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of the radionuclide laboratories in the IMS network

The International Monitoring System (IMS) network of radionuclide monitoring stations is supported by the PTS certified radionuclide laboratories through the analysis of particulate and noble gas samples from these stations.

The purposes of the laboratory analysis are to corroborate the results of the routine analysis of a sample from an IMS station, to provide more accurate and precise measurements, to clarify the presence or absence of fission and/or activation products in the case of a suspect or irregular analytical result from a particular station and in the case of failure in the measurement capability at a radionuclide station, to temporarily analyse the sample from that station.

The performance assessment of certified radionuclide laboratories is done through their participation in the Network QC and Level 5 programme, Proficiency test exercises and Surveillance assessments.

This paper will emphasize the important role of radionuclide laboratories in the supporting IMS network and PTS verification programme. For that purpose, the outcome of the laboratory performance assessments will be presented, assuring their continuous compliance with the certification and operational requirements.

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