



International Conference on the Safe and Secure Transport of Nuclear and Radioactive Material

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria**

23–27 March 2026

**Organized by the
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

Announcement and Call for Papers

A. Background

The IAEA estimates that 20 million shipments of nuclear and other radioactive material are transported every year for peaceful applications in energy, medicine, education, agriculture and industry. The extensive use of nuclear and other radioactive material by countries enables them to develop their economies, sustain their societies, and address climate change challenges, therefore their safe and secure transport is essential.

The safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material is governed by international conventions, codes, and standards developed by relevant United Nations organizations. The IAEA plays a leading role as a specialized agency in developing safety requirements for the transport of nuclear and other radioactive material which are incorporated into the UN model regulations and modal regulations for the transport of dangerous goods, and security recommendations. These instruments provide a foundation for sustainable transport, ensuring safety and security. They also support Member States to have processes in place to efficiently and effectively implement regulatory framework and infrastructures at the national level and globally. This framework provides for internationally accepted standardised design of radioactive material and transport packages and a generic design certification approved by the competent authority of the country of origin.

Despite the existence of a well-established framework and its widespread adoption — developed over decades — certain challenges and difficulties persist. Today, all manner of products that we take for granted are dependent on the safe, secure and reliable transport of nuclear and other radioactive material from manufacturer to end user. It is vital that uniform global implementation or international rules and requirements are adhered to in the shipments of nuclear and other radioactive material.

This conference will also address challenges such as issues faced by some Member States in aligning national legal and regulatory systems to build robust, effective, and appropriate transport safety and security infrastructures. Other issues that will be covered are on how to maintain and ensure smooth supply chain systems and transport for nuclear and other radioactive material safely and securely, taking into account the different approaches and capabilities of Member States. Technological developments require continued assessment to ensure that the established safety and security framework is still fit-for-purpose.

To address ongoing, current and emerging challenges related to transport and to provide a platform for dialogue, the IAEA is organizing the International Conference on the Safe and Secure Transport of Nuclear and Radioactive Material. This conference marks the third in the series, following previous events in 2011 and 2021.

B. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the event is to provide the international transport community with a platform to discuss opportunities, challenges and key enablers for the safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material. The conference will cover legal and regulatory aspects, transport package design, operations, commercial and supply chain considerations, and innovative and/or new technologies that have the potential to impact transport safety and security. The Conference's interactive format of expert panels, topical sessions, technology demonstrations and networking opportunities will enhance global stakeholder connectivity and explore these topical issues.

The primary objectives are to:

- Discuss international legislative and regulatory frameworks and Member States practices in regulations considering all modes of transport.
- Address the safety and security approaches for national and international transport considering all modes of transport.
- Discuss the design, testing, manufacturing, repair and maintenance, and authorization (renewal/validation) requirements and practices for radioactive material transport packages, including for new innovative technologies and consider end-user related challenges.
- Facilitate information sharing among Member States about their capabilities in ensuring safety and security aspects particularly related to international transport.
- Introduce greater cooperation and engagement – drawing on the expertise and experiences of industry operators (carriers).

The conference will also provide an opportunity to address national and international needs of Member States from the perspectives of competent authorities (nuclear/radiation safety regulators as well as regulators for modes of transport) and all stakeholders including designers, manufacturers, consignors, carriers, consignees.

Participants are encouraged not to discuss any sensitive nuclear security information.

C. Themes and Topics

The overall themes and associated topics for this conference will be:

1. Legislative and Regulatory Framework for Safe and Secure Transport
 - a. International Instruments – Ensuring updated and harmonized legal instruments, as needed.
 - b. Development, revision, and implementation of national framework that includes experiences, difficulties faced as well as feedback.
 - c. Establishment, evolution and competency development of competent authorities and compliance assurance mechanisms (based on graded approach and scope of transport in Member States).
 - d. Capacity building (including human resource development, involvement of young professionals and women in nuclear).
 - e. International, regional and national liaison and cooperation.
 - f. Safety-security interface, safety culture and security culture in transport.
2. Safety and Security by Design – Regulatory and Industry Perspective
 - a. Design, manufacturing, testing and qualification and ageing mechanisms of packages including dual purpose casks.
 - b. Design, manufacturing, testing and qualification and ageing mechanisms of radioactive material, associated codes and standards.

