministry of the Environment in Norway and the National Committee of the Environment in Russia.

According to the draft, Norway, Finland and potentially other nations will assist Russia both economically and technically in the building of an automated network in Murmansk and Archangel counties and in the republic of Karelen. Norway will have access to the results from the measuring network. The draft of the agreement will now be discussed separately by respective staff from the two countries and the goal is for a signing of the agreement in the course of the first half of 1999.

Nature and Youth meet with the NRPA



Erik Martiniussen from Nature and Youth (at left.) with head of information, Carl-Erik Christoffersen and project manager Ole Reistad from the NRPA

The background to the meeting in November was that the organization Nature and Youth wished for an orientation concerning the status of the part of the Plan of Action for Nuclear Matters which addresses Russian Nuclear Power Plants and the Radiation Protection Authority's initiatives for the three nuclear power plants in Kola, Ignalina and Leningrad (Sosnovy Bor). The NRPA gave a briefing on the initiatives carried out after 1992 and further plans for safety measures. A particular focus was placed on the decommissioning project, where the NRPA will look into problems in connection with the decommissioning of the Kola Nuclear Power Plant related to technical

