



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

Technical Meeting On Uranium from Unconventional Resources

4 – 6 November 2009, IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

INFORMATION SHEET AND CALL FOR PAPERS

I. Introduction

Current production of uranium is mainly from conventional resources, where uranium is recovered as a primary product, a co-product or an important by-product. Unconventional resources, on the other hand, are resources from which uranium is recoverable only as a minor by-product. These include uranium associated with phosphate rocks, non-ferrous ores, carbonatite, monazite bearing coastal sands, black shale, lignite, coal and seawater. Phosphate rocks are the major resource from which significant amount of uranium has been recovered in the past. Hitherto considered marginally economic, uranium production from phosphatic rocks has now become a competitive option due to the rising demand for uranium and buoyant market conditions. Other sources such as seawater and coal ash are potential sources which will gain importance in the future, as the high grade conventional resources get progressively depleted.

The existing information on the estimates of uranium resources associated with unconventional sources is far from complete. Efforts towards a comprehensive estimation of uranium from the unconventional sources will provide important inputs to long-term nuclear fuel cycle supply – demand scenarios and will be valuable in understanding the crustal endowment of uranium and its recycling through the geological time. Recovery of uranium from the above sources is necessary to address the environmental concerns due to radioactivity in the down-stream products such as phosphatic fertilizers and coal ash, and could prevent substantial loss of a valuable energy fuel.

The purpose of the Technical Meeting is to discuss a wide spectrum of technical issues related geology, mineralization, exploration models, resources estimation, challenges in extraction, economics, and environmental aspects related to uranium from unconventional resources.

The Technical Meeting (TM) will be held at the IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria.

II. TOPICS TO BE COVERED

The following specific topics *vis-à-vis unconventional uranium resources* are identified as being of particular interest, and shall be considered in the papers to be presented:

- Geology, mineralization and genetic models;
- Recent advances in exploration methods, techniques and procedures;
- Exploration case histories;
- Recent developments in resource base augmentation;
- Future directions in extraction technologies;
- New developments and plans for production, feasibility and economics; and
- Related environmental issues.

III. ORGANIZATION

Scientific Secretary:

Mr Harikrishnan Tulsidas
International Atomic Energy Agency
Wagramer Strasse 5
PO Box 100
1400 Vienna, Austria
Phone: +43 1 2600 22470
Fax: +43 1 26007 22470
Email: T.Harikrishnan@iaea.org

Secretary:

Ms Ksenija Ajvazi,
International Atomic Energy Agency
Wagramer Strasse 5
PO Box 100
1400 Vienna, Austria
Phone: +43 1 2600 22761
Fax: +43 1 26007 22761
Email: K.Ajvazi@iaea.org

IV. PARTICIPATION

Each person wishing to participate in the meeting is requested to complete the Participation Form A (attached), with an indication of the intention to present a paper must be sent to the IAEA through the competent official authority by **1 September 2009**.

V. VENUE

The meeting will be held at Agency Headquarters in the Vienna International Centre (VIC), Meeting Room C 07 V, Wagramerstrasse 5, 1400 Vienna, Austria. Participants are advised to arrive one hour prior to the convening time of the meeting to allow for timely registration. Please note that you must present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

The following web site (<http://www.iaea.org/worldatom/Meetings/Guide/vic.shtml>) can be accessed for more detailed information on Vienna and the VIC: [Meetings Guide](#).

VI. VISA ARRANGEMENTS

Participants are also advised that they may require a valid passport and Schengen visa for entry into Austria. Accordingly, it would be advisable to begin the immediate preparation of travel arrangements and necessary authorizations. Please advise the Secretariat as soon as possible if a formal invitation letter is needed in order to facilitate the visa request. We recommend that you apply for visa in a timely manner, if necessary. (The 15 Schengen countries are: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. All these countries except Norway and Iceland are European Union members. If you need more information please check: <http://www.eurovisa.info/SchengenCountries.htm>).

VII. EXPENDITURES

In accordance with the established rules, Governments, national authorities, private companies or individual sources are expected to bear the travel and other costs of designated participants in the meeting. Limited funds are, however, available to help cover the cost of participants from Member States eligible to receive technical assistance under the IAEA's technical cooperation programme. Such assistance can be offered, upon specific request, to one participant per country provided that, in the IAEA's view, this participant will make an important contribution to the meeting. The application for financial support should be made at the time of the designation of the participant.

The Secretariat wishes to state that compensation is not payable by the IAEA for any damage to or loss of the experts' personal property. However, for the period of their engagement with the IAEA, including travel between their residence and the duty station, the designated experts will be covered under the IAEA's insurance policy for permanent total disablement or death resulting from service-incurred accidents or illness up to a maximum of €100 000, for permanent partial disablement resulting from service-incurred accidents or illness up to a maximum of €100 000 and for medical expenses up to a maximum of €20 000 plus €10 000 for supplementary travel and accommodation expenses in case of illness or injury resulting from service-incurred accidents or illness, in accordance with the terms of the IAEA's relevant insurance policy. This insurance coverage only covers accidents and illnesses insofar as they clearly result from attendance at an IAEA meeting. The IAEA recommends that the expert also make arrangements for private insurance coverage on an individual basis.

VIII. WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the meeting will be English. All communications, abstracts, and papers must be sent in English.



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Technical Meeting on
Uranium from Unconventional Resources
4 – 6 November 2009, Vienna, Austria

To be sent to competent official authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Atomic Energy Authority) for transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna International Centre, Wagramerstrasse 5, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria

PARTICIPATION FORM

DEADLINE: 1 September 2009

Family name:		All initials of given name:		Mr Ms
Institution:		Full address:		
		For urgent communications please indicate: Phone No.: Telefax No.: Email:		
Nationality:	Designating government or organization:			
Mailing address (if different from address of institution):				
Do you intend to present a paper? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				
Title of the paper:				
An abstract of my paper is attached? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				