- c. Conveyance (including impact of innovative and new fuel types such as hydrogen and batteries on transport package design requirements, regulatory practices for use of electric and hydrogen fuel to transport radioactive material).
 - d. Authorization (certification/validation/renewal) practices to ensure compliance with the code and standards including practices in regulation of non-approved packages.
 - e. Physical protection systems design for the transport of nuclear and other radioactive material that minimizes the risk of malicious acts through features inherent in the design of the system.
 - f. Frameworks to achieve a robust, durable, and responsive transport and safety and security system for nuclear and other radioactive material; and
 - g. Practices to find the balance between safety, security, efficiency, and cost early in the design process.
3. Safety and Security during Transport Operations
- a. Practices and challenges in transport including international shipments, shipment after storage or transit, transitional arrangements, special arrangement.
 - b. Transport of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM); and
 - c. Practices for operational controls and additional administrative controls for shipment including Emergency planning and response and security plans by all modes.
4. Computer Security and Emerging Technologies
- a. Computer security for safe and secure transport.
 - b. Safe and secure transport of small modular reactors.
 - c. Safe and secure deployment of transportable NPPs, including floating nuclear power plants and microreactors.
 - d. Use of technology (e.g. AI), including in regulatory activities by competent authorities for transport.

D. Structure

The conference will have plenary and panel discussions, in addition to topical sessions. Plenary and panel sessions will be aimed to address cross-cutting aspects. The topical sessions will include oral and poster presentations to be held in accordance with topical groups identified in the Chapter C “Themes and Topics”. A concluding plenary session with a President’s report will also be included.

Exhibitions and side events will be held as well during the conference to present latest developments in various areas of safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material with emphasis on innovative technologies.

The opening session will include opening statements delivered by the Conference President(s) and the IAEA. The panel discussion will be with invited speakers and experts. Depending on the number of synopses received, poster sessions may also be organized.

The closing session will include a summary of the main conclusions of the conference, delivered by the Conference President(s), and closing remarks from the IAEA.

E. Expected Outcomes

The conference is anticipated to benefit relevant organizations and stakeholders within IAEA Member States and the international community. The discussions and information exchange are expected to help achieve the following objectives:

- promote adherence and commitment to the current international legally binding and non-binding instruments with the aim to enhance national legislative and regulatory frameworks on safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material, considering all modes of transport and challenges faced by Member States in implementation of these frameworks.
- increase awareness of the importance of safe and secure transport when developing and deploying new innovative technologies such as small modular reactors, microreactors, transportable nuclear power plants, floating nuclear power plants. Of importance is also to identify possible ways to address challenges and enhance regulatory readiness to use these nuclear innovative technologies, battery powered, and hydrogen fuelled vehicles and drones for transport of Class 7 dangerous goods.
- improve understanding among national, regional and international stakeholders and strengthen cooperation to facilitate and ensure safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material and identify roles of international organizations to maintain sustainable supply of nuclear and other radioactive material worldwide.
- improve and guide future IAEA activities in the area of transport safety and security of nuclear and other radioactive material as well as raise awareness on international regulations pertaining to this field.

F. Target Audience

Participation in the conference is solicited from policy makers, regulatory bodies, government officials, potential users and operators, relevant industries and technology holders, technical support organizations, representatives of international organizations, and technical and legal experts working in all areas of transport safety and security of nuclear and other radioactive material including law enforcement and border control agencies. The conference is also intended for non-governmental organizations and academic institutions. The IAEA highly encourages the participation of women, early career professionals, and individuals from developing countries.

G. Call for Papers

Contributions on the topics listed in Section C are welcome as oral or poster presentations. All submissions, apart from invited papers, must present original work, which has not been published elsewhere.

G.1. Submission of Synopses

Synopses (approximately 500 to 600 words on one or a maximum of two A4 pages, may contain any charts, graphs, figures and references) should give enough information on the content of the proposed paper to enable the Programme Committee to evaluate it. Anyone wishing to present at the conference must submit a synopsis in electronic format using the conference's file submission system ([IAEA-INDICO](#)), which is accessible from the conference web page (see Section Q). The synopsis can be submitted through this system until **15 September 2025**. Specifications for the layout will be available on IAEA-INDICO. The system for electronic submission of synopsis, IAEA-INDICO, is the sole mechanism for submission of contributed synopsis. Authors are encouraged to submit synopsis as early as possible. The IAEA will not accept submissions via email.

