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国际原子能机构

International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence Internationale de l'énergie atomique

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In reply please refer to: **ME-RER5025-2000029**

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National Liaison Officers /
National Coordinators

2020-02-11

Subject: First Regional Coordination Meeting, Baku, Azerbaijan, from 20 to 24 April 2020

Dear National Liaison Officer / National Coordinator,

I am pleased to inform you that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is organizing the above event under the IAEA technical cooperation project RER5025, "Improving Early Detection and Rapid Response to Potential Outbreaks of Priority Animal and Zoonotic Diseases".

The purpose of the meeting is to set the project baseline and fine-tune the project work plan by identifying the priority animal and zoonotic diseases as well as the diagnostic techniques to be addressed under the project.

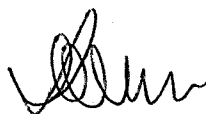
The attached Information Sheet provides further details, including technical and administrative aspects of the event. Selection of participants will be in accordance with IAEA procedures. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

The IAEA will provide non-local participants with a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest the participant's residence and Baku. Travel details will be agreed with the participants upon receipt of their official nomination. Participants will also receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

We would appreciate receiving your country's nominations by **5 March 2020** through the IAEA's InTouch+ platform (<https://Intouchplus.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, applicants may download the Nomination Form for the course from the [IAEA's webpage](#). Completed forms must be endorsed by the relevant government authority and may be sent to the IAEA, preferably by email to Official Mail - IAEA Mail address Official.Mail@iaea.org, with copy to Ms Ludmila Wiszczor L.Wiszczor@iaea.org. Please be advised that late nominations or replacements of participants after the closing date for nominations will not be accepted.

We look forward to receiving your early response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Wiszczor', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ludmila Wiszczor
Programme Management Officer
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Information Sheet



First Regional Coordination Meeting

Hosted by

The Government of Azerbaijan

through the

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Baku, Azerbaijan

20 to 24 April 2020

Ref. No.: ME-RER5025-2000029

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is to set the project baseline and fine-tune the project work plan by identifying the priority animal and zoonotic diseases as well as the diagnostic techniques to be addressed under the project.

Working Language(s)

The working language(s) of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **5 March 2020** will not be considered.

Project Background

Approximately 75% of emerging infectious diseases have zoonotic potential. Europe (in the IAEA TC context) has been identified as a “hotspot” for emerging animal and zoonotic diseases and was one of the regions to report cases of African Swine Fever (ASF), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), sheep and goat pox, lumpy skin disease (LSD), highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and others.

Therefore, the regional project is aimed at improvement of the diagnostic capacities for priority animal and zoonotic diseases, knowledge sharing in Europe, and reduction of the incidence of the priority animal and zoonotic diseases using nuclear derived techniques.

Priority target in the project will be to disseminate and upgrade the current diagnostic platforms, based on detection of serological responses and detection/differentiation of the causing pathogens using molecular tools.

Furthermore, integration of the diagnostic platforms into the official national and/or regional disease control plans will be supported.

Scope and Nature

The meeting will review and assess the status of using nuclear derived techniques in the early and rapid detection priority animal and zoonotic diseases in Member States, discuss gaps which need to be addressed to make progress. Bottleneck and potential constraints will be discussed, and proposed solutions explored.

The Coordination Meeting will consist of presentations, facility visits and discussion. Participants are kindly requested to prepare individual country reports and a power point presentation related to the topic. The presentations should include precise information on:

- a. basic organization of the veterinary service,
- b. the role of the officially designated laboratories in disease detection,
- c. diagnostic capacities of the national laboratories in terms of scope of techniques, diseases and the number of samples processed annually and
- d. distribution of priority diseases in the countries.

The participants will examine the existing diagnostic capabilities, develop and/or upgrade strategies to improve the response to priority animal and zoonotic challenges in the region, and fine tune the planned project activities. This will include:

- a. Review and selection of priority animal and zoonotic diseases in participating countries which will be target of the project;
- b. Review and selection of technologies/techniques on which the project will be focused;
- c. Review and selection of equipment and consumables to be established and/or upgraded in the participating veterinary laboratories;
- d. Discuss the approaches for harmonization of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), consumables and supportive materials for the veterinary laboratories of the region;

- e. Discuss the integration of the diagnostic techniques in the official national or regional disease monitoring and control plans;
- f. Discuss the support of IAEA in the implementation of international laboratory standards (ISO 17025 and its links);
- g. Discuss the facilitation of the analysis of laboratory results and the decision-making process for implementation measures for disease prevention and control.

Expected Outputs

Achieved agreement on the diseases and the technologies for upgrade under the RER/5/025 project and fine-tuned workplan according to the decisions made during the meeting.

Participation

Each Member State may nominate up to two participants, preferably from officials responsible for the management, supervision, quality control or performance of diagnostic procedures in the counterpart veterinary laboratories.

In addition, nominations for up to 5 local participants from the host country will be considered. Selection of participants will be made according to the IAEA established selection process.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Project Counterparts or their representatives will be the priority audience at the event. If they are not in position to attend, participants from the officially designated laboratories for animal and zoonotic diseases will be invited.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
 - b. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2000029) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National

Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the [IAEA website](#).

NOTE: A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

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

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency American Express, or a travel grant, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event 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 course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

IAEA Contacts

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