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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

Organismo Internacional de Energia Atómica

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2016-03-10

Subject: Invitation to a Regional Workshop on the Use of Graded Approach when Establishing and Implementing an Inspection Programme, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 11-15 July 2016

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/9/139 – 'Strengthening the Inspection Capabilities and Programmes of the Regulatory Authorities (Phase II)'. 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 Chisinau, Republic of Moldova 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 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 Andrei Chupov (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 **6 May 2016**.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Krause

Director

Division for Europe

Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Prospectus

International Atomic Energy Agency

Regional Workshop on the Use of the Graded Approach when Establishing and Implementing an Inspection Programme

PROSPECTUS

- Project Number & Title:** RER/9/139 - Strengthening the Inspection Capabilities and Programmes of the Regulatory Authorities (Phase II)
- Place (City, Country):** Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
- Dates:** 11-15 July 2016
- Deadline for Nominations:** 6 May 2016
- Organizers:** The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in collaboration with Moldavia Agency for the Regulation of Nuclear and Radiological Activities (NARNRA)
- Host Country Organizer:** Mr Artur Buzdugan
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- Language:** English
- Purpose:** The purpose of this workshop is to discuss and to gain a common understanding on the better use of all necessary considerations within national regulatory inspection process.
- Expected Output(s):** Participants will be expected to gain sufficient knowledge and understanding on how to prepare and implement inspection programmes according to a graded approach using all necessary considerations in an integrated manner in compliance with the IAEA Safety Standards.
- Scope and Nature:** Various methodologies and types of inspections are currently in use in countries operating nuclear power plants in Europe region or elsewhere. In accordance with the IAEA Safety Standard GS-R part 1 *Governmental, Legal and Regulatory Framework for Safety*, an inspection programme shall comply with:
- Requirement 27: Inspection of facilities and activities. The regulatory body shall carry out inspection of facilities and activities to verify that the authorized party is in compliance with the regulatory requirements and the conditions specified in the authorization;
 - Requirement 28: Types of inspection of facilities and activities.

Inspection of facilities and activities shall include programmed inspections and reactive inspections; both announced and unannounced;

- Requirement 29: Graded approach to inspections of facilities and activities. Inspections of facilities and activities shall be commensurate with the radiation risks associated with the facility or activity, in accordance with a graded approach.

Experience has shown that an approach using all available information in an integrated manner, including risk-information, deterministic analyses together with good engineering practices, consideration of operating and regulatory experience, and human and organizational factors, is effective in refining and improving regulation of nuclear installations, including regulatory inspections. The implementation of this integrated approach through regulatory inspection process supports focussing on safety-related issues according to a graded approach and, therefore, using the inspection resources appropriately. This improves efficiency and effectiveness of regulatory inspection with the final goal to improve safety and provides regulatory bodies with a high level of assurance that all activities at the various stages of the lifetime of a nuclear installation are executed safely and meet the safety objectives and regulations. Throughout the workshop, there will be presentations related to relevant IAEA publications as well as presentations delivered by experts to share their experience on inspection management: overview of national nuclear and regulatory situation, use of risk analysis for regulatory activities, integrated regulatory oversight approach and inspection practices.

Exercises and discussions during breakout and plenary sessions will allow the participants to further understand and practice how to improve their inspection process.

Discussion on national inspection programmes will be also organised. To prepare this discussion, a questionnaire to evaluate the national provisions for inspection against the relevant IAEA requirements will be sent to the participants in advance. The filled questionnaire should be given back to the secretariat two weeks prior to the training course.

**Background
Information:**

The implementation of TC project RER/9/139 is primarily aimed at developing and strengthening safety infrastructure. It has been designed to assist participating countries that are developing their infrastructure for safety for a nuclear power programme or have nuclear power plants in developing and reinforcing their inspection capabilities and practices to oversee nuclear safety.

The regulatory bodies have to oversee the operator's activities to ensure that the facility is operated safely. In the course of its routine activities, the regulators have to make judgements on the acceptability of safety level of the regulated facilities. A key challenge for regulators is to define a reliable approach that is systematic, comprehensive, based on well-defined acceptable criteria and guidelines and pragmatic in order to reach sound conclusions and make timely decisions in an efficient and effective manner.

Different countries have adopted different approaches to develop their inspection programmes and practices and the project is intended to facilitate the review the various practices and share the experiences to date. Taking into account new programmes and modern practices and the life extensions of many existing reactors, it is important to ensure that inspection activities focus on those areas which pose higher risk. Furthermore, the expansion of existing nuclear power programmes requires additional attention to human and organizational factors (HOF) from the early construction stages. The project is also aimed to provide assistance in defining regulatory requirements, prepare guides and integrate the oversight of HOF programmes and Integrated Management System of the operator within the regulatory inspection programmes as necessary.

The design of the project envisages the participation of counterparts from those countries of the region that are currently operating nuclear power plants or executing the decommissioning of them. The participation in the project activities of candidates from countries embarking on a nuclear power programme will be considered on a need basis depending on the nature of the activities.

Participation: The workshop is open to 25 participants.

The target countries are: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

However, priority will be given to candidates from countries that are currently operating or decommissioning nuclear power plants. Candidates from countries embarking in a nuclear power programme or operating non-power nuclear facilities will be considered on need basis.

Participants' Qualifications: The participants should be experienced staff members from the regulatory bodies or their technical support organizations who are directly involved in the planning, implementation or assessment of the inspections to nuclear power plants and, to a lesser extent, to no-power nuclear facilities. Candidates from nuclear power plants in operation or decommissioning are also invited to participate as long as they have direct involvement in the implementation of inspections in their facilities.

The Workshop will be conducted in English and candidates should have sufficient English proficiency to participate in the workshop without difficulty.

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 Workshop (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 Andrei Chupov, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org), not later than **6 May 2016**. 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 Moldova, 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 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.