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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence Internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

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2014-06-18

Subject: Invitation to a Regional Training Course on Developing and Implementing National Programmes for the Control of Public Exposure to Radon, Sofia, Bulgaria, 13-17 October

Dear National Liaison Officer,

I am pleased to invite you to send nominations of suitable candidates to participate in the above-mentioned training course under the framework of TC Project RER/9/127 – Establishing Enhanced Approaches to the Control of Public Exposure to Radon. The purpose of the training course and related information are outlined in the attached Prospectus.

For candidates who are selected by the IAEA, the Agency will cover the cost of return international travel from the home country to Sofia, Bulgaria and provide a stipend for the duration of the training course in line with Agency rules and procedures.

Please send duly completed Nomination Form for Training Courses (attached) by the latest **16 July 2014**. Please note that nominations received after the closing date will not be considered.

The completed nomination forms should be submitted to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, forms may be sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Ms Katherina Deufrans, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org).

Yours sincerely,

Manase Peter Salema

Director

Division for Europe

Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosures: Prospectus
Nomination Form

International Atomic Energy Agency

Regional Training Course on Developing and Implementing National Programmes for the Control of Public Exposure to Radon

PROSPECTUS

- Project Number & Title:** RER/9/127 Establishing Enhanced Approaches to the Control of Public Exposure to Radon
- Place (City, Country):** Sofia, Bulgaria
- Dates:** 13-17 October 2014
- Deadline for Nominations:** 16 July 2014
- Organizers:** The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of Bulgaria through the National Centre of Radiobiology and Health Protection
- Host Country Organizer:** Ms Kremena Ivanova
National Centre of Radiobiology and Health Protection
Ministry of Health
3 Georgi Sofiiski Str., Building 7
1606 Sofia
Bulgaria
- Tel: 359878124368
Fax: 00359 2 8621059
E-mail: k.ivanova@ncrrp.org
Web: <http://www.ncrrp.org>
- Language:** The training course will be conducted in English.
- Purpose:** The purpose of the regional training course is to transfer the knowledge and best practices from experts to participants to support them during the preparation of national radon programmes.
- Expected Output(s):** Participants aware of all aspects to be covered for a successful national radon program.
- Scope and Nature:** The regional training course will address the following topics:
a) National radon action plan;

- b) Measurement strategies, measurement protocols;
- c) Radon survey and radon mapping;
- d) Identification of radon prone areas;
- e) Radon awareness, communication strategies;
- f) Preventive measures in new buildings and corrective actions in existing building to reduce radon levels.

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

The participant in the training course will also be required to provide a brief description and schedule of radon related activities they plan to undertake in their country in the frame of the Project.

**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 training course is open to up to 30 participant 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, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Participants' Qualifications:

The participant from a Member State should be a 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.

As the training course 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 training course 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 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, Ms Katherina Deufrains, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org), not later than 16 July 2014. 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 Sofia, Bulgaria and a Stipend. Shipment of accumulated training materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the regional training course 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 training course, 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.