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PAPER TITLE *STRENGTHENING THE FRENCH EMERGENCY PROVISIONS DEALING WITH*
POST-ACCIDENTAL SITUATIONS

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ABSTRACT (See instructions overleaf)

The set of the actors who intervene in the management of a nuclear or radiological emergency varies very much according to the events it can be referred to and the different stages of their evolution. The problems which has to be dealt with are of various nature and require a large spectrum of skills to be solved.

In France, the off-site emergency plans address mainly the decision making and the implementation of the classical short term countermeasures in case of nuclear emergency. The response to the threat phase or to the very early stage after an accidental release of radioactive matters is set up by the centralised organisation of well-known non numerous actors. The efficiency of these plans is reasonably validated by a strong policy of exercises.

Things change when further stages after a release are considered. A lot of other actors will play major roles. Some of them are not really identified. For instance, representatives of the world of Justice or associations of victims have not yet been included in the current attempts of such radiological situations assessment. In addition, new difficult questions, strongly linked between them, can be raised, such as :

- what is "return to normality" ?
- which trust put to which actors ?
- which strategy for compensation ?

All theses issues are currently subjects to concrete debates. Full scale interministerial national exercises are foreseen within the next three years. They aim to strengthen the provisions made by the public authorities. International collaboration overtures are from now on foreseen, particularly with Russia, in some of these important projects.