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International Atomic Energy Agency  
Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique  
Международное агентство по атомной энергии  
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2015-10-22

**Subject:** Invitation to a Regional Follow-up Workshop on Education of RTTs in Europe: Progress Achieved and Action Plan for the Future, Vienna, Austria, from 14 to 16 December 2015


Dear National Liaison Officer,

I am pleased to invite you to send nominations of suitable candidates to participate in the above-mentioned workshop under the framework of TC Project RER/6/029 – Improving Radiotherapy Services through Strengthened Knowledge of Radiation Oncologists and Radiation Therapists. The purpose of the workshop and related information are outlined in the attached Prospectus.

For candidates who are selected by the IAEA, the IAEA will cover the cost of return international travel from the home country to Vienna, Austria and provide Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for the duration of the workshop in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

Please submit nominations to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Only if this is not possible, nominations may be submitted on the Nomination Form for Training Courses available on the IAEA website: <http://www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/How-to-take-part/In-meetings-WS/index.html>. Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Mr Andrejs Salmins (IAEA Official Fax: +43-1-26007 or E-Mail [Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)), through the official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA matters, not later than 10 November 2015.

Yours sincerely,

  
Martin Krause  
Director  
Division for Europe  
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Prospectus

# International Atomic Energy Agency

## Regional Follow-up Workshop on Education of RTTs in Europe: Progress Achieved and Action Plan for the Future

### PROSPECTUS

<b>Project Number &amp; Title:</b>	RER/6/029 Improving Radiotherapy Services through Strengthened Knowledge of Radiation Oncologists and Radiation Therapists
<b>Place (City, Country):</b>	Vienna, Austria
<b>Dates:</b>	14 – 16 December 2015
<b>Deadline for Nominations:</b>	10 November 2015
<b>Organizers:</b>	The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Purpose:</b>	<p>The purpose of this workshop is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Review the progress done by the participants of the first workshop on education of RTTs in Europe in area of modifying or expanding national education programmes for RTTs;</li><li>- Inform participants on the comprehensive curriculum requirements for RTT education necessary to meet the defined core competencies for current and future clinical practice and to exchange information on the current status of RTT education in participating Member States;</li><li>- To agree on an action plan to improve the situation with RTTs education in the region.</li></ul>
<b>Expected Output(s):</b>	The participants will gain better understanding of the requirements of comprehensive national RTT education programmes and will be able to effectively plan and implement a national RTT primary education programme as well as to improve existing RTT education in their countries.
<b>Scope and Nature:</b>	Various topics related to the current status of RTT education in Europe, the requirements of comprehensive RTT education, the planning and implementation of primary education programmes for RTTs and strategies to improve existing RTT education in Member States will be addressed by international experts and IAEA staff involved in RTT education.

**Background:  
Information:**

Over the past decade the IAEA has committed time and resources to improving the educational standard of RTTs by developing and revising the RTT Core Curriculum, facilitating attendance of RTTs at recognized short courses and workshops, supporting visiting lecturers and in collaboration with the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO) supporting and participating in the Best Practice in Radiation Oncology – A project to Train RTT Trainers “Train The Trainers” (TTT). The TTT project has resulted in the delivery of more than 45 short courses prepared and delivered by RTTs in 19 countries. These courses reflect the specific needs of the RTTs working in clinical departments within the country. In addition a more extensive primary education programme for RTTs has been established in two of these countries and is in the under development in a further two countries.

Education programmes for RTTs should provide the scientific basis of the profession and enable graduates to be able to synthesise, evaluate and apply their knowledge in a clinical setting. Graduates from an undergraduate or postgraduate programme should have reached the level of competency to practice as autonomous professionals within the context of a multidisciplinary team, and to be effective members of the radiotherapy team. Failure to achieve this can have catastrophic outcomes for patients with inaccurate treatments leading to unacceptable disease progression and severe radiation side effects impacting significantly on the patient’s quality of life and in some instances untimely death.

Unlike the radiation oncologist and medical radiotherapy physicist in many countries the profession of RTT is not officially recognized and there is no formal education programme. RTT education is frequently a very short component of a broader programme such as diagnostic imaging, nursing or a technical discipline. The academic content is limited and clinical experience may be only weeks. The result is that these programmes do not equip graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to work in the challenging environment of radiotherapy either now or in the future. To address this issue the TTT project was initiated and aimed to assist RTTs to prepare and deliver short courses in essential aspects of practice. The long-term goal is to improve/establish the primary education programme for RTTs in target countries. To move towards the long-term goal of improvement of the primary education programmes, the IAEA hosted a first workshop for RTT educators in November 2013.

**Participation:**

The workshop is open for Member States participating in the TC regional project RER/6/029. Participation of a senior RTT educator and a decision-maker involved in establishment of a national RTT education programmes is expected. Priority will be given to the countries, who had participated in the first Workshop on Education of RTTs in Europe (held under RER/6/022 in November 2015, IAEA/ESTRO TTT Project and to the countries, which plan to launch primary education programme for RTTs in 2016-2017.

**Participants' Qualifications:**

The participants should be senior specialists involved in RTT education at the national level and those, involved in planning, approval and implementation of national RTT education programmes.

**Nomination Procedure:**

Nominations should be submitted to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, nominations may be submitted on the standard IAEA Application Form for Training Courses (available on the IAEA website: <http://www.iaea.org/>). Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and returned to the Agency through the official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA Matters.

The completed nomination forms should be sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Mr Andrejs Salmins, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail ([Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)), not later than **10 November 2015**. Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through the established official channels cannot be considered.

**Administrative and Financial Arrangements:**

Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details of the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants from countries eligible to receive technical assistance will be provided with a round trip economy class air ticket from their home countries to **Vienna, Austria**, and a Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) at the prevailing UN Rate. Shipment of accumulated workshop materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the workshop do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the meeting, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in nominating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.