

Sample News Release
(for a radiological emergency to include RDDs and transport emergencies):

Date: [date of issue]

Time: [time of issue]

[News Release Number]

[Organization name] confirms that there is an event possibly involving radioactive material [nature of event]. According to the information received at this time, the [event] occurred at [time and location]. Reports indicate that [any confirmed information on the event] and that [any initial measures] measures are being taken to protect [the public, responders, food, products, trade or specify as appropriate]. The [specify plan as appropriate] emergency plan has now been activated [and we have activated our public information centre].

The public is advised on the following:

- do not handle, isolate and identify to [specify] any possible radioactive item (e.g. fragment from a bomb or any item picked up at the scene).
- those who left the scene without being assessed by the [specify] should change their clothing, shower (if possible), wash hands before eating and go to [specify] to be assessed and get instructions.
- anyone who transported anyone (e.g. victims) must go to [specify the place] for individual monitoring and monitoring of vehicles for contamination.

[If an airborne release is suspected (specify, depending on scenario)] the public within about 1 km of [specify local description – roads, districts – that will be understandable to the public] are advised on the following:

- remain inside until [specify when any actual or possible release will be over];
- do not eat or drink anything that may have been contaminated (e.g. vegetables grown outside or rainwater) until informed otherwise;
- make sure that children are not playing on the ground;
- wash hands before eating;
- avoid dusty areas or activities that will make dust;
- do not be concerned about those evacuated (they are not dangerous to be near);
- do not go to the scene to volunteer or to help. If assistance is needed, announcements will be made.

If you have a health concern go to [once available specify a location away from the local hospital where monitoring will be performed and questions answered].

Medical practitioners should be alerted for patients that have symptoms of radiation exposure (burns with no apparent cause — the person does not remember being burned).

If you have any questions please call [give a hot line number where large number of calls will not interfere with the response].

We will be providing further information as soon as it becomes available. [Provide details on timing of any updates or briefings]. The next [briefing/update] will take place at [location and/or time].

For further information:

Name [name of contact for the media]:

Title [title of media contact]:

Organization:

Telephone: (land line and mobile):

Email:

Website: