

Biography of André-Claude Lacoste, Chairman, Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)

Born in 1941, André-Claude Lacoste graduated from the Ecole Polytechnique in 1960 and Ecole des Mines engineering school of Paris in 1963.

He began his career in the Nord Pas-de-Calais region at the regional offices of the Ministry for Industry, then became *chargé de mission* (expert adviser) to the regional Prefect and subsequently as Director of the Ecole des Mines engineering school of Douai and Head of the Regional Mineralogical Arrondissement (a Regional Directorate for Industry, Research and the Environment).

In 1978, André-Claude Lacoste was appointed to the central administration of the Ministry for Industry. Until 1990, he successively held the position of Head of the Industrial Safety department, Deputy Quality and Industrial Safety Director, Secretary General of the Delegation for Regional Affairs and finally Head of the Regional Industrial Safety and Competitiveness Actions department. During these twelve years, he managed and ran the devolved departments of the Ministry for Industry in charge of inspecting industrial facilities.

From 1990 to 1993, André-Claude Lacoste was Deputy Director General for Industry.

From 1993 to 2002, André-Claude Lacoste was Head of the Nuclear Installation Safety Directorate (DSIN) under the authority of the Minister for Industry and the Minister for the Environment.

In February 2002, his sphere of action was extended to radiation protection. André-Claude Lacoste was appointed Head of the General Directorate for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (DGSNR). The DGSNR and its regional network of Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Divisions (DSNRs), grouped under the Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) were answerable to the Minister for Industry and the Minister for the Environment, on the one hand, and the Minister for Health, on the other.

The law no. 2006-686 of 13 June 2006 on transparency and security in the nuclear field granted the ASN the status of an independent administrative authority, henceforth independent from the Ministers. The ASN is responsible for regulating nuclear safety and radiation protection in France in order to protect workers, patients, the general public and the environment against nuclear hazards. It also helps inform citizens in these areas.

On 9 November 2006, the President of the Republic appointed André-Claude Lacoste, for a period of six years, as chairman of the Board of five commissioners heading this authority.

André-Claude Lacoste is a founding member and former chairman of WENRA (Western European Nuclear Regulators' Association), a coordinating forum for the heads of the 17 nuclear regulatory authorities in Western European countries.

André-Claude Lacoste is a founding member and former chairman of INRA (International Nuclear Regulators' Association). He is chairman of the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS), which oversees the development of nuclear safety standards for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

André-Claude Lacoste is an ex officio member of the Atomic Energy Committee and the Board of Directors of the French Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Institut de radioprotection et de sûreté nucléaire - IRSN).

André-Claude Lacoste is an Officer in the Legion of Honour and a Commander in the Order of Merit.