In addition, authors must register online using the InTouch+ platform (see Section H). The online registration together with the auto-generated Participation Form (Form A) and Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) must reach the IAEA no later than **15 September 2025**.

IMPORTANT: The Programme Committee will consider uploaded synopses only if these two forms have been received by the IAEA through the established official channels (see Section H).

G.2. Acceptance of Synopses

The Secretariat reserves the right to exclude synopses that do not comply with its technical or scientific quality standards and that do not apply to one of the topics listed in Section C.

Authors will be informed by **3 October 2025** as to whether their submission has been accepted, either orally or as a poster, for presentation at the conference. Accepted synopses will also be reproduced in an unedited electronic compilation of synopses which will be made available to all registered participants of the conference.

Authors will be asked to provide an extended synopsis (3 to 5 pages) by **28 November 2025**. Longer manuscripts will only be accepted at the discretion of the Secretariat and only in exceptional cases. Guidelines and a template for the preparation and submission of the extended synopsis will be available on IAEA-INDICO.

G.3 Proceedings

Following the conference, the IAEA will publish a summary report. The proceedings will be made available to read online.

H. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be a member of an organization that has been invited to attend.

Registration through the InTouch+ platform:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):

- Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can [sign in here](#) with their username and password;
- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can [register here](#).

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under ‘Basic Profile’ (if no financial support is requested) or under ‘Complete Profile’ (if financial support is requested) and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event (**EVT2501005**) under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
- If applicable, indicate whether a paper is being submitted and complete the relevant information;
- If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
- Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate Participation Form (Form A), Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) and/or Grant Application Form (Form C);
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application together with the auto-generated form(s) will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application together with the form(s) will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: Should prospective participants wish to submit a paper or request financial support, the application needs to be submitted by the specified deadlines (see section O).

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

If it is not possible to submit the application through the InTouch+ platform, prospective participants are requested to contact the IAEA’s Conference Services Section via email: Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

I. Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the conference. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help cover the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the conference.

If participants wish to apply for a grant, they should submit applications to the IAEA using the InTouch+ platform through their competent national authority (see Section H). Participants should ensure that applications for grants are submitted by **17 October 2025**.

Applications must be accompanied by Participation Form (Form A) and Grant Application Form (Form C) which are autogenerated in the InTouch+ platform.

Applications that do not comply with the above conditions cannot be considered.

Approved grants will be issued in the form of a lump sum payment that usually covers **only part of the cost of attendance**.

J. Distribution of Documents

A preliminary and final programme will be made available on the conference web page (see Section Q) prior to the start of the conference. The electronic compilation of synopses will be accessible free of charge to participants registered for the conference.

K. Exhibitions

A limited amount of space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the conference. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by email TransportConference2026@iaea.org by **15 September 2025**.

L. Working Language

The working language of the conference will be English. All communications must be sent to the IAEA in English.

M. Venue and Accommodation

The conference will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Hotels offering a reduced rate for participants are listed on <https://www.iaea.org/events>. Please note that the IAEA is not in a position to assist participants with hotel bookings, nor can the IAEA assume responsibility for paying fees for cancellations, re-bookings and no-shows.

N. Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria as early as three months but not later than four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

For more information, please see the Austria Visa Information document available on <https://www.iaea.org/events>.

O. Key Deadlines and Dates

Submission of synopses through IAEA-INDICO	15 September 2025
Submission of Form B (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	15 September 2025
Notification of acceptance of synopses for oral or poster presentation	3 October 2025
Submission of Form C (together with Form A) through the InTouch+ platform	17 October 2025
Electronic submission of extended synopses through IAEA-INDICO	28 November 2025
Submission of Form A only (no paper submission, no grant request) through the InTouch+ platform	17 March 2026

P. Conference Secretariat

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretaries and correspondence on administrative matters to the IAEA's Conference Services Section.

Q. Conference Web Page

Please visit the IAEA conference [website](#) regularly for new information regarding this conference.