

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON GAS COOLED REACTORS (TWG-GCR)

The Technical Working Group on Gas-Cooled Reactors (TWG-GCR) is a group of experts nominated by their Governments and appointed by the Secretariat to provide advice and support programme implementation in the area of gas-cooled reactor technology development.

I. SCOPE

The focus of interest of this Working Group is on helium-cooled thermal reactors utilized in steam cycle or direct cycle nuclear plants for electricity and/or heat production, but the scope also includes other gas-cooled thermal reactors and, to the extent not already covered by other international organizations, gas-cooled fast reactors.

The scope includes the areas of programme assessment and planning, systems analyses and utilization strategies, research, development, design, construction, safety aspects, related nuclear fuel cycle technology, the use of gas cooled reactors for process heat applications, and operation and maintenance of these nuclear power plants.

The Working Group coordinates its activities with other Agency programmes in areas of mutual interest, as well as with related activities of other international organizations, to avoid duplication of activities.

II. FUNCTIONS

The main functions of the Working Group are:

- a. To advise the IAEA on gas-cooled reactor activities;
- b. To serve as a means for exchanging information on national and international programmes;
- c. To promote the exchange of technical information by proposing topics for and assisting in the organization of IAEA conferences, symposia, advisory groups and technical committee meetings;
- d. To advise the IAEA on proposals for studies and reviews;
- e. To assist, when appropriate, in the coordination of international conferences.

III. MEMBERSHIP

In appointing the membership of this Technical Working Group the Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Energy will be guided by the following considerations:

- a. The Working Group will include one member and not more than one alternate from each Member State which has an interest in the field of gas cooled reactors and wishes to participate;
- b. Each member and alternate should be cognizant of the field of gas cooled reactors;
- c. Each member and alternate will be appointed after consultation with the member's government, and

- d. Members and alternates will normally serve on the Working Group for a period prescribed by their governments, preferably for a period of at least three years.
- e. The Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Energy may from time to time co-opt members and invite observers from other Member States on an ad-hoc or continuing basis.
- f. A limited number of advisers or observers from Member States may attend periodic meetings of the Working Group but the representation of a Member State should include the member and/or his alternate.

IV. CHAIRMANSHIP

The Chair of the Working Group is nominated by the group and may be rotated amongst its members. The appointment is subject to approval by the Deputy Director General.

V. SECRETARIAT AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Subject to the availability of funds, the Deputy Director General will provide the administrative and secretariat services required by the Working Group including interpretation and translation services, meeting facilities, maintenance of records and distribution of documents. The IAEA will provide the services of a scientific secretary.

VI. METHODS OF WORK

- a. Except as otherwise herein stated, the TWG-GCR will determine its own methods of work, including preparation of its agenda, establishment of special groups, keeping of records and procedures.
- b. Activities of the TWG-GCR between periodic meetings are coordinated by the Scientific Secretary taking into due consideration SAGNE's and the Group's recommendations.
- c. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on the request of Working Group members or the Scientific Secretary and recommendations made to the Deputy Director General of the IAEA on any modifications.

VII. MEETINGS

- a. The TWG-GCR normally meets once every two years with each meeting lasting up to five working days. Extraordinary meetings may be called when required.
- b. Meetings will be conducted in English only.

VIII. COSTS

The IAEA is not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of members to TWG-GCR meetings. All costs involved in the participation of each TWG-GCR member, including travel and per diem expenses, shall in general be supported by the nominating Member State. However, the IAEA may contribute to covering the cost of attendance of members from developing countries, if sufficient Agency funds are available and if the members can make a significant contribution to the meeting.