



The role of Nuclear Safety Authorities

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1. THE MISSIONS

**Art. 8 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety (IAEA)
(reaffirmed by the 2009 European nuclear safety directive) :**

“Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework [...]”

The typical regulator's duties

Regulation

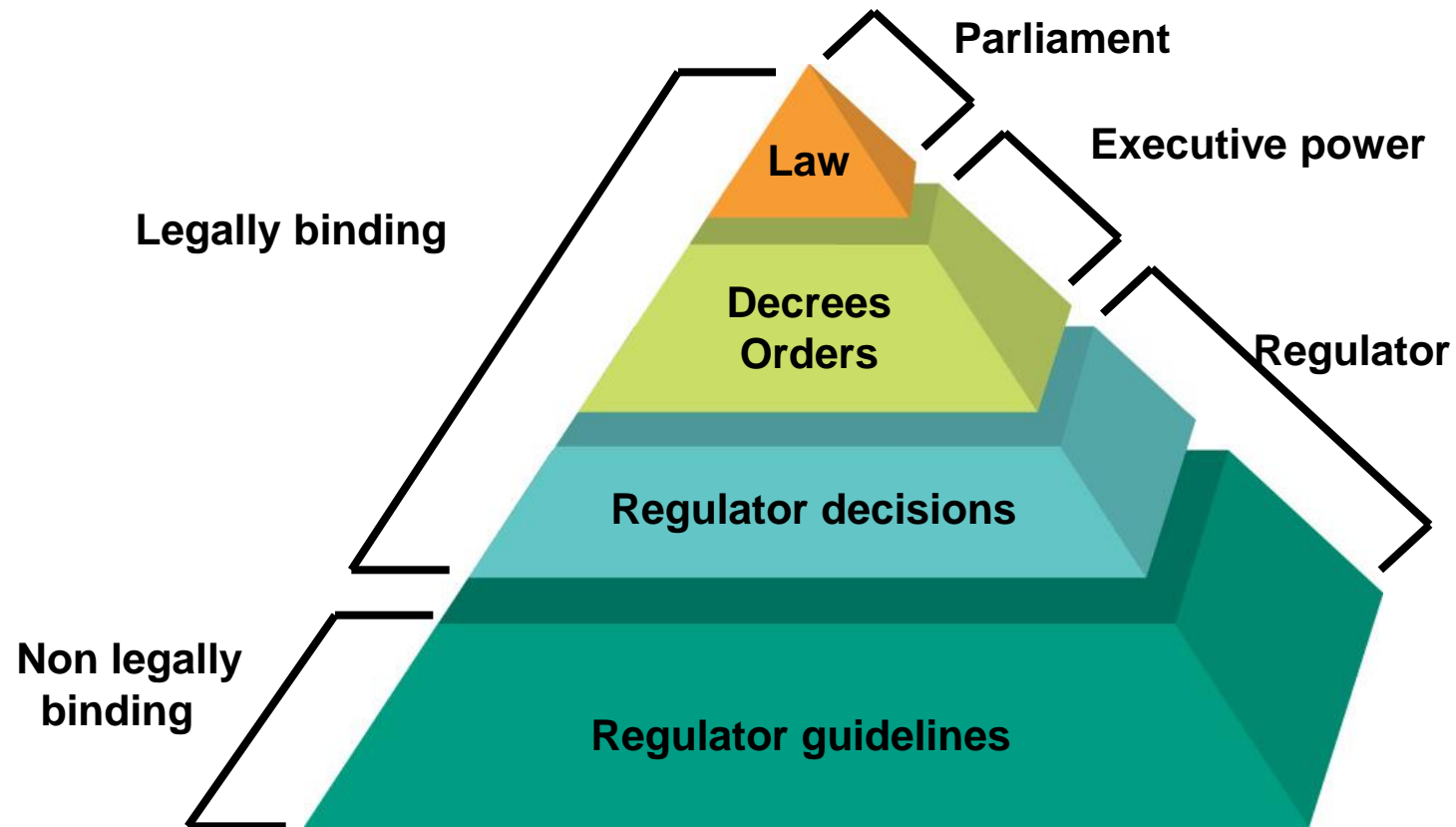
