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MEASURES TO DETECT AND CONTROL RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATED METALLURGICAL SCRAP AT BORDER CHECKPOINTS IN POLAND

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Summary

The issue of radioactive contaminated metallurgical scrap has never received a high priority in Poland and in the international community. Since the dissolution of the former Soviet Union a higher attention has been given to the problem. Poland which is located between the west and east Europe has the obligation to develop and implement an effective prevention and detection system.

The reasons to increase national control and detection system at the border checkpoints in Poland are to avoid the following risks:

- post Chernobyl contamination transports of commodities
- transport of contaminated metal scrap
- transfer of radioactive waste for their disposal or utilization
- high risk of becoming a transit country of illicit trafficking of nuclear materials and radioactive sources.

In order to avoid the above-mentioned risks, Poland initiated in 1990, a deployment of the portable radiation devices at the border checkpoints and, as of 1998, the number of installed instruments exceeded a hundred.

This paper presents Poland's activities to detect contaminated scrap at its border checkpoints.

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