



the status and social protection of citizens who suffered as a result of the Chornobyl catastrophe."

As a result of this law, whose purpose is the enforcement of state sanitarian inspection in the field of radiation hygiene, 97 radiological subdivisions of the sanitarian and epidemiological service have been established, in addition to the existing 27. Today, all 124 radiological departments of sanitarian and epidemiological stations (SEs) are fully equipped with staff and modern, highly sensitive equipment for radiation control. These are capable of conducting complex dosimetric, radiometric and spectrometric investigations of environmental samples and foodstuffs. Dosimetric centres are functioning at 581 regional SEs on "clean" areas.

In 1992, within the framework of radiation control alone, 9,000 samples of potable water from different water supply sources and 162,000 samples of food raw material and foodstuffs were investigated. Dosimetric data has been prepared for 60,000 milk samples and 30,000 samples of locally-produced potatoes. On this basis, radiation levels and annual doses (both internal and external irradiation) were calculated for the populations of approximately 6,000 towns and villages of Ukraine (1993).

Four categories can be distinguished within the affected population requiring priority medical treatment:

CATEGORY I:

190 persons who suffered from acute radiation syndrome and 15,000 persons who lost working capability as a result of diseases connected with the Chornobyl catastrophe: This group can be extended to include more than 35,000 adults and about 1,500 children for whom a causal connection of diseases with the Chornobyl accident can be established (March 1, 1993).

CATEGORY II:

Individuals requiring specific medical care: These are persons who took a

direct part in the immediate containment of the Chornobyl consequences. This group includes more than 2,000 persons exposed to irradiation doses of 25 mSv (250 rem), 130,000 evacuees and relocated inhabitants.

CATEGORY III:

Children with thyroid gland irradiation: Results of dosimetric analyses in the Chernihiv oblast (east of Chornobyl) indicate that up to 1.5 million children from Chernihiv, Kyiv, Zhytomir, Rivno oblast and the city of Kyiv can be included in this group.

CATEGORY IV:

The inhabitants of the territories in the zone of enhanced radiological control: According to changes incorporated into the "Law on the Status of Victims", the main criteria for being included into this category is exposure to irradiation dosage of 5 Msv (50 rem) established on the basis of dosimetric analyses.

One of the primary goals of the Ukrainian Health Ministry in the context of Chornobyl problems is the establishment of the State National Registry of Chornobyl Victims as a single system of registration, reconstruction of dose loading and medical and sanitization support for victims. The concept and statute for the registry have been developed. The registry will combine the local (district), regional and national sub-systems into a three-tiered system. Information from each of the sub-systems will be integrated through an electronic mail network.

Today, the Ukrainian Registry of Victims includes data on about 374,607 persons. The Military Medical Registry includes 36,000 persons.

The data bank of the victims registry encompasses the results of 100,000 direct measurements of thyroid irradiation doses in 1986, 40,000 reconstructed irradiation doses, about 200,000 measurements of incorporated radioactive cesium, 150,000 radio-immune investigations, and up to 1 million hematological investiga-

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE CHILD VICTIMS OF CHORNOBYL

Ottawa is hosting a benefit concert for the victims of Chornobyl on Tuesday, June 15, 1993, at 8:00 pm at the Knox Presbyterian Church, 120 Lisgar. The concert, under the Honorary Patronage of His Excellency the Right Honourable Ramon Hnatyshyn, Governor General of Canada, is being organized by the CAN-TATA Singers of Ottawa under musical director Laurence Ewashko.

tions. According to the Law on the Status of Victims (July 1, 1992), measures are being undertaken to enter the data on all victims into the Registry. **The number of Chornobyl victims today is 3 million, which does not include a considerable number affected within the city of Kyiv.** Measures are currently being undertaken to have all victims, including those in Kyiv, undergo medical examinations.

Following 7 years of observations, investigators found that the dynamics of the health status of victims is characterized by deterioration in general health. In 1987-88, 47% of adults and 53% of children were considered to be healthy. At present, these statistics have significantly worsened: 28-32% of adults and 27-31% of children are considered to be healthy.

In dispensary registration, there are 2.6 million persons, including 570,000 children living mostly in Kyiv, Zhitomir, Rivno, Chernihiv, and Volyn oblast. Some 5,721 children live in zones of compulsory relocation. In 1993, in the Polisskoye and Norodichi districts, 558 neonates (newborn) have been registered; these can be considered to belong to the same group as those irradiated in utero.

During 1992, about 1 million persons living on territories of enhanced radioactive ecological control were registered. Among the Chornobyl liquidation workers, 28.6% were considered to be healthy (33.8% in 1991), and among Chornobyl evacuees - 27.5% (28.7% in 1991).