Licensing

Oversight: inspections and enforcement actions

Contribution to the emergency situations response

Information of the public

Regulations : Parliament, Government and the regulator



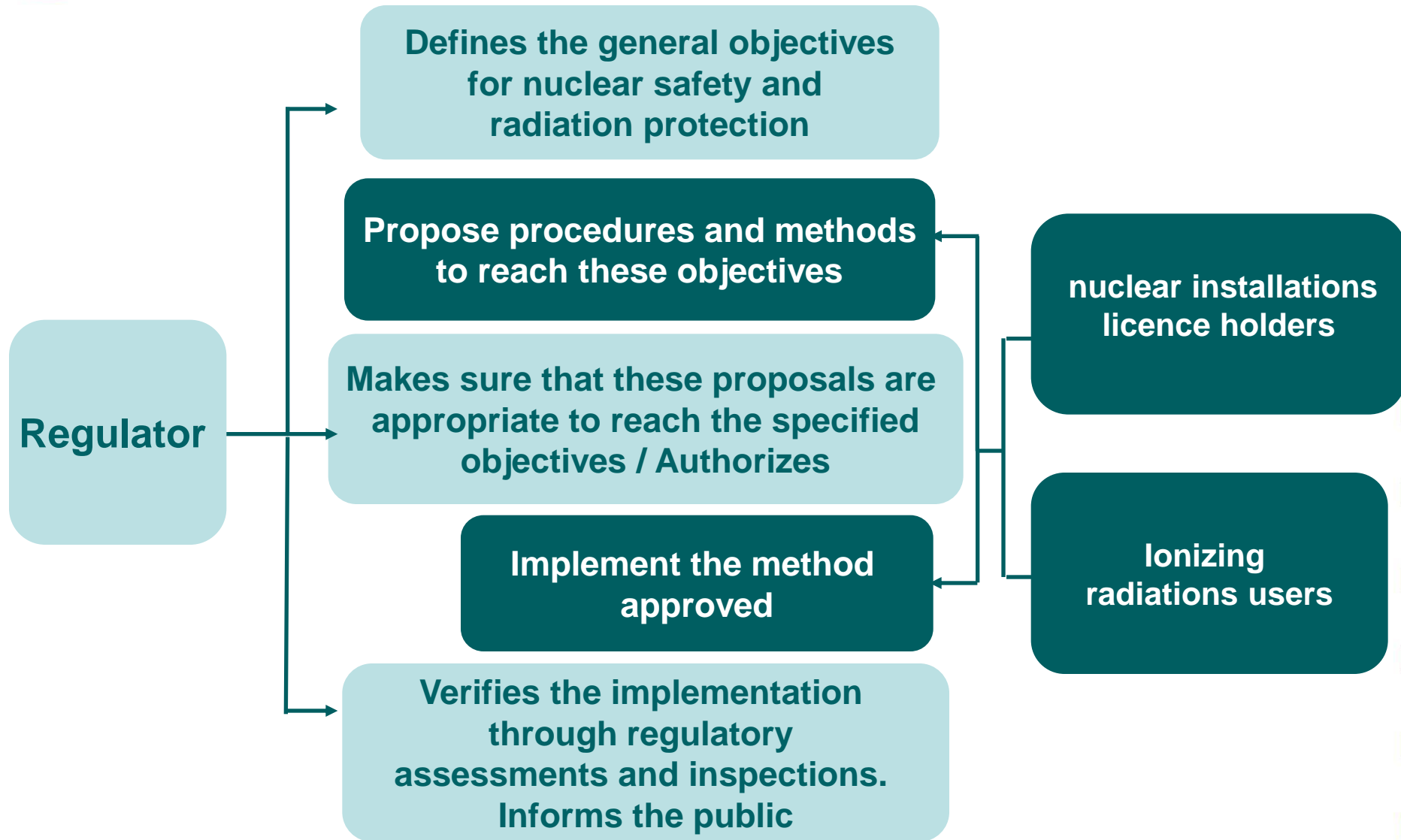


Prime responsibility of the operator

IAEA Safety Standards aim to protect people and the environment. They are only effective if they properly applied in practice.

The first fundamental safety principle : the prime responsibility for safety must rest with the person or organization responsible for facilities and activities that give rise to radiation risks.

Drafting regulations and individual decisions: Regulator and the operators



❖ Inspectors:

- are appointed by regulator, sworn-in and bound by professional secrecy
- can visit the facilities or check the transport of radioactive materials (regular and unannounced inspections)
- Have access to all useful documents and are allowed to take samples inside the facilities or at discharge points.

❖ Administrative sanctions (suspension of operation) or criminal penalties (fines, prison sentences) may be prescribed to the operators.



A major task : informing the public

Implementation of specific communication tools:

- website
- annual report
- magazine
- public information and documentation centre
- press conference, touring exhibitions, seminars



2. THE MEANS TO ACHIEVE THE MISSIONS

**Art. 8 of the Convention on nuclear safety
(reaffirmed by the 2009 European nuclear safety directive) :**

“Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework and provided with adequate authority, competence and financial and human resources to fulfill its assigned responsibilities”



An example : ASN Figures

- **450 staff:** industrial and medical engineers, physicians and pharmacists, legal and administrative specialists, human sciences and communications experts
 - 220 persons in the Paris Headquarters
 - 230 persons in the 11 regional divisions

(including 250 nuclear safety and radiation protection inspectors, appointed after intensive training)

Budget: 68 M€

- **~ 400 experts within ASN's TSO**

(Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety) IRSN for its expert analysis

Budget: 78 M €

Civilian nuclear facility supervision: ~ 850 persons and 150M€

3. THE STATUS OF REGULATORS

Art. 8 of the Convention on nuclear safety (reaffirmed by the 2009 European nuclear safety directive) :

“Each Contracting Party shall establish or designate a regulatory body entrusted with the implementation of the legislative and regulatory framework and provided with adequate authority, competence and financial and human resources to fulfill its assigned responsibilities.

