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2021-02-24

Subject: Virtual Event – Regional Workshop for Interpretation of Proficiency Test (PT) Results and Specific Aspects of the Quality Assurance (QA)/Quality Control (QC) and Integrated Quality Management for Laboratories with Environmental Radiation Monitoring Programmes, from 19 to 23 April 2021

Dear National Liaison Officer / National Coordinator,

I am pleased to inform you that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is organizing a Virtual Regional Workshop under the IAEA technical cooperation project RER7014, “Improving Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for Radiation Protection in the Region” to promote innovative ways of delivering our programme in the face of the unprecedented health crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The purpose of the virtual event is to present the results of PT organized under the TC project RER7014; exchange information, knowledge and lessons learned; and give training lectures on specific aspects of QA/QC and integrated quality management for laboratories with environmental radiation monitoring programmes.

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.

For participants who indicate their need, the IAEA could provide financial support to contribute to the expenses of their costs for internet connection for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

We would appreciate receiving your country's nominations by **19 March 2021** 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](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org), with copy to Ms Carmina Elizabeth Jimenez Velasco

[C.Jimenez@iaea.org](mailto:C.Jimenez@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,



Carmina Elizabeth Jimenez Velasco  
Programme Management Officer  
Division for Europe  
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Information Sheet



# **Virtual Event – Regional Workshop for Interpretation of Proficiency Test (PT) Results and Specific Aspects of the Quality Assurance (QA)/Quality Control (QC) and Integrated Quality Management for Laboratories with Environmental Radiation Monitoring Programmes**

**Hosted by**

The International Atomic Energy Agency  
IAEA Headquarters

**19 to 23 April 2021**

**Ref. No.: ME-RER7014-2100506**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the virtual event is to present the results of PT organized under TC project RER7014; exchange information, knowledge and lessons learned; and give training lectures on specific aspects of QA/QC and integrated quality management for laboratories with environmental radiation monitoring programmes.

### **Working Language**

The working language of the event will be English.

### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after **19 March 2021** will not be considered.

## **Project Background**

The TC project RER7014 is aimed to contribute to the enhancement of regional cooperation in environmental monitoring and improvement of radiological safety of public and the environment by efficiently demonstrating radiological protection in the region for different exposure situations. Environmental monitoring and assessment for radiation protection will be improved by generating fit for purpose, comparable and optimized radiological monitoring data according to the international requirements and guidelines. On the basis of a gap analysis, the capacities for setting up environmental radioactivity monitoring programmes for different exposure situations will be strengthened. Developing and establishing QA/QC procedures will lead to reliable data to be used for radiological and safety assessment and this could be proved by successful participation in PTs and interlaboratory comparisons.

## **Scope and Nature**

This virtual regional workshop is planned to interpret results and challenges of PT organized under TC project RER7014, exchange information, knowledge and lessons learned; and also to highlight, review and discuss issues related to the implementation of QA/QC activities for best laboratory practice and address recommendations for compliance to ISO17025 technical requirements for radioanalytical techniques.

The results and experiences of the PT will be discussed during the first two days as follows:

- i. Interpretation of PT results,
- ii. Presentations by high performance laboratories about challenges and possible solutions,
- iii. Round table session to exchange information, knowledge and lessons learned.

The remaining three days will cover related QA/QC topics:

- iv. Introduction of related ISO standards and guides,
- v. Practical approaches regarding the implementation of these standards,
- vi. Developing and establishing QA/QC procedures for radioanalytical methods,
- vii. Implementation of QA/QC in compliance with ISO 107025.

## **Expected Outputs:**

- a) Improving the consistency and accuracy of the radioanalytical results from the region
- b) Increased harmonisation of environmental radioactivity monitoring programs in the region, considering the recommendations of international standards and IAEA technical guides
- c) QA/QC practices enhanced through presentation of examples and collaborative work within the region
- d) Through the PT evaluation, identify and address the gaps and improvement requirements of radioanalytical laboratories.



## Participation

The virtual regional workshop is open to specialists from the counterpart institutions participating in the TC project RER7014 and to participants of the PT on determination of anthropogenic and natural radionuclides in water, sediment and simulated aerosol filter samples (IAEA-RER7014-TC-TEL-2020-05). Each country is invited to nominate participants who must match the profile described in the corresponding paragraph, indicating the order of priority. Only nominations via official channel, will be accepted.

## Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Nominated candidates should be professionals (beginners to experts) working in the field of radioanalytical measurement techniques and environmental monitoring programs.

A contribution from the participant in the form of a short abstract covering his/her work relevant to the objectives of the meeting will be necessary for consideration for participation

For participants who reported results in the PT exercise and wish to present their findings, we kindly requested to indicate this in the application. The specifics of the presentation will be communicated directly with selected participants.

The virtual workshop will be conducted in English language, including the group discussion by participants on interpretation of PT results. Thus, candidates should have sufficient English-language proficiency to be able to actively participate in the planned activities.

## 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://webso.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 (EVT2100506) 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](mailto: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](#).

## **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 who indicate their need, will receive financial support to contribute to the expenses of their costs for internet connection for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

## **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.

## **IAEA Contacts**

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