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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence Internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

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2015-01-30

Subject: Invitation to a Regional Workshop on the Measures to Control Radon Indoor Levels and Inter-Comparison Testing of Radon Active Monitors, Prague, Czech Republic, from 29 June to 2 July 2015

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/9/127 – Establishing Enhanced Approaches to the Control of Public Exposure to Radon. 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 Prague, Czech Republic 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 Meeting/Workshop 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 Ivan Videnovic (IAEA Official Fax: +43-1-26007 or E-Mail Official.Mail@iaea.org), through the official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA matters, not later than **20 April 2015**.

Yours sincerely,

Manase Peter Salema

Director

Division for Europe

Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Prospectus

International Atomic Energy Agency

Regional Workshop on the Measures to Control Radon Indoor Levels and Inter-Comparison Testing of Radon Active Monitors

PROSPECTUS

Project Number & Title: RER/9/127 - Establishing Enhanced Approaches to the Control of Public Exposure to Radon

Place (City, Country): Prague, Czech Republic

Dates: 29 June – 2 July 2015

Deadline for Nominations: **20 April 2015**

Organizers: The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of the Czech Republic through the National Radiation Protection Institute (SURO v.v.i.)

Host Country Organizer: Mr Jiri Hulka
Department of Research & Development
National Radiation Protection Institute (SURO v.v.i.)
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Language: The workshop will be conducted in English.

Purpose: The purpose of the workshop is to transfer the knowledge and best practices from experts to participants to support them during the preparation of national system for reducing activity concentrations of radon in dwellings through implementing preventive measures in new buildings and corrective actions in existing buildings.

The IAEA Safety Standard on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards contains specific requirements in relation to public exposure due to radon. The TC project will be based specifically on these requirements and on the associated guidance that has been prepared.

Expected Output(s):

- (a) Participants aware of all aspects to be covered for successful implementation of preventive measures in new buildings and corrective actions in existing buildings to ensure acceptable indoor radon concentrations.
- (b) Report on inter-comparison and calibration of radon active monitors.

Scope and Nature:

The workshop will address the following topics:

- a) Inter-comparison and calibration of active radon monitors;
- b) Measurement strategies, measurement protocols;
- c) Basic principles applicable in civil engineering to ensure acceptable indoor radon concentrations
- d) Preventive measures to prevent elevated radon levels in new buildings;
- e) Corrective action to reduce radon levels in existing buildings;
- f) Collecting information to design preventive measures and corrective actions and verification of their efficiency

The workshop will be highly interactive and will consist of lectures and working group sessions.

The participant in the workshop will also be required to provide a brief description of metrology system of radon detectors and monitors in their country and the basic information about family houses, such as foundation types, structural systems, building materials and ventilation habits (natural or mechanical ventilation).

Background Information:

The project focuses on the development of policies and strategies in order to implement new requirements of the IAEA Safety Standard on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (GSR Part 3) as they apply to exposure due to radon in dwellings.

GSR Part 3 includes requirements aimed at identifying situations where action is required to reduce public exposure to indoor radon. Member States are required to provide information on indoor radon levels and the associated risks and, when considered necessary, implement an action plan for controlling public exposure. For the majority of people, radon is the primary source of radiation exposure. At average worldwide levels, exposure to radon results in an annual per capita dose on the order of 1.2 mSv, representing 40% of the total annual per capita dose. Indoor radon concentrations can vary widely from country to country, from region to region and within regions so that, in individual cases, doses of several tens or even hundreds of mSv can be received. In Europe, exposure to radon is responsible for about

10-15% of all lung cancer deaths. Reducing exposure to radon is a key public health and radiation protection priority. However, many European countries do not have a strategy in place that allows identification of the extent of the problem and of areas that are most seriously affected, information for decision-makers, technical experts and the public does not exist, and there is little or no experience or expertise in measures to reduce radon concentrations in existing buildings and limit its accumulation in future buildings.

Participation: The workshop is open to up to 2 participants (see qualifications below) from the Member States participating in the regional technical cooperation project RER/ 9/127, in particular: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Participants' Qualifications: One participant should be senior expert in the government organization that has responsibility for developing and implementing the national radon programme, national radon action plan or national radon strategy. This participant should have a background in radiation protection and/or public health.

The second participant should be a building professional with practical experience in the construction of new buildings and renovation of existing buildings that would be responsible for the development of building control strategies (preventive measures in new buildings, corrective actions in existing buildings) for radon. They should be working in either (1) a government department with responsibilities relating to developing and implementing building codes or (2) a university or building research centre with responsibility for advising government departments, building professionals and members of the public on building standards and codes.

As the workshop will be conducted in English, participants should have sufficient proficiency to follow lectures and express themselves in this language without difficulty.

Nomination Procedure: Nominations for the Regional workshop 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 Nomination Form for Workshop and National Consultant (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 Ivan Videnovic, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org), not later than **20 April 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 **Prague, Czech Republic**, and a Daily Subsistence Allowance at the prevailing UN Rate. Shipment of accumulated training materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the regional 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 regional workshop, 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.