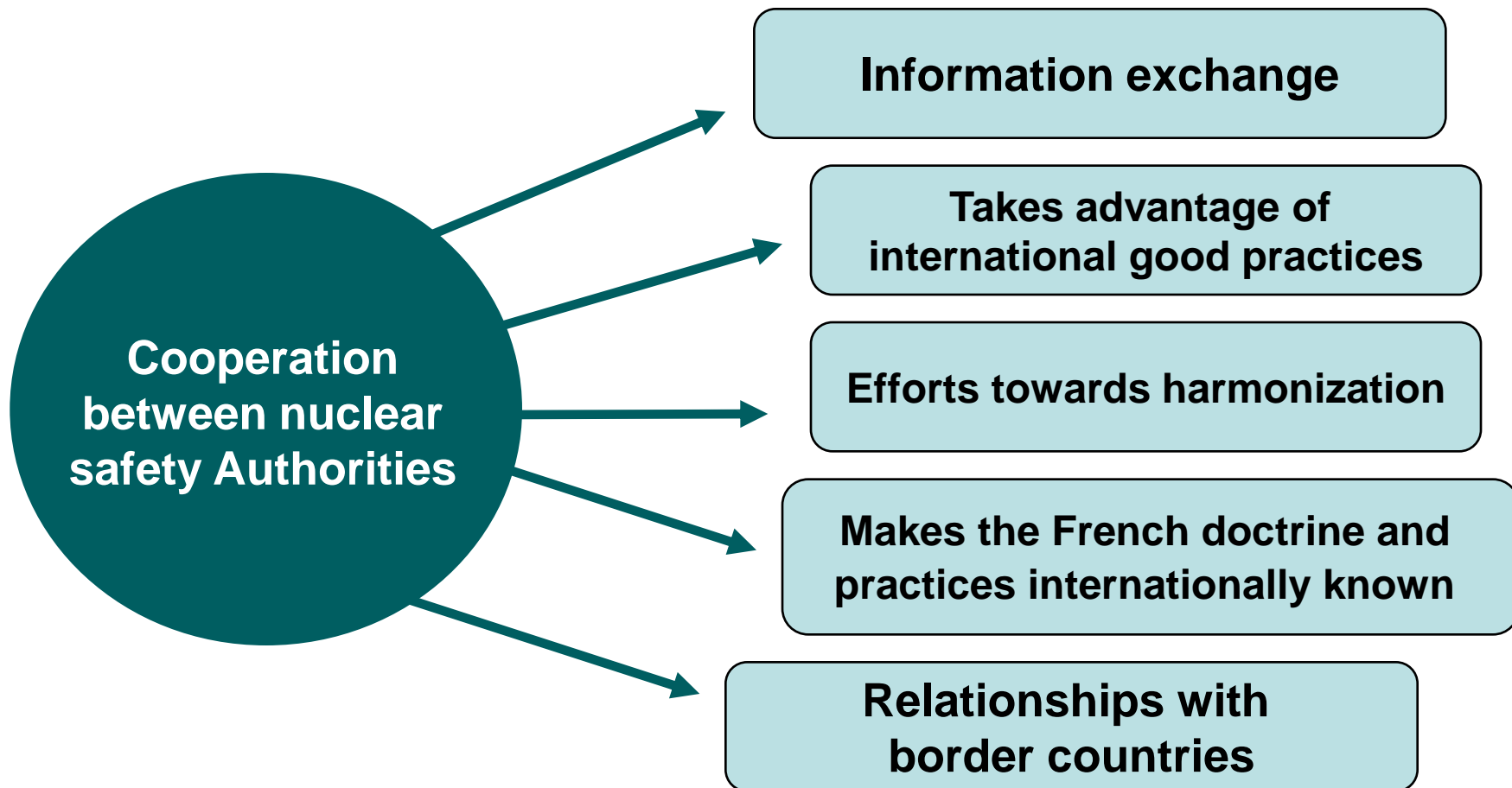
Each Contracting Party shall take the appropriate steps to ensure an effective separation between the functions of the regulatory body and those of any other body or organization concerned with the promotion or utilization of nuclear energy.”



Ways of ensuring independence

- **The regulator is obviously independent from the licensees**
- **The regulator is a State Authority and does not report to any minister**
- **The regulator reports to the Parliament**
- **The regulator is managed by a collegial body**
- **The commissioners are appointed for**
 - **a full-time**
 - **non-renewable**
 - **non-dismissible term**
- **The regulator is independent but must not be isolated**

4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BILATERAL RELATIONS



4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ORGANIZATIONS AND CLUBS

- **IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency):** harmonization (safety standards) and audit services (IRRS, OSART)
- **OECD-NEA (Nuclear Energy Agency):** assists OECD member countries in developing the scientific, technological and legal bases required for a safe, environmentally friendly and economical use of nuclear energy
- **ENSREG (European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group):** independent authoritative expert body composed of senior officials from national regulatory or nuclear safety authorities from EU Member States.
- **WENRA (Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association) and HERCA (Heads of the European Radiological protection Competent Authorities):** European associations to harmonize regulation, becomes an international benchmark for good practices
- **INRA (International Nuclear Regulators' Association):** opportunity to talk informally between the main nuclear safety Authorities



4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS EXAMPLES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Bilateral :

Joint Regulatory Position Statement on the EPR Control and Instrumentation systems (English, Finnish and French regulators) in 2009

Wenra, ENSREG, EU Commission :

Post-Fukushima stress tests (2011-2012)

IAEA :

Extraordinary meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in August 2012



- After Fukushima, Work is in progress !