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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

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National Liaison Officers /
National Coordinators

2020-05-14

Subject: Regional Workshop on Status and Update of Storage Needs in Small Inventory Member States, Vienna, Austria, from 24 to 28 August 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 RER9154, “Enhancing the Implementation of Integrated Programmes for the Safe Management of Radioactive Waste”.

The purpose of the event is to train participants to develop management plans (roadmap) to increase the durability of existing or new storage facilities in order to store waste packages earmarked for disposal.

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 Vienna. 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 **12 June 2020** through the IAEA's InTouch+ platform (<https://Intouchplus.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, applicants may download the Nomination Form for the event 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 Katherina Deufrains K.L.Deufrains@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,

Emina Alic

for

Katherina Deufrains
Programme Management Officer
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Information Sheet



Regional Workshop on Status and Update of Storage Needs in Small Inventory Member States

Hosted by

The International Atomic Energy Agency
IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria

24 – 28 August 2020

Ref. No.: ME-RER9154-2000014

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to train participants to develop management plans (roadmap) to increase the durability of existing or new storage facilities in order to store waste packages earmarked for disposal.

Working Language(s)

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

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **12 June 2020** will not be considered.

Background

The safe storage of radioactive waste is an integral part of all stages of waste management from raw waste to fully conditioned waste packages awaiting final disposal.

The purpose of a storage facility or structure is to safely and securely contain the packaged radioactive waste in an organized and retrievable fashion for a defined time that is supposed to be less than the facility design life, while ensuring that the radiation protection of workers, the public and the environment are properly addressed according to applicable regulations and the As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) principle.

Any storage system will have three primary components, all of which need to be properly addressed to ensure the adequacy of the system:

- a) the waste package (including waste form and container);
- b) the storage facility (including the storage structure and ancillary equipment, such as package handling, monitoring, ventilation, cooling, security, etc.);
- c) the regulatory framework, governance structure and safety requirements. Longer-term storage entails taking additional measures to ensure continuing satisfactory safety control and protection of the waste packages and the storage facility itself.

The longer the intended life of the storage facility, the more important these factors become. This event will allow exchange of experiences and information on member states' status, needs and lessons learned on storage facilities for small inventories of different waste types. These include operational wastes from nuclear power plants and fuel cycle facilities, institutional waste (such as medical and industrial applications), disused sealed radioactive sources, historic accumulations of waste from past activities, and waste arising from decommissioning activities.

Expected Outputs

As a result of the workshop participants will be able to review/update and/or develop management plans (roadmap) in their respective Member States for existing or new storage facilities in order to increase the long-term durability of stored waste packages earmarked for disposal.

Scope and Nature

The five-day event will include lectures, structured discussions and exercises designed to reinforce the safe storage of small volumes of radioactive wastes as an integral part of all stages of waste management and illustrate best international practices and approaches.

The event will also include Member State presentations outlining national experiences and needs relating to concept and design of existing/planned storage facilities for these small volume waste streams.

The following topics will be the main contents of the regional workshop:

- Role of storage in radioactive waste management and its optimization, types of storage facilities;
- Status of current storage facilities;
- Roadmap that defines the path for safe storage and enhances confidence in the safety of small inventories of stored radioactive waste;
- Waste, treatment, conditioning options and waste acceptance criteria influencing selection of packaging and storage facilities;
- Key components and safety concepts for establishing storage facilities by modifying an existing building/room, including selection and modification activities/safety aspects;
- Regulatory safety regulations during the operation of a storage facility
- Establishing an ageing management plan; and - Storage challenges e.g. storage of liquids, unconditioned waste, hazardous waste, DSRS, etc.

In addition to theory, the workshop will be divided into three groups to perform practical exercises to produce “roadmaps” that describe the route to safely management of radioactive waste until final disposal based on scenarios such as:

Group A - RADON type (or similar) facilities

Description of situation: Waste that has been previously disposed of in a cell/bunker/trench/underground. The existing situation has been deemed to be unacceptable or does not meet current standards of security or safety. No disposal route is currently available and is not expected for several decades.

Group B - Existing temporary/interim storage facilities

Description of situation: Waste is stored in either individual or multiple storage facilities, such as a hangar or room. Waste may be a mix of unconditioned and conditioned packages. The existing situation has been deemed to be unacceptable or does not meet current standards of security or safety. No disposal route is currently available and is not expected to be available for several decades;

Group C - Research reactor waste / higher activity DSRS

Description of situation: Waste from research reactors classified as Intermediate Level Waste (ILW), or higher activity DSRS. Waste may be a mix of unconditioned and conditioned packages. The existing situation has been deemed to be unacceptable or does not meet current standards of security or safety. No disposal route is currently available and is not expected for several decades.); and

Generate (write) a long-term ageing management plan (AMP) for a storage facility containing the waste (mentioned above) to increase the long-term durability of stored waste packages earmarked for disposal (will be based on a facility proposed in the regional workshop).

Participation

The event is open to Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Participants should be responsible for establishing storage facilities for small inventories as part of radioactive waste management activities at either a facility or at national level (Small Inventories Waste in this regional workshop is defined as waste arising from limited use of nuclear R&D facilities, research reactors and limited use of nuclear applications in industry and medicine. NORM activities are excluded from this workshop).

Please note that participants will be expected to prepare presentations or share information outlining their experience related to radioactive waste storage as part of a radioactive waste management plan, highlighting challenges and issues.

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 (EVT2000014) 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 event